## COURSE CURRICULA

Currently all class curricula and recommended study materials are accessible through the project Website <u>www.hplct.or/tap/Citizenship</u> along with *Citizenship on the Go* (CoG) an online self-study citizenship preparation course produced by the library through funding from U.S. Department of Homeland Security Citizenship and Integration Grant FY2011. NOTE: CoG contains a range of USCIS educational resources embedded within the slides, such as the Civics Flash Cards which are further enhanced with photographs, film clips and Web and pod casts to contextualize instruction and make it meaningful.

## TITLE: U.S. Citizenship: Prepare for the Tests

**LEVEL:** Low Intermediate and above LPRs enrollees; requiring some more ESL communication and reading/writing development to meet the English comprehension requirement and more exposure to basic civic concepts.

**ASSESSMENT:** The project will utilize the CASAS Appraisal (Form 80) a listening appraisal for ESL/ELL learners and a reading appraisal for all learners for program eligibility and the CASAS Life and Work Reading and Listening (980 series) progress tests (pre-and post) to monitor the progress of our students. These tests are approved for the NRS reporting system.

Regular quizzes based on 100 civics Q&As is administered to assess students' mastery of content. Tools include: USCIS's Welcome to the Civics Practice Test,

**Enrollees with CASAS scale scores at 190 or below** will be placed in the Library's ESL classes or Basic Citizenship class based on their English native fluency.

## **LEARNING GOALS:**

Prepare students to gain knowledge of the vocabulary and communication skills (aural, oral, and written) required at the naturalization interview; learn the essentials of U.S. civics and history; and gain awareness of the principles of democracy; and, competently navigate electronic resources. Successful students will progress to U.S. Citizenship: Preparing for the Test described above. Improve LPRs English comprehension (reading/writing and aural/oral communication skills.)

## HOURS: 42 Hours (3 hrs per week)

## LESSON PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

• Instructors incorporate the Intermediate Level lesson plans and activities produced by USCIS Website <u>www.uscis.gov/citizenship/teachers/lesson-plans-and-activities</u> and align

them with the class units. In addition, a customized Power Point slide show (based on *Citizenship on the Go*) accompanies instructors' lesson presentations.

- **Interactive technology** based activities are a key component of the curriculum. Of particular value are the *Interactive Study Material* developed by USCIS to prepare for the English test. These activities are used for group instruction, which then entices the student to continue practicing after class.
- **Field learning** is a vital supplementary activity since Hartford is home to several area historic landmarks and civic institutions, notably City Hall and the Capitol. The Library setting itself offers a range of high interest civic programming, notably candidate forums, free tax services, heritage events, and onsite Naturalization Ceremonies.

## TEXT BOOKS:

#### Core Textbook:

Future U.S. Citizens by Sarah Lynn (Pierson Education, 2011)

#### Supplemental:

By the People for the People by Deborah Short The Star-Spangled Banner by Peter Spier

We the People by Peter Spier

*Thumball* co-decveloped by the Library to promote communicative interactions around the content of Citizenship (TPR).

## **Required Texts**:

Students are required to read a minimum of three titles from the Library's citizenship collection of non-fiction graded readers related to U.S. history and government, e.g. titles from the Terry Barber series.

**<u>CONTENT</u>**: covers the naturalization process, key concepts of U.S. civics, history and culture, as outlined in *Learn About the United States Quick Civics Lessons for the Naturalization Test* (M-638) published by USCIS. Emphasis is placed on contextualized instruction through field trips and multimedia (webcasts and virtual online historical and civics tours.) Oral/aural skills will be developed through dynamic in-class activities reinforced by online resources.

