Trip to Newseum in Washington, D.C.

Learning Goals

- After visiting the Newseum, students will better understand the real-world implications of the First Amendment and will be more aware of recent challenges to the First Amendment.
- After visiting the Newseum and observing journalists cover the March for Our Lives, students will be more aware of current professional journalistic practices (March 2018).
- After listening to fake news podcasts, students will be more aware of how misinformation spreads and how disinformation is created.

Suggested Timeline

3 months before trip
- Organize a planning committee (at least 2 people).
- Secure funding.
- Investigate driving procedures and policies at your institution. If necessary, investigate hotel/overnight policies.
- Set a trip date. Check D.C. city-wide calendars for conflicting events.
- Browse exhibits, learning objects, activities, and lessons on the Newseum’s website (https://newseumed.org/).

2 months before trip
- Submit any required documents.
- Finalize learning objectives and activities.
- Reserve vehicle(s) and hotel rooms.
- Purchase Newseum tickets.

1 month before trip
- Distribute promotion/marketing materials (flyers and emails) to targeted recipients.
- Create handouts, maps, and assessment forms.
- Finalize trip logistics.
- Register for Newseum class(es).

1 week to a few days before trip
- Meet with students ahead of trip to discuss expectations, learning objectives, and logistics.

Action Items

Secure Funding
- Investigate student activity fee or similar program at your institution.
- Consider splitting costs between the library and the student activity fee.
- Investigate external sources such as, the Campus Compact’s Fund for Positive Engagement (https://compact.org/fund-positive-engagement/).
Podcasts
● Download podcasts before trip. Bring auxiliary cable.
● Suggested podcasts/audio clips:

Recruit Participants
● Partner with campus staff who plan other student trips.
● Send campus-wide emails to students, and share on social media.
● Target relevant student groups such as the campus newspaper and political clubs.
● Target communication to Political Science, Communication, and Psychology faculty. Share your learning goals with the faculty, and ask them to consider offering extra-credit.
● Target communication to faculty who are “friends of the library” or faculty who work closely with first-year students.
● Create high quality paper and digital flyers. Try using Canva (https://www.canva.com/).

Trip Logistics
● Share and collect cell phone numbers.
● Bring snacks for trip.
● If not funded, students will need to bring money for lunch and the Metro.
● Bring printed activities, assessment forms, and pens/pencils.
● Bring printed maps of the National Mall and key Metro stops.
● Determine meeting times and locations (to and from Newseum).
● Driving from out-of-town? Consider parking at the Shady Grove Metro Station at 15903 Somerville Drive Rockville, MD 20855.

Additional Resources
● DC Metro https://www.wmata.com/
● Newseum http://www.newseum.org/
● Newseum tickets (school rate) http://www.newseum.org/visit/groups/educators/
● The News Literacy Project https://newslit.org/
● Center for News Literacy https://www.centerfornewsliteracy.org/

If you have questions, suggestions, or comments, feel free to reach out to us!

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