



TEAACHing For Inclusion

Supporting Illinois Educators in
Teaching Equitable History

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Introductions



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Agenda

- What is the TEAACH Act?
- What resources are available to implement the TEAACH Act?
- Dialogue on Inclusion
- Question and Answer time

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What is the TEAACH Act?

The Illinois General Assembly passed the [TEAACH Act](#) in 2021. It mandates that every public K-12 school include at least one instructional unit of curriculum studying the events of Asian American history, beginning in this school year.

This history should include the contributions of Asian Americans in government, sciences, arts, and the social and political development of the United States.



Picture credit: *The Asian American Foundation*

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Why was the TEAACH Act passed?

The TEAACH Act was ultimately passed as an opportunity for affirmation from students, teachers, legislators, and our American education system to respect, honor, and tell the cohesive story of American history.

It creates an active, tangible opportunity for students to experience cross-cultural education by understanding Asian American communities, experiences, and history while furthering racial equity across Illinois.

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What does this mean for educators?

1. Every public school in Illinois is required to teach at least one unit of Asian American history during the 2022-23 school year and years beyond.
2. Regional Offices of Education are required to monitor school district compliance with the TEAACH Act during annual compliance visits to ensure Educators are implementing TEAACH.

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Supports that are available

- A coalition of partners joined in this work to support schools and educators across Illinois.
- Online/in-person workshops to prepare and support educators to teach Asian American history.
- There are resource guides for curriculum development and lesson plans aligned with new Social Studies State Standards.
- Micro-credential and programs to support professional development learning hours.

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Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago

All resources are available at

www.advancingjustice-chicago.org/TEAACH

1. 2-hour **Professional Development** for Educators (*Virtual or In-Person*)
 - We offer PDs to the general public **and** partner with stakeholders, incl. ROEs, universities, teachers unions, ISBE, museums, and others
 - Clock-hours provided!
2. Asian American Education **Resource Database**
3. **Scope & Sequence** Documents for K-5 and 6-12
4. Sample **Course Outline** for an Asian American History Elective

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Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago

Asian American Education Resource D... Use this data

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Topic	Grade Level	Themes	Essential Questions	Asian American Integration Ideas	Resources	Ethnicity	Attachments
1 Stereotyping	K	Racism Activism/S...	What is a stereotype? How can a stereotype be hurtful? How can we avoid making stereotypes?	Compare and contrast the significance of foods in Asian culture vs. mainstream American culture. Rice cake/Wok vs. Pancake/Gingerbread Compare and contrast Chinese New Year and American Holidays (New Years).	BOOKS: The Runaway Wok by Ying Chang Compestine The Runaway Rice Cake by Ying Chang Compestine The Runaway Pancake by Mairi MacKinnon The Gingerbread Man by Jim Aylesworth Duck for Turkey Day by Jacqueline Jules	Multiethnic	
2 Naming & Personal Identity	K	Identity Racism Activism/S...	What does your name mean to you? How can we improve learning others' names?	The cultural identity importance of names and name-granting in Asian American cultures; Chinese names and how the placement of a name traces family history	See Attached PDF: Naming & Personal Identity (K)	Multiethnic	
Sumo Wrestling	K	Identity Racism Activism/S...	What are expectations? What did we expect the characters to do? How were we surprised? What are words we do/do not recognize? [Create word web] What were actions in the book we do/do not recognize?	Sumo wrestling: Japanese history, and its cultural impact on American culture	BOOK: Sumo Joe by Mia Wenjen ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Videos: Avatar the Last Airbender martial arts references: ...	East Asian	
4 Sikh Head Covering	K	Identity	What is culture? What is identity? How does a person's culture make a difference in how they feel and think about themselves (or how others view them)? What are ways we can see part of a person's cultural identity?	Patka: the Sikh youth head covering (precursor to a pagri/turban)	LESSON PLAN: What Color Is My Patka? By Deepika Kaur Pujji: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DaEXbZ1xUedRFn1pS3IomTD2hoR0ejQHJZWSdI6mt/edit?usp=sharing	South Asian	
5 Past vs Present	K	Identity	How is life for you different from when your parents or grandparents were your age? (Think about what people ate, moved from one place to another, communicated, and what they thought about the world around them.) What do you notice is the same between the past and present (today)? What do you think is different?	Change-makers in Asian American history: who they were and what they did	See Attached PDF: Past vs Present (K)	Multiethnic	
6 Celebrating Asian American holidays	K	Citizenship Civil Rights Immigration Racism	Why are holidays important to us? What holidays does your family celebrate? What holidays are celebrated in our classroom community?	Holidays celebrated by Asian Americans	See Attached PDF: Celebrating Asian American holidays (K)	Multiethnic	
7 Leadership & People in Positions of Authority	K	Civil Rights	What is equality? Talk about various types of leaders in the world (i.e. presidents.	Asian American Female Leaders: Patsy Mink, Kamala Harris, Tammy Duckworth	See Attached PDF: Leadership & People in Positions of Authority (K)	Multiethnic	