## Lesson 1: Introductions & Review of Naturalization Process

#### Pre-Assessment

- Introductions and overview of Course Curriculum
- Requirements for becoming a U.S. Citizen (slide show)
- Promise of Freedom video

- Naturalization Sample Interview Video 16mins
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Lesson 2: <u>American History</u> Colonial Period

- Power Point (PP) Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Dictation

#### Lesson 3: American History Independence

- Power Point (PP) Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Dictation

#### Lesson 4: <u>American Government</u> Principles of American Democracy

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Lesson 5: American History 1800s, Civil War

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice
- Field Trip to CT Supreme Court

#### Lesson 6: <u>American History</u>

#### Recent American History, Civil Rights

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Lesson 7: American History

#### Other Important Historical Information (International Wars)

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources

- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Quiz on content of Lessons 1 – 7

## Lesson 8: <u>American Government</u>

#### **Rights & Responsibilities**

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Lesson 9: American Government

#### System of Government: Legislative Branch

- PP Slide Show
- Guest Speaker
- Field Trip to the State Capitol

## Lesson 10: <u>American Government</u> System of Government: Executive Branch

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Break
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice
- Guest Speaker
- Field Trip to City Hall

## Lesson 11: American Government

#### System of Government: Judicial Branch

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Lesson 12: <u>American Government</u>

#### State and Local Government

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice
- Field trip to City Hall

## Lesson 13: Integrated Civics

## Geography

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Lesson 14: Integrated Civics

## Symbols, Holidays

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Post-Assessment

#### TITLE: CITIZENSHIP BASICS

**LEVEL:** This program will be developed to provide those LPRs with English native fluency but low literacy. CASAS reading scale scores 190 or below.

**ASSESSMENT:** The project will utilize the CASAS Reading Appraisal (Form 80) for program eligibility and the CASAS Life and Work Reading only (980 series) progress tests (pre-and post) to monitor the progress of our students. These tests are approved for the NRS reporting system. Regular quizzes based on 100 civics Q&As will be administered to assess students' mastery of content.

**LEARNING GOALS:** Prepare LPRs to pass the U.S. Civics and History test; be successful in the Naturalization Interview; gain appreciation for the principles of democracy to become civically engaged citizens; and, competently navigate electronic resources.

#### HOURS: 62 Hours (4 hrs. per week)

## LESSON PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

- Instructors incorporate the Beginner Level lesson plans and activities produced by USCIS Website <u>www.uscis.gov/citizenship/teachers/lesson-plans-and-activities</u> and align them with the class units. In addition, a customized Power Point slide show (based on *Citizenship on the Go*) accompanies instructors' lesson presentations.
- Interactive technology based activities are a key component of the curriculum. Of particular value are the *Interactive Study Material* developed by USCIS to prepare for the English test. These activities are used for group instruction, which then entices the student to continue practicing after class. Additional, technology specifically developed for literacy will also be incorporated into class instruction, notably, research-based phonics software, such as LEXIA.
- Volunteer tutors will be assigned to work one-on-one to meet the specific literacy gaps of this cohort, by offering intensive opportunities for reading and writing practice utilizing USCIS's reading and writing flash cards and master lists. Training of volunteers will be provided by the Literacy Consultant, with oversight by the Transition Specialist.
- **Field learning** is a vital supplementary activity since Hartford is home to several area historic landmarks and civic institutions, notably City Hall and the Capitol. The Library setting itself offers a range of high interest civic programming, notably candidate forums, free tax services, heritage events, and onsite Naturalization Ceremonies.

#### TEXT BOOKS:

**Core text:** *Citizenship Passing the Test* by Lynne Weintraub

### Supplemental:

USCIS Reading and writing flash cards and master vocabulary lists. LEXIA Software *Thumball* co-decveloped by the Library to promote communicative interactions around the content of Citizenship (TPR).

## **Required Texts**:

Students are required to read a minimum of three titles from the Library's citizenship low level/high interest collection of non-fiction readers related to U.S. history and government. The Library has developed a core collection of multilevel readers and audio books on U.S. history and civics, listed on the project's Website

**CONTENT:** Content covers the vocabulary and concepts of the N400 form; and, the key areas of U.S. civics, history and culture, as outlined in *Learn About the United States Quick Civics Lessons for the Naturalization Test* (M-638) published by USCIS. Instructor-developed Power point presentations, accompanied by customized student worksheets, serve the primary focus of classroom instruction.

## Pre-assessment

## Lesson 1: Introductions & Review of Naturalization Process

- Introductions and overview of Course Curriculum
- Requirements for becoming a U.S. Citizen (slide show)
- Benefit of U.S. Citizenship

Paired or small group ice-breaker activities

## Lesson 2: What to expect at the Naturalization Interview

- Review of N400 form.
- Waivers
- Where to go for legal help
- Naturalization Sample Interview Video (16mins)

Guest speaker from USCIS

## Lesson 3: <u>American History</u> Colonial Period

- Power Point (PP) Slide Show
- Promise of Freedom video

Paired or small group contextualized vocabulary activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

## Lesson 4: American History Revolution and Independence

• PP Slide Show

• Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets

#### Lesson 5: American Government Principles of American Democracy

- PP Slide Show
- Tour of Library Citizenship Corner; paired or small group contextualized vocab.

activities; dictation; in class work sheets

#### Lesson 6: American History 1800s, Civil War

• PP Slide show

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

#### Lesson 7: American History 1800s, Civil War

• Field Trip to local historical landmarks Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets

#### Lesson 8: American History

#### Recent American History, Civil Rights

• PP Slide show

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

#### Lesson 9: and Lesson 10: American History Civil Rights

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

## Lesson 10 and Lesson 11: <u>American History</u>

## Other Important Historical Information (International Wars)

• PP Slide Show

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

## Lesson 12: Review of Lessons 3 to 11

#### Lesson 13: Quiz on Lesson 3 - 11

#### Lesson 14: <u>American Government</u> Rights & Responsibilities

• PP Slide Show

• Guest Speaker from Voters Registrar Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

#### Lesson 15: <u>American Government</u> Constitution and System of Government

• PP Slide Show

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets

#### Lesson 16: System of Government Legislative Branch

• PP Slide Show

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

#### Lesson 17: System of Government: Executive Branch

PP Slide Show

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets.

#### Lesson 18: System of Government: Judicial Branch and the Rule of Law

- PP Slide Show
- Field Trip CT Supreme Court paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets

## Lesson 19: Review of Lessons 14 to 18 Lesson 20: Quiz on Lesson 14 to 18

#### Lesson 21: Integrated Civics Geography

- PP Slide Show
- Webcasts

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets

#### Lesson 22: Integrated Civics Symbols, Holidays

- PP Slide show
- Webcasts and virtual tours

Paired or small group contextualized vocab. activities; dictation; in class work sheets

## Lesson 23: Review of Lesson 21 and 22

#### Lesson 24: <u>Review of Online Resources</u>

• Instruction on evaluating authoritative educational websites and avoiding fraudulent sites. Paired or small group activities guided by teacher prepared worksheets.

#### Lesson 25: <u>Review of Online Resources</u>

• USCIS Website citizenship learner tools.

Paired or small group activities guided by teacher prepared worksheets.

#### Lesson 26: <u>Review of Online Resources</u>

• Civics and history related websites Paired or small group activities guided by teacher prepared worksheets

#### Lesson 27: American Government State and Local Government

- PP Slide showInteractive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Dictation
- Interview vocabulary & question practice
- Field trip to City Hall

## Lesson 28: <u>Good Moral Character</u> Discussion of rights and responsibilities

• Facilitated discussion of good moral character

#### Lesson 29 and Lesson 30: Final Review

- Final review of vocabulary and concepts taught (Lessons 3 22)
- Citizenship Jeopardy Activity on U.S. history and civics

#### Post-assessment

#### TITLE: U.S. CITIZENSHIP: LANGUAGE EXEMPTION FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS

**LEVEL:** LPRs enrolled in the class meet the language waiver eligibility requirements for naturalization.

**ASSESSMENT:** To assess, measure, and document student progress and eventual mastery of content, in the Spanish waiver class, we will conduct pre-post surveys (in Spanish) and a mid-point quiz of the students' knowledge of U.S. history and civics, drawn from the 100 questions.

