

Chapter 2. The Development of United States Government

This section focuses on the historical development of United States Government - an essential area of investigation and exploration in government, civics, and history classes in elementary, middle, and high schools.

The critical media literacy activities in this section **connect to the seminal documents and events of the American Revolutionary Era**, including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the Constitutional Convention, the debates between Federalists and Anti-Federalists, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Each of the media literacy activities connects the past to issues people face today - the meaning of independence in an era of social media; the role of government in regulating self-driving automobile technology; the persistence of racism toward Black Americans from the Constitutional Convention to today; the nature of political debates and discourse in American politics; and the current relevance of the Bill of Rights to our lives as members of a democracy.

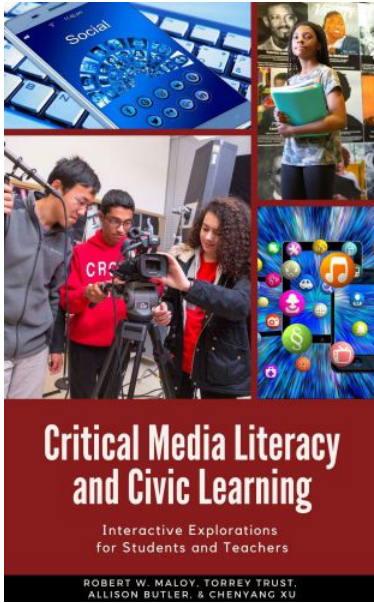
Media Literacy Activities Choice Board

<p>Curate a Collection of Images of Black Lives and Culture</p> <p>Assemble a digital collection of images that combat racism and affirm Black lives and culture.</p> 	<p>Design a Social Media Campaign for a Declaration of Independence</p> <p>Explore the various Declarations of Independence written throughout U.S. history and then design a social media campaign for one.</p> 	<p>Write Your Own Hamilton-Style Lyrics</p> <p>Choose a political topic and write a song or rap that examines how different levels of government are handling your issue.</p> 
<p>Uncover Media Stereotypes Toward Black Americans</p> <p>Design a video, podcast, or website that connects decisions made during the Constitutional Convention to how Black Americans are portrayed in the media today.</p> 	<p>The Development of the U.S. Government</p> <p>Media Literacy Choice Board</p>  <p><i>Building Democracy for All</i>, a free eBook by Robert Maloy & Torrey Trust explores these topics and more</p>	<p>Analyze the Lyrics from Hamilton</p> <p>Listen to songs from <i>Hamilton</i>. Then, evaluate the songs for their accuracy, credibility, relevance, and presentation. Design a Yelp/Amazon review, podcast, video, or website to showcase your findings.</p> 
<p>Analyze Social Media Content Creators' Videos</p> <p>Evaluate how Black content creators on TikTok, YouTube, or Snapchat portray Black American identity.</p> 		<p>Who Should Regulate Self-Driving Cars?</p> <p>Explore how auto manufacturers are marketing cars and what local, state, and national governments do to create safer driving for everyone.</p> 

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Media Literacy Activities



Maloy, R. W., Trust, T., , & Xu, C. (2021). *Critical Media Literacy and Civic Learning*. Equity Press.
<https://equitypress.org/mediaandciviclearning>