



STATE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

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Leadership Launch

**African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino
Course of Studies**

April 27, 2022

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Welcome/Introductions (5 minutes)

Dr. Gladys Labas, Director of Equity and Language, CSDE
Stephen Armstrong, K-12 Social Studies Consultant, CSDE

- **Please post district, school, and position in chat.**
- Excited for implementation of CT's first model, statewide curriculum.
- Eager to work with teachers and students to continue to enhance and refine.
- All course information and curriculum updates can be found at <https://ctserc.org/pa1912>.

Today's Purpose

Supporting teachers and students for course success.

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions
- Overview of Curriculum, Unit Design and Development, and Lessons Learned
- Preparation of “Elevator Speech”
- Review of Logistics
- Overview of CSDE/SERC Training and Implementation Supports
- Overview of CSDE Monitoring Plan
- Closing/Q&A/Session Evaluation

Overview of Curriculum, Unit Design and Development, and Lessons Learned (20 minutes)

Paquita Jarman-Smith, Consultant, SERC

- One credit, year-long, elective in which students consider the scope of African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino contributions to U.S. history, society, economy, and culture.
- Utilizes CT's Social Studies Framework inquiry-based approach and UDL principles to support all learners
- Standards-based, including CT Social Studies, ELA, and CELP standards
- Ensures a content rich and personalized learning experience, using expanded UBD curriculum framework

Course Framework

Learning Objectives and Essential Questions give students opportunities to make connections to their own cultural and racial backgrounds and strengthen their understanding:

- of what positive **identity** can look and sound like, the importance of inclusivity of **diverse** perspectives, and
- value for **social justice** to inform **actions** in their own community.

Course Outline

Semester 1 – African Am./Black

Unit 1: African Origins and Contributions of Ancient African Empires

Unit 2: Slavery and Freedom Stories of Resistance and Agency

Unit 3: Black Literacy, Organizations, and Liberation

Unit 4: Long, Long History for Equality

Unit 5: Black Movement for Equity

Unit 6: Protest, Politics, and Power

Semester 2 – Puerto Rican/Latino

Unit 1: Early Beginnings, Who Are We?

Unit 2: Blood and Beauty

Unit 3: Sweat

Unit 4: Resistance and Defiance

Unit 5: Where are we now?

Unit and Lesson Examples: Semester 1

- African Origins
- Age of Abolition
- Jim Crow
- Black Wall Street
- Harlem Renaissance
- Black Power Movement
- Black Cultural Production



Preparation of “Elevator Speech” (15 minutes)

Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Consultant, SERC

In Breakouts:

1. Review Preface, Introduction, and Course Framework (pages 2-6) <https://ctserc.org/pa1912>
2. Work with small group to develop 3 minute overview of course

Review of Logistics (10 minutes)

Nitza Diaz, Consultant, SERC

- Reference List (watch for updates)
- Status of Book Bundle
- Additional Prep Time
- Permissions
- Affinity Spaces
- Protocols for Support
- Low Enrollment
- Other?

Overview of CSDE/SERC Training Series and Implementation Supports (10 minutes)

Paquita Jarman-Smith, Consultant, SERC

- Summer Institute and Quarterly Training (watch for Cadre registration in May)
- Coaching
- Regional Networking/Inter-district Partnerships
- Speakers Bureau
- GoOpenCT.org (Discussion Board and Lesson Repository)

Overview of CSDE Monitoring Plan (15 minutes)

Dr. Gladys Labas, Director of Equity and Language, CSDE

Stephen Armstrong, K-12 Social Studies Consultant, CSDE

- For purpose of continuous improvement
- In draft stage, we welcome your ideas and suggestions.
- Three levels from basic to specific focus:
 - Tier 1 – Paper Review
 - Tier 2 – Submission Review (2-3 year cycle, tbd)
 - Tier 3 – Site Visit (select schools)
- Criteria/review tools under construction.

Q&A/Frequently Asked Questions (15 minutes)

Book Bundle – How will we be notified of procedures for centralized purchasing? Estimated cost?

Scheduling – Is there a plan to support trimester or interim semester classes?

Monitoring Plan – When will be available? What curriculum review tool will be used?

Training Series - How many seats will be available in each cadre? Are districts limited in the number of people they can sign up? Are all sessions virtual?

Contact Information

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