

constructing liberty

FREE professional development program

Teaching American History grant:
constructing & reconstructing “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” from the age of revolution to the present



Emma Goldman mug shot, Philadelphia, 1893



Martin Luther King, Jr., in Wausau, 1967



Child coal miners, Gary, West Virginia, 1908

Friday evening, April 20, through
Sunday, April 22, plus **online work**

A unique and excellent opportunity designed for Wisconsin teachers

In cooperation with the Organization of American Historians (OAH), the Constructing Liberty program is offering a one-credit course focused around OAH sessions related to labor history. These will be augmented with online work.

OAH is the premier organization focused on U.S. history. It's holding its annual convention in Milwaukee this year. And because it's a watershed year for our state, the organization is offering Wisconsin teachers an unprecedented opportunity.

You will attend four sessions or more, plus the Presidential Address and other programming designed expressly for Wisconsin public school teachers.

We realize that a full-weekend commitment is challenging, particularly given the travel distance to Milwaukee for some, but the content and the chance to attend a major historians' convention in Wisconsin make this a unique opportunity. Here's a sampling of the many sessions you'll have a chance to attend:

- Thinking Like Historians: Issues and Challenges Facing K-16 Educators and Students
- Jane Addams and Emma Goldman
- Race and Industrialization in Antebellum America
- The Transnational Rev. Martin Luther King
- Teaching to the Test? Creating Space for Historical Thinking amidst the Realities of State Standards and Curriculum Controversies in History Education
- Religion, Democracy, and the Working Class in Capitalist America, Gilded Age to Present
- Populists & Progressives, Capitalism & Democracy
- Producing the Racial State: Slavery & the Mechanics of Liberal Democracy in the Nineteenth Century
- Wisconsin 2011: A Teaching Challenge
- Incorporating Labor History

To see the whole scope of the conference, start here:
<http://annualmeeting.oah.org/>

The **Constructing Liberty** project – funded by a Teaching American History (TAH) grant from the Department of Education – concentrates on the history and legacy of the promise in the Declaration of Independence “that all men are created equal.”

This spring, we’re able to offer a unique and excellent opportunity to earn graduate credit while attending a national conference –

Friday evening, April 20, through Sunday afternoon, April 22

The course will begin online, with a critical reading on subjects important to America’s ideas of liberty, concentrating on labor history in the late 19th and 20th centuries.

Friday evening our partners – the Organization of American Historians (OAH), Wisconsin Labor History Society, and Labor & Working Class History Society – are planning a kick-off event designed especially to welcome you, the Constructing Liberty participants.

Saturday and Sunday, you’ll pick from dozens of sessions led by nationally recognized historians, with content highlighted by the OAH especially for Wisconsin teachers.

After the conference, you’ll network online with fellow participants, including a discussion of how to apply the content to the classroom.

You may hear of other options for Wisconsin teachers to attend this OAH conference. The **Constructing Liberty** program covers your conference fees and most expenses.

Next fall, the project will continue with another fascinating workshop (each year’s content stands on its own): **2012-13: Expanding Liberty: Civil Rights in Modern America.**

what do I get from the program?

- A course of study offered FREE to Wisconsin teachers in CESAs 3-12.
- Readings from, lectures by, and discussions with historians. Understand and be better able to teach key narratives in American history.
- Ways to identify and find threads in U.S. and Wisconsin history that are as timely today as at any point in American history.
- **FREE** graduate credit, or a stipend, upon completion of all coursework.
- **FREE** lodging at the Doubletree, downtown Milwaukee, based on double occupancy.
- **SUBSIDIES** to offset meals and travel.



Downtown Milwaukee at night.

... and what am I committing to?

- Attending a weekend conference, Friday evening, April 20 to Sunday, April 22 in Milwaukee.
- Reading and online discussion beginning in March and concluding in May with final assignments due.
- Writing a report on perspectives you’ve gained, or creating a lesson plan to use in your classroom.

praise for past TAH workshops presented by this partnership

“I always find the information a big help in my classes, and you take the class with actual teachers who are just like you – trying to turn a whole lot of information into something meaningful and fun.”

– Amanda Hill, CESA 10

“The best courses for continuing professional development in history teaching practice that I have ever taken.”

– Margo Stewart, CESA 8

“When I got done, I felt like a *historian*, equipped with the tools to continue to study.”

– Robert Piotrowski, CESA 5

meet the staff

University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire

Oscar Chamberlain, PhD, lead instructor. Fields of expertise include constitutional history and early national and antebellum U.S. history. Director of the *Making Americans, Making America* program.

Mary Ann Lynnes, master teacher, Center for History Teaching and Learning. Will advise participating teachers on incorporating project content into their classrooms.

Jim Oberly, PhD, lead instructor for the summer institute. Content development for the overall program.

Sheryl Poirier, Constructing Liberty coordinator for the university.

Chippewa Valley Museum

Susan McLeod (CVM director), Constructing Liberty project director. **Liz Reuter** (public programs), Constructing Liberty coordinator for the museum. **Carrie Ronnander** (curator), instructor, online commenter. **Frank Smoot** (editor), instructor, online commenter.

Cooperative Educational Services Agency 10

Larry Annett (CESA 10 administrator), grant administrator. **Candyce Lund** (Director of Instructional Services), grant administration support.

how do I sign up?

Visit www.cvmuseum.com/liberty.html, and download an application. You can fill out the MS Word version, re-save it, and email it to

liberty@cvmuseum.info

or print the PDF, fill it in, and mail it USPS to

Mary Ann Lynnes, Constructing Liberty
Chippewa Valley Museum
PO Box 1204
Eau Claire, WI 54702-1204

The deadline is **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**. Don't delay. Space is limited.

Educators from all schools in the CESA 3-12 area are eligible and welcome to apply.* Your school does not need to be a member of a CESA, nor a public school. We are recruiting participants nearly statewide, so you should act quickly to get a spot.

*As required by the grant, teachers from schools listed as not meeting AYP (annual yearly progress) or SIFI (schools identified for improvement) will receive first priority.