241 records

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University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Faculty and Staff from the College of Education and the School of Information Sciences created online PD for Illinois educators to prepare for the TEAACH Act
- PD consists of 3 modules, is online, asynchronous and earns PD credits, approved by ISBE
- Modules provide content knowledge for K-12 teachers on Asian American history, consisting of brief lecture videos, readings, and short assignments
- Generously funded by The Asian American Foundation

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University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Visit: teach.education.illinois.edu!
- Email teach@education.illinois.edu



Module 1

Introduction to Asian American Issues

Module 1 provides an introduction to the Asian American population and the social construction of race in the United States. It also provides an overview of Asian American issues and history/herstory.

Module 1.1

Module 1.2

Module 1.3

Module 1.4

Module 2

Asian American History: Race & the American Imagination

Module 2 discusses the history of Asian immigration to the United States and the ways US legislation, court cases, and policies restricted immigration, citizenship, and equal access to schooling.

Module 2.1

Module 2.2

Module 2.3

Module 2.4

Module 3

Contemporary Issues Facing Asian Americans

Module 3 explores complexities of Asian American experiences after WWII, the Civil Rights Movement(s), Asian American identity, anti-Asian violence, and representation in K-12 curricula.

Module 3.1

Module 3.2

Module 3.3

Module 3.4



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Illinois State Board of Education

Description of Resource Guide:



- 1 | Quick Links by Theme and Learning Objective: Free articles, sample lesson plans, presentations, and videos aligned to updated standards and grouped based on *themes and competencies*.
- 2 | Longer-form Text: Select memoirs, poems, essays, and historical fiction for purchase/rent at public libraries to provide more detailed perspectives on Asian American history and identity.
- 3 | Published version: You can find the published guide on our [website here](#).

6-8 Example

SAMPLE SCENARIO

A 6-8 classroom is covering immigration as a part of a human geography unit and wants to have a comprehensive discussion about the nuanced immigrant

C3 DIMENSION 1

The educator asks the older cohort of students to trace the arc of Asian American immigration and to pinpoint major moments throughout history, as well as different reasons for or impediments to the immigration of different Asian American communities at different points in time.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Understanding how diverse Asian American experiences influence identities, perspectives, and ideologies.

Resource Title	Grade Levels	Course Description	Sourced By	Link
Redefine America	K-5	The Asian American Education Project : Discuss Chinese immigrants to examine the American Dream / American identity.	The Asian American Education Project	asianamericanedu.org
Filipino History and Experience	K-12	AAAJ Chicago : Explore the history, arts, and culture of Filipino Americans in the United States.	AAAJ Chicago	artsandculture.google.com
South Asian American Experiences	K-12	AAAJ Chicago : Digital database of primary sources that highlights important moments in South Asian American history.	AAAJ Chicago	saada.org

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A Dialogue on Inclusion



Next Steps

- Everyone should speak to their communities about the TEAACH Act to ensure awareness and fidelity in implementation.
- Engage in reflective work to consider if you are creating inclusive classrooms for all of your students.
- Change behaviors that may be inhibiting a sense of belonging for your students and ensure your classrooms are places where all students have voice and agency in their learning.
- Implement policies like TEAACH to ensure your classrooms have space to learn about identities similar to and different from the identities of your students.

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Q & A

Send any questions you may have in the chat or come off of mute to ask!

Please fill out this feedback form as you exit this training:

<https://forms.office.com/r/GW0y8aMKxJ>

- Questions about this presentation can be sent to Jordan Weatherl
 - JWeather@isbe.net
- Feel free to reach out to either Dr. Asif Wilson or Tamara Acoba at their respective emails:
 - ajwilso1@illinois.edu
 - tmacoba@cps.edu

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