



**Online Live Workshops**  
Professional Development Opportunity  
to Bring Civics Education to Life  
Through Documentary Filmmaking



Join award winning filmmakers and educators for an extraordinary professional development opportunity. Civic Life Project teaches civics through video storytelling and is offering live online educator training in their curriculum and proven teaching methods.

Civic Life students learn to listen to opposing viewpoints and think critically to understand complex ideas. They reach beyond the boundaries of the school setting to screen their films and lead discussion in an open forum with members of their communities. Students learn critical thinking, interview, teamwork, digital and English language skills, and heightened media literacy, while developing a sense of agency and an urgency to participate in their classrooms and communities.

A generation is ready to reclaim democracy, but they need our help. Civic Life reinforces the democratic empowerment that comes from active citizenship. Students learn to express themselves through documentary films that are shown in a Civic Life sponsored film festival viewed by community members far and wide.

The program is affordable, correlated to Common Core standards, and easy to implement. Bring civics to life in your classroom. Teacher testimonials and more info at [www.civiclifeproject.org](http://www.civiclifeproject.org).



## OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

### Learning Objectives

By the end of the course you will be able to:

- Use the Civic Life Curriculum in your class as an enquiry-based approach to teaching civics
- Successfully guide your students through the process of creating a Civic Life short documentary film
- Use media creation tools as part of your teaching

### Performance Tasks

By the end of the course you will have created:

- One short video featuring yourself and your teaching goals
- One unit plan integrating Civic Life tools and techniques



## OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

### **Session 1: Introduction**

Curriculum: Citizen/Documentary filmmaker  
Elements of a Documentary  
Empathy

### **Session 2: Interviews**

Different Types of Interviews  
Basic Technical Know-How  
Preparing for and Practicing Interviews

### **Session 3: Making Selects/Telling a Story**

Making Selects  
Paper Cut and Assembly  
The Neuroscience of Storytelling

### **Session 4: Writing a Treatment**

What is a Treatment  
The Essential Questions  
Visual Elements



## OUTLINE OF THE COURSE (CONT.D)

### **Session 5: Storytelling and Democracy**

The Heart of Democracy  
Connecting to Your Own Story  
Creating Community

### **Session 6: Editing**

Using Transcripts  
Three Act Structure  
Editing Basics

### **Session 7: Tips and Tricks**

Using Easy and Inexpensive Online Platforms  
Use of Animation  
Fair Use Doctrine

### **Session 8: Media Literacy and Conclusion**

Analyze Political Commercials  
Review Homework  
Conclusion



## CIVIC LIFE PROJECT ONLINE WORKSHOPS TESTIMONIALS

"As a novice, I appreciate the user-friendly format that allows us to explore important technical material in a manner that I, and my students, can understand. I am grateful for the straightforward way in which topics are labeled so that I can quickly identify and show topics over and over again."

"The curriculum is very helpful, but as teachers we always feel pressed for time so the presentations help to focus on what is most vital to the project. I also appreciate the variety of examples that are employed to show how the essential questions were addressed. Each workshop

"I have been teaching over 21 years and it is difficult to maintain the same passion for the subject material that I did when I was a novice. This program ignites that passion once again. Your sincere goal of having the students share their voices, and their stories, inspires me to work alongside you in accomplishing this mission. I appreciate your stance of turning control over to the students as we help facilitate the project and allow the students to assume the role of teachers."

"Today's session compelled me to personally experience the motivational activities I will employ with my students. We desire to build a sense of community and political efficacy but how do you do it? How does one begin? I feel tonight's activities addressed those questions by making us look inward toward how we see ourselves, others, and our communities."



Now \$950

**Includes:**

Eight Interactive sixty-minute online interactive seminars  
One Year Online Support  
One Year Access to Civic Life Curriculum and Tutorials for  
Unlimited Number of Students  
Students' Films Entry in Civic Life Youth Film Challenge

\* Financial aid and scholarships available upon request. Please email us at [info@civiclifeproject.org](mailto:info@civiclifeproject.org), write "Financial Aid" in the subject line.