

Solving Environmental Mysteries

Are you looking for a better way to teach environmental issues? Eco-Detectives is an 18-lesson curriculum that introduces students to a productive way of thinking about environmental problems. The lessons address environmental problems as mysteries worthy of investigation. The curriculum is suitable for high school as well as middle school.

Some of the mysteries are: Why are whales endangered but chickens are not?; Why do people in poor nations have more children than people in rich nations?; Why, in spite of today's emphasis on recycling, are bottles, cans, and papers routinely tossed into landfills?; and, Why do nice people refuse to use mass transit?

Such questions launch lessons that teach students about human behavior by introducing basic economic principles. Each lesson actively involves the student in the learning process and helps students begin to fashion realistic solutions. The principles can be applied to environmental problems of the present and the past. The curriculum, written by Mark C. Schug, John Morton, and Donald R. Wentworth, was produced by PERC (the Political Economy Research Center) in Bozeman, Montana. A sample lesson is available at no charge. Contact Jane S. Shaw, PERC, 502 S. 19th Avenue, Suite 211, Bozeman, Mont. 59715. Phone: 406-587-9591; fax: 406-586-7555; e-mail: shaw@perc.org. □

OU Presents Annual Oxford Studies Program

It is the land of King Arthur, Lancelot, and Guinevere. It is where the ancients once gathered at Stonehenge, the Romans watched another empire crumble, and where some of the world's fiercest battles—made timeless in classic literature—were fought. This July, from the backdrop of the scholarly, historical city of Oxford, the people, sights, and events of medieval England will leap from the pages and become reality for

enthusiastic adult learners. The University of Oklahoma's annual Oxford Studies Program, sponsored by Academic Programs at the OU College of Continuing Education, features two courses of study so participants can tailor their visit to their area of interest.

"From Stonehenge to King Arthur: The Roman Roots of Anglo-American Liberty," is slated July 14-30, and will be led by J. Rufus Fears, the G.T. and Libby Blankenship Professor of the History of Liberty and professor of classics. "War and Literature: A Study of Literature's Greatest battles" is slated July 16-28 and will be led by Alan Velie, OU professor of English, and Robert Smith, OU professor of law.

For more information or to arrange accommodations on the basis of disability, contact the College of Continuing Education at (800)522-0772, ext. 5101, or locally at (405) 325-5101. □

NHPRC Projects

Encourage Preservation

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) announces support projects reflecting its strategic plan, "To Protect a Priceless Legacy: The Preservation and Use of America's Historical Records." The deadline is 1 June 1996. Projects will include current documentary editing regarding the formation of basic American political institutions; creating and updating state strategic plans for meeting records needs, based on the previous state assessments, encompassing both documentary preservation and publication; carrying out the recommendations in the report of the Working Meeting on Research Issues in Electronic Records; and developing consortia and centers to edit documents, deal with documentation problems, raise funds for projects, share equipment and staff, and provide training as well as editing. Contact NHPRC, Room 607 (Arch I), National Archives Building, Washington D.C. 20408; (202) 501-5610; fax (202) 501-5601. □

Vermont College Offers

Summer Workshops

Two oral history workshops at Vermont College in Montpelier will occur August 12-16 and 26-30 August 1996. Emphasizing interview skills, project management, fundraising and legal-ethical concerns, these workshops will be led by Charles T. Morrissey, Director of the Archives and Oral History Project at Baylor College of Medicine and Oral History Consultant for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Contact Vermont College at (802) 828-8802. □

Thomas Jefferson and James Madison Symposium

University of Virginia Division of Continuing Education's 1996 Jefferson Symposium, "Thomas Jefferson and James Madison: A Cordial and Affectionate Friendship," will be held 3-6 June 1996. Contact University of Virginia Division of Continuing Education at (800) 346-3882; <http://www.virginia.edu/~contined/jeff.htm>. □

UNC Announces Conference: History of Women

Tenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women will be held at the University of North Carolina, 7-9 June 1996. It will feature nearly 200 sessions and workshops. Contact 1996 Berkshire Conference, Division of Continuing Education, CB 1020 The Friday Center, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599-1020. □

U.S. History, Culture, and Politics: 1945-2000

"U.S. History, Culture, and Politics: 1945-2000," a five day institute, will take place 28 June-2 July 1996, at the University of Virginia. It will examine the Cold War, the Fifties, the Color line, the labor problem, Vietnam, and the Women's Movement. contact Marilyn Maughan, Division of continuing Education, P.O. Box 3697, Charlottesville, Va. 22903; (804) 982-5276; e-mail:

mjm6n@virginia.edu. □

University of Virginia Sponsors Institute in England

"The Unpleasantness in the Colonies: The American Revolution," will be held at Trinity College, Oxford, England, August 11-17, 1996. sponsored by the University of Virginia Division of Continuing Education, this program will investigate the causes, the course, and the consequences of the fight for independence. Contact University of Virginia Division of Continuing Education; (800) 346-3882; <http://www.virginia.edu/~contined/oxlet.htm>. □

Free Copy of *Teaching History: A Journal of Methods*

Teaching History: A Journal of Methods contains articles concerning the teaching of history as well as reviews of history books. It is published twice yearly, in the spring and fall. For a free sample copy, write to Sam Dicks, Box 4032, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas 66801-5087. □

Lyceum Seeks Information

The Lyceum, Alexandria, Virginia's history museum, is seeking information, artifacts, and research leads in preparation for an exhibition on the education of women in Alexandria between 1800 and 1850. Guest curator of the exhibition is Gloria Allen, formerly of the DAR Museum in Washington, D.C. If you can help this effort in any way, please call Assistant Director Kristin Lloyd at (703) 838-4994. □

National Trust for Historic Preservation Offers *Historic Places*

The NTHP in collaboration with the National Park Service has created an educational program, *Teaching with Historic Places*. The program is based on the premise that by focusing on real places, teachers can capture the attention of students in a way that traditional textbooks

might not. The program emphasizes reasoning and critical thinking skills through short, easy to follow lesson plans based on places listed in the National Register of Historic Places. For more information, contact Katherine Adams, (202) 673-4000. □

Connecting Scholarship Series

The Serenus Press, in cooperation with the National Center for the Study of History, is pleased to announce publication of the Connecting Scholarship Series. This series will provide teachers, students, and professionals with useful concise, economical guides that connect scholarship with career related activities.

Teachers and professionals are invited to submit manuscripts for publication in the series. For teachers, subject matter may deal with any topic related to the connection between core subjects and professional activities. The emphasis must be on "how to do it" rather than why it should be done. For professionals, the manuscript should deal with essential tasks and responsibilities you face that require applying core skills and knowledge learned from school through college. For further information, write Robert W. Pomeroy, National Center for the Study of History, R.R.#1, Box 679, Cornish, Maine 04020-9726; or call (207) 637-2873. □

High School/College Program

University of Missouri-Kansas City offers courses to high school students interested in attending college. The program is designed to smooth the transition from high school to college, shorten the time needed to earn an undergraduate degree, and improve study habits. The courses are taught by high school teachers who are qualified to teach at the university level. The program offers courses in a wide range of disciplines. All interested students must have maintained a superior GPA and must have the recommendation of the faculty member teaching the course. Students completing the course are awarded a UM transcript. For more information, contact

Anna Larkin, University of Missouri-Kansas City, 302 Scofield Hall, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, Mo. 64110; (816) 235-1165. □

Lesson Plans Re-Examine American West

The Social Science Education Consortium, Inc. announces the availability of *A New Look at the American West: Lessons for Secondary History and Literature Classes*, edited by Gloria Eastman and Barbara Miller. The 27 lessons in this resource are designed to help challenge stereotypical images of the West. The lessons emphasize multiple perspectives; a humanities approach that integrates history, literature, art, and film. For further information, contact Laurel R. Singleton, SSEC, P.O. Box 21270, Boulder, Colo. 80308-4270; (303) 492-8154. □

Ike and His Times Featured in New multi-media Package

The Pew Charitable Trusts have provided a grant to the Eisenhower World Affairs Institute and National Video Communications, Inc. to develop a multi-media package to augment a four-part television documentary series on Dwight D. Eisenhower that will air on The Disney Channel late this year. The Eisenhower Era education package will consist of print, video, and computer materials incorporating the latest historical research on this period. It will be available for the 1996-1997 school year and will include: a classroom poster highlighting the major events of the era, twenty 20-minute video modules, hosted in part by General Colin Powell, a series of booklets with curriculum planning aids for teachers, a textbook of background readings for teachers, and computer diskettes for student self-learning activities. For further information, contact Caroline Bruce, The Eisenhower Era, Suite 501, 918 Sixteenth Street, NW; Washington D.C. 20006. Telephone: (202)223-7220; fax: (202) 452-1837; e-mail: ikeedu@aol.com. □