SOL Connections for High School Social Studies Teachers

A field trip to the National Museum of the Marine Corps gives Virginia public school teachers the opportunity to enhance students’ understanding of the SOL Curriculum Framework.

Virginia and United States Government

GOVT.7: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the organization and powers of the national government.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer this SOL Essential Question:

- What are the expressed and implied powers of the executive branch?

SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (GOVT.7) identified in the Museum’s Global Expeditionary Force, World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:

- Responsibilities of the President include commanding the military. Examples include:
  - Theodore Roosevelt and Latin American intervention
  - Woodrow Wilson during World War I
  - Roosevelt and Truman during WWII
  - Truman during the Korean War
  - Johnson and Nixon during the Vietnam War

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GOVT.9: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the process by which public policy is made.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer this **SOL Essential Question:**

- How do bureaucracies implement public policy?

**SOL Essential Understandings** and **Essential Knowledge** (GOVT.9) identified in the Museum’s **Global Expeditionary Force, World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:**

- Levels of bureaucracy on the national level include cabinet departments.
  - The Department of the Navy (which includes the Marine Corps) is part of the Department of Defense.

GOVT.12: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the roles of the United States in a changing world.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer these **SOL Essential Questions:**

- How are foreign policy decisions made and implemented?
- How are American interests safeguarded at home and abroad?
- How does the national interest shape foreign policy decisions?
- What challenges shaped American foreign policy in the post-Cold War world?
SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (GOVT.12) identified in the Museum’s Global Expeditionary Force, World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:

- The President has primary responsibility for making foreign policy.
- Congress has the power to declare war.
- Key agencies in the foreign policy arena include the Department of Defense.
- The President is Commander in Chief of the armed forces.
- Military interventions abroad serve to protect American interests and promote national security.

GOVT.17: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the role of personal character traits that facilitate thoughtful and effective participation in civic life.

Following a visit to the Museum, students will be able to answer this SOL Essential Question:

- What are the characteristics of a good citizen?

SOL Essential Understandings and Essential Knowledge (GOVT.17) identified in the Museum’s Global Expeditionary Force, World War I, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Galleries:

- Characteristics of a good citizen include respect for the rights of others, responsibility, self-reliance, respect for the law, and patriotism.