

Title of Session: Social Studies Forum - SS and Science

Moderator: Michael Hutchison

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Room: Social Studies Forum Group

MartinM: I am in a class, How to Search the Internet and this is actually an assignment

BJB2 . o O (remember that Martin needs to leave early)

DavidWe nods

MichaelH: that's ok, BJ...

MichaelH: so Martin, have you been a TI member for long?

MartinM: This is my first time in a discussion group....no I have not been a member long

MichaelH: well, I think you will find that TAPPED IN can be a great opportunity to interact and collaborate with other teachers globally

MartinM: I am hoping that is the case

MichaelH: what area(s) of science do you teach, Martin?

MartinM: I teach biology and anatomy and physiology

MichaelH: cool...

MichaelH: I always liked biology... thought about getting a minor in it at one point

MartinM: the first time I was in college I was a Sociology major...back in the 60's

MichaelH: that's interesting... what changed your mind towards a degree in science education?

DavidWe . o O (sociology is a kind of science)

MichaelH: it's a social science, David

MartinM: I went into the Oakland Fire Dept for 12 years and retired on a disability and looked for a new career

DavidWe . o O (Oakland, CA?)

MichaelH: oh, I see... that's interesting... I've really never had an occupation other than in the classroom

MartinM: I was interested in marine bio because I took up underwater photo. as a hobby

MartinM: Yes Ca

MichaelH: BJ, do we still have a viable science discussion group in TI?

BJB2: yes, Michael

BJB2: and there is a FIRST Robotics group that meets in the student campus

MichaelH: I wonder, Martin, have you ever considered doing a project or linking science and social studies?

MichaelH: For example, one thing that comes to mind right away would be something related to a discussion/project on intelligent design?

DavidWe . o O (Scopes trial re-visited)

MartinM: I have thought about it...that sounds like a good idea....it would be good in the bio for non-majors class

MichaelH: It's not really down your alley... but I would love to do some sort of project with my US history students about the space program and the race to the moon in the 1960s

MichaelH: I'm not really into the physics and astronomy end of it, but the history and government end would be interested

MichaelH . o O (interesting)

MartinM: that sounds exciting...I can recall getting up early and sitting in front of the tv to watch all of the space flights

MichaelH: me too...

MartinM: it would be great if you could find away to capture that early excitement we all felt

MichaelH: I recently purchased the HBO series "From The Earth To The Moon"... a lot of good history there... and science

MaryHard joined the room.

DavidWe waves to Mary

MartinM: I think that is what is lost when one reads about history rather than living through it

MichaelH: I agree with that Martin... unfortunately a lot of kids see what we lived through as "ancient" history

MichaelH waves to Mary

MartinM: another great class would be to combine the history of the 60 & 70 to the technology of that time

MaryHard: Thanks for having me. I'm interested in some pointers in presenting Central American civil wars (the recent ones) to a Spanish II class as a unit. Any ideas or arrows?

MartinM: how do they connect and influence one another

MichaelH: I could definitely see some ideas there, Martin

MaryHard: Hmm. Any places I can find info?

MichaelH: Hmmmm.... Mary, that's not really my area of interest....

MichaelH: let me think for a second

MichaelH: so are you talking about like El Salvador or something like that, Mary?

MaryHard: Yes

MichaelH: Maybe look at some materials at the Reagan Library? Maybe search CNN?

MartinM: would you want to tie it in to the cold war

MichaelH . o O (that's really not that long ago and might be pretty easy to find)

MaryHard: That's good. I have a few, but would like an overview. Are there any books on an overall process in the region?

MichaelH: I am not sure on that... have you tried a search on Amazon.com?

MaryHard: Yes, and am in process of much else. Have films, etc., geared to this age, but need more materials at their level (High School).

MichaelH: I am trying to think of films, etc. that you might be able to use in the classroom

MaryHard: Thanks for taking this time with me. I'll get on down the road.

MichaelH waves to Susan

MichaