

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT

Lesson Title – The Ellis Island Experience

Grade - 11

Length of class period – 90 minutes

Inquiry - What did immigrants experience upon entering Ellis Island?

Objectives

Students will:

- make deductions from visual clues
- sequence and summarize the process of entry
- evaluate the experience of the immigrant

Materials

Source Citation: Reproduced in History Resource Center. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Group. <http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/HistRC/>

Activities (What will you and your students do during the lesson to promote learning?)

Activity 1: Students (in groups of 3) examine the photos to determine what is happening in each. Organize photos in a sequence of events. (Lower level students may be given the titles of the photos to match to the appropriate photo.) Students will summarize the process of entry into the United States. Teacher will monitor students.

Activity 2: Follow up with the class will entail a class discussion and feedback on photos. Display the photos in sequence. Compare and contrast the findings of the various groups.

Activity 3: Students will start an “Immigrant Journal” in which they will record their reactions to the journey, the processing procedures and their expectations for their new life in America.

How will you assess what student learned during this lesson?

Teacher monitors groups and evaluates responses during class discussion. Teacher will read the journal entries for comprehension of the topic.

Connecticut Framework Performance Standards –

- formulate historical questions and hypotheses from multiple perspectives, using multiple sources;
- gather, analyze and reconcile historical information, including contradictory data, from primary and secondary sources to support or reject hypotheses;
- explain the multiple forces and developments (cultural, political, economic and scientific) that have helped to connect the peoples of the world.