

Department of Social Sciences
Special Programs, Competitions, & Instructional Support for Social Sciences BEYOND
Supporting the K-12 Required Social Science Instructional Program

Program	Description	Grade(s)	Date(s)	Partner
ABOTA- James Otis Lecture Series	An association of trial lawyers that provide content knowledge to students and teachers regarding law related education.	6-12	Ongoing	American Board of Trial Advocates
African American History Month	A variety of programs, emphasizing an annual theme, which focus on the integral role, past and present, of African Americans in our nation.	K-12	February	State of Florida African American History Taskforce
African American History	Programs, workshops and instructional materials are provided to support State and District requirements on the teaching of African American history.	K-12	Ongoing	FIU- LLAC & Department of African Studies
African American Read-In Chain	Schools, community and professional organizations are urged to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month by reading materials that are authored by African Americans.	K-12	February	NTCE
Black History and Culture Brain Bowl	Team competition for secondary students which tests knowledge of African American history, art music and general knowledge. Sponsored in conjunction with Florida International University's Office of Pre-College Programs and the South Florida Thurgood Marshall Center of Excellence	6-12	November	FIU
Black History Essay Contest	Writing competition for secondary students using the FCAT writing format and focusing on an annual theme determined by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH).	6-12	December - February	Cox Radio Hot 105 99 Jamz
Caribbean American History Month	Instructional resources are provided late May and early June to promote student understanding of Caribbean and Caribbean-American History	K-12	June	N/A
Celebrate Freedom Week	As required by State Statute 233.0659, all students study the intent and meaning of The Declaration of Independence.	K-12	Last full week in September	N/A
Character Education	A comprehensive, model character and ethics education program that will help students further develop socially, ethically, and academically.	K-12	Ongoing	N/A
Close Up	A week-long intense study of the federal government in Washington, D.C. for students and teachers.	6-12	January-May	Close Up Foundation
Common Core Secondary Initiative	Programs, workshops, and instructional resource development to support the implementation and mastery of Common Core State Standards at the 6-12 level.	6-12	Ongoing	N/A

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Community Service Graduation Requirement	Support for SHS graduation requirement related to community service projects.	9-12	Ongoing	N/A
Constitution Day Celebration	The celebration of Constitution Day on September 17 th is federally mandated. Instructional materials are created and distributed K-12 with activities that emphasize the importance of understanding the U.S. Constitution.	K-12	September 17	N/A
Election Day Activities	When key national, state, and local elections occur (e.g., Presidential Elections and Gubernatorial Elections) instructional materials are prepared and distributed K-12 focusing on candidate information and election activities. Often times, student mock elections are run in addition to sending to schools instructional materials regarding important elections.	K-12	November	Miami-Dade Supervisor of Elections
Ethical Governance Day	Held each fall, community leaders are scheduled to visit SHS 12 th grade government/economics courses to discuss the importance of ethics in work life and in government.	12	Fall	Miami-Dade Ethics Commission
Ethics in Education Conference	A two-day conference for teachers, students, parents, educational administrators and concerned citizens covering major ethical issues at all levels of American education, presented jointly by the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, the University of Miami and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.	SHS and Admin./ Teachers	Spring	Miami-Dade Ethics Commission
Financial Literacy	Support for Financial Literacy Education	K-12 with special emphasis on grades 7 and 12	Ongoing	Discover Financial Group Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Miami Branch, Florida Economics Education Miami-Dade College Economics Education Everfi
Geography Bee for Elementary Students	Student teams compete with each other to determine the extent of their geographic knowledge. Students in grades K-5 are eligible to participate in this competition.	K-5	April	MDC North Campus
Geography Bee for Secondary Students	Student teams in grades 6-8 and in grades 9-12 compete to determine the extent of their geographic knowledge.	6-12	April	MDC North Campus
Global Scholars Program	Middle School classrooms are paired with like students from other countries and work collaboratively to investigate a problem of global concern.	6-8	On-going	Global Scholars Program