**LEARNING GOALS:** Prepare LPRs to pass the U.S. Civics and History test; be successful in the Naturalization Interview; gain appreciation for the principles of democracy to become civically engaged upon achieving citizenship; and, competently navigate electronic resources.

#### HOURS: 42 Hours (3hrs per week)

#### TEXT BOOKS:

#### Core text:

A combination of USCIS and instructor-developed history and civics related material (in Spanish).

#### Supplemental:

Spanish language books on U.S. history and government including biographies.

**CONTENT:** Content covers the concepts of the N400 form; and, the key areas of U.S. civics, history and culture, as outlined in *Learn About the United States Quick Civics Lessons for the Naturalization Test* (M-638) published by USCIS. Currently the project has adapted and translated the Intermediate/Advanced Level Power Point presentation, accompanying student worksheets, and key concepts of the N400 form. This material in addition to the translated Civics Flash Cards serves as the primary focus of classroom instruction.

#### Lesson 1: Introductions & Review of Naturalization Process

- Introductions and overview of Course Curriculum
- Requirements for becoming a U.S. Citizen (slide show)
- Naturalization Sample Interview Video 16mins

#### Initial Assessment Survey

#### Lesson 2: American History Colonial Period

- Power Point (PP) Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As

• Promise of Freedom video

#### Lesson 3: American History Independence

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Interview vocab. & question practice

### Lesson 4: American Government Principles of American Democracy

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Lesson 4: American History 1800s, Civil War

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice

#### Lesson 5: <u>American History</u>

## Recent American History, Civil Rights

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocabulary & question practice

#### Lesson 6: American History

## Other Important Historical Information (International Wars)

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Quiz on Lessons 1 to 6

## Lesson 7: American Government Rights & Responsibilities

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Lesson 8: American Government System of Government: Legislative Branch

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice
- Guest Speaker
- Field Trip to the Capitol

## Lesson 9: <u>American Government</u> System of Government: Judicial Branch

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Lesson 10: American Government

## System of Government: Executive Branch

- PP Slide Show
- Interactive Q&As
- Break
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice
- Guest Speaker
- Field Trip to City Hall

## Lesson 11: Integrated Civics Geography

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocab. & question practice

## Lesson 12: Integrated Civics Symbols & Holidays

- PP Slide show
- Interactive Q&As
- Review of online resources
- Interview vocabulary & question practice

## Final Assessment Survey

**Thumball** co-decveloped with Answers in Motion LLC and Hartford Public Library to promote communicative interactions around the content of Citizenship (TPR).



#### Hartford Public Library DHS-16-CIS-010-002 Class Calendar 2015-18

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## Hartford Public Library Citizenship Program Informal Screening Tool

## **<u>Citizenship Class - Mock Interview</u>**

1. Please raise your right hand.	1	2	3	4	5
2. Do you swear that you will tell the truth today?	1	2	3	4	5
3. How did you get here today?	1	2	3	4	5
4. What is your full legal name?	1	2	3	4	5
5. What country are you from?	1	2	3	4	5
6. What is your date of birth?	1	2	3	4	5

## **Read Aloud**

1. What are the colors of the American flag?	1	2	3	4	5
2. There are four amendments to the Constitution about who can vote.	1	2	3	4	5

## Writing/Dictation

1	1	2	3	4	5
2	1	2	3	4	5

Score:	/ 50
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10 - Lowest, 50 - Highest, Under 30 - should not be in Advance class

# **Please circle class recommendation:**

Advanced

High Intermediate

Basic/Native Speaker

## Ineligible/ESL

Rev. 11/9/2015 - DT