



Our Approach to Civic Education

Our resources and professional learning help teachers cultivate a strong sense of civic responsibility and engagement in their students. Guided by our proven pedagogical approach, students learn to discern facts from misinformation, connect history to the world around them, and collaboratively explore solutions to complex civic problems.

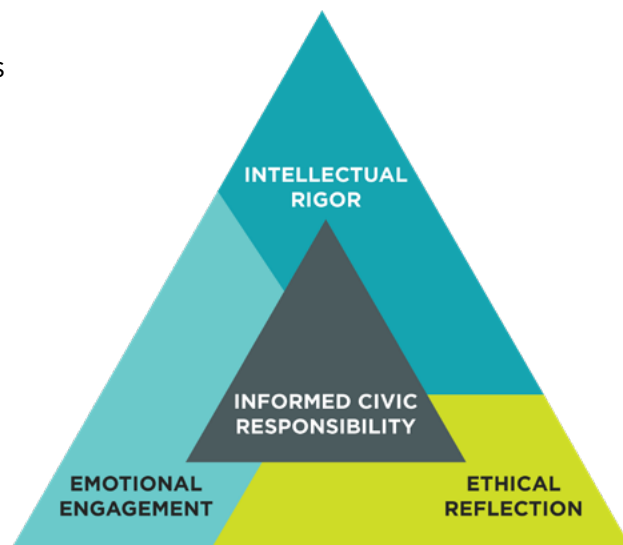


“The great part about Facing History is that we don’t let the past hold us back. We look forward and think about how we can choose to participate.”

– Facing History Alum

Our Unique Approach

Facing History brings historical and moral dimensions to civic education. By engaging the mind through intellectual rigor, the heart through emotional engagement, and the conscience through ethical reflection, we help teachers build students’ informed civic responsibility. Our approach is holistic and integrated and helps adolescents consider central developmental questions such as, “Who am I?” “Do I matter?” and “How can I make a difference?” Facing History believes that civic education is an important avenue to prepare young people to participate in society in active, thoughtful, and socially responsible ways and who can build more compassionate and inclusive communities.



Components of Our Approach

Drawing on Facing History's [learning journey](#) as well as our [pedagogical strategies](#), the components of our approach to civic education include opportunities where students **explore**, **learn**, and **participate** and, ultimately, develop informed civic responsibility.



EXPLORE | Civic Agency & Civic Reflection

Facing History centers students' voices and lived experiences as they develop civic agency and responsibility. We engage students in making connections with the societal issues that shape our world today and in ongoing ethical reflection about their role as civic actors.



LEARN | Civic Inquiry, Historical Analysis & Civic Discussion

Facing History builds students' civic knowledge and understanding by engaging them in inquiry and analysis of the complexities of history, current events, and civic participation. Students also build the capacity for civil dialogue across differences as they discuss the civic issues that shape our world today.



PARTICIPATE | Civic Voice & Civic Engagement

Facing History creates opportunities for students to learn how to develop their own voice, share their perspectives, and raise awareness in informed and ethical ways using a variety of formats and media. We also support students to identify civic issues that are relevant to their lives and their communities, and create and carry out informed and ethical plans to address them.

How We Know it Works

Our most important measures of success are meaningful academic and civic outcomes for students. In studies conducted over the past 20 years, students report the following as a result of their experiences with Facing History:

Academic Engagement

94%

Students in a Facing History classroom were 94% more likely than their peers to report that the class motivated them to learn.

Civic Agency

93%

of Facing History students agreed that it is important to work for positive social change.

School Culture

95%

of students in Facing History partner schools have observed ways that Facing History positively impacts their school community.