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Grant Development and Support	Support for the development of grant proposals and the implementation of funded grants.	K-12	Ongoing	N/A
Haitian Heritage Month	Activities to help teachers and students recognize and celebrate the important contributions Haitians have made to history and to our community.	K-12	May	City of North Miami Beach, Paul Ragasten, FAUM, Inc.
Hispanic Heritage Month	Special programs throughout the month recognize the integral role of Hispanic Americans in our nation, past and present.	K-12	September 15-October 15 and Ongoing	N/A
Hispanic Studies	Programs, workshops and instructional materials are provided to support the State and District requirements on the teaching of Hispanic studies.	K-12	Ongoing	N/A
Hispanic Heritage Teacher Advocates	A group of volunteer teachers (K-12) who advocate for the infusion of Hispanic heritage education in the K-12 Social Science Instructional Program	K-12	Ongoing	FIU's Latin American and Caribbean Center
History Bee (Elementary and Middle)	Student teams in grades 5 and 6-8 compete with each other to determine the extent of their knowledge of United States' history.	5, 6-8	April	History Miami MDC North Campus
History Fair	A state and national program where students research a given topic based on a theme and prepare a project and presentation based on their research	6-12	Ongoing	National History Day Organization Miami Springs Community Center
Holocaust Awareness Days	Student study of the Holocaust by means of a seminar and interaction with survivors.	9-12	February - March	N/A
Holocaust Studies	Programs, workshops and instructional materials are provided to support the State and District requirements on the teaching of the Holocaust.	K-12	Ongoing	N/A
iCivics	Technology and game-based instructional resource for Civics and U.S. Government teachers/students	7 and 12	Ongoing	iCivics
Junior Achievement Programs	Various programs designed to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise and understand business and economics. Sponsored by Junior Achievement.	K-12	Ongoing	Junior Achievement
Justice Teaching Institute	Justices from the Florida Supreme Court visit schools to educate students about the Constitution and the administration of justice. Available to selected schools.	6-12	As scheduled	Florida Law Related Education Association and Florida Supreme Court
Law Week Programs	The Young Lawyers Section of the Dade County Bar sponsors a poster contest for elementary schools and an essay contest for secondary schools.	K-12	May	N/A

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Local History Initiative	To support the study and infusion of local history in the K-12 Social Science Instructional Program	K-12	Ongoing	HistoryMiami
Mock Trial	A competition among teams from public and private high schools having a law education program.	6-8 and 9-12	February	FLREA/ FIU College of Law/ Young Lawyers Association
Model United Nations	A simulation of the United Nations for high school students.	9-12	January	MDC/University of Miami Foundations for Leadership
Native American History Month	Instructional activities designed recognize the integral role of Native Americans in our nation, past and present.	K-12	November	N/A
Program in National Securities Studies (PINNS)	A co-curricular program for senior high school students and teachers coordinated in conjunction with the Jack D. Gordon Institute on Public Policy provides professional development for teachers and simulation activities for students regarding topics that are of concern and related to National Security.	9-12	Ongoing	FIU
Project Citizen	A program which encourages students to identify a community issue or problem and develop a method by which it will be addressed. Classes develop a portfolio and make a presentation on their problem. Support is provided by the Center for Civic Education.	6-8	Ongoing	FIU College of Law/FLREA/ Center for Civic Education
Student Government Association (SGA)	The SGA is composed of elected representatives from each of the District's senior high schools and is responsible for representing student views and making recommendations to District staff and the School Board regarding programs and policies.	9-12	Ongoing	MDC College North Campus for Leadership Conference and Meeting
Student Voter Registration Program	Eligible students are registered to vote with a special emphasis on students in their senior year. Support is provided by the Dade County Elections Department.	9-12	Fall and Spring	Miami-Dade Supervisor of Elections
Theodore Gibson Oratorical Competition	Miami-Dade County Public Schools, in cooperation with Miami Dade College, co-sponsors the Theodore Gibson Oratorical Competition. In this competition, elementary and secondary students compete for the coveted Theodore Gibson medallion. The competition exposes students to a breadth of writings about the African American experience and provides them with the opportunity to refine their research, writing, and public speaking skills through a challenging competition.	K-12	Ongoing	MDC North Campus

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Veterans' History Project	The Library of Congress' Veteran's history Project collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. High school students can earn Community Service Hours by interviewing veterans and submitting records of their work to the Library of Congress' collection. Teacher training regarding this initiative is also offered throughout the year.	6-12	Ongoing	Library of Congress and Veterans' History Day Project
"We the People" - Elementary School	A study of the Constitution and Bill of Rights for elementary students. Available in selected schools. Support is provided by the Center for Civic Education.	5	Ongoing	Center for Civic Education and FLREA
"We the People" - Middle School	A curriculum which focuses on the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights which may culminate in a mock congressional hearing. Support is provided by the Center for Civic Education.	6-8	Ongoing	Center for Civic Education and FLREA
"We the People" - Senior High School	A study of the Constitution and Bill of Rights with an optional competition following the format of a Congressional hearing. Support is provided by the Center for Civic Education.	9-12	Ongoing with competition in December	Center for Civic Education and FLREA
Women's History	Programs, workshops and instructional materials are provided to support State and District requirements on the teaching of women's history.	K-12	Ongoing	N/A
Women's History Month	Recognition of the role of women in the history of the United States.	K-12	March	N/A