



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 1, 2022

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors
Local Education Agency Principals
Michigan Pre-K-12 Educators

FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

SUBJECT: Comprehensive History Instruction Webinar Series January-June 2023

As members of a diverse state, nation, and world, staff and students need to know our rich, complex history. Our children deserve to learn about the full breadth of U.S. and world history. As educators, we have the responsibility to teach them this full breadth of history, including race, racism, sexism, and other difficult and challenging subjects.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) identifies teaching comprehensive history as an important effort supporting [Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#). An essential part of MDE's efforts to improve comprehensive history instruction is to support teachers with opportunities to expand their knowledge to educate students.

In April 2022, MDE launched its comprehensive history instruction webinar series to assist educators in learning about historical movements, events, and peoples that are part of the rich, diverse history of our country and world. Previous webinars included: *Remembering the Holocaust*; *Maawndoongan: Using the Indigenous-Developed Social Studies Resource Guide to Teach To and About First Peoples*; *Asian Americans and the United States: Immigration and Citizenship Movements*; and *Public Resources for Teaching Comprehensive History*.

Beginning in January 2023, the series of free virtual webinars continues with the following topics (all times are in the Eastern Time Zone):

- **Civil War Amendments Up to the Civil Rights Movement**
January 11, 18, and 25, 2023, 4-5 p.m.
- **Civil Rights Movement: National and Michigan Views**
February 8, 15, and 22, 2023, 4-5 p.m.
- **Equal Rights Movement**
March 15, 22, and 29, 2023, 4-5 p.m.
- **Intersection of the Civil Rights Movement and Equal Rights Movement**
April 19, 2023, 4-5 p.m.

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- **Disability Rights Movement**
April 26 and May 3, 2023, 4-5 p.m.
- **Labor Rights Movement**
May 10, 17, and 24, 2023, 4-5 p.m.
- **Social Studies Classroom Practice and Pedagogy**
June 7, 2023, 4:00–5:30 p.m.

This content aligns with multiple grade levels of Michigan’s K-12 social studies standards, approved by Michigan’s State Board of Education in 2019. The Teaching Comprehensive History webinars can be helpful learning for educators in all roles and responsibilities. SCECHs will be available for those who attend. Michigan educators can register for the webinar series by visiting the conference registration page:

[Registration is ongoing and limited; register as soon as possible](#)

The webinar series is produced in collaboration with institutions of higher education, cultural centers, and the 12 federally recognized tribes of Michigan that form the Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments to assist educators with teaching and learning about comprehensive history through thematic instruction. Supporter education organizations of the comprehensive history instruction series include the following:

- Michigan Council for the Social Studies
- Michigan Council for History Education
- Michigan Education Association
- AFT Michigan
- Michigan Elementary & Middle School Principals Association
- Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals
- Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators
- Michigan Alliance for Student Opportunity
- Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators
- Michigan Association for Media in Education
- Library of Michigan
- Michigan Library Association
- Michigan Academic Library Association

Each webinar session will feature a unique presentation on a given subject. Educators interested in a given topic are encouraged to attend all sessions associated with the topic (e.g., the January 11, 18, and 25 sessions of *Civil War Amendments Up to the Civil Rights Movement*). Presenters will help educators learn more about movements in and aspects of history.

If you have questions regarding this support for the Teaching Comprehensive History learning series, please contact the Teaching Comprehensive History Webinar Series Team at MDE-TeachingComprehensiveHistory@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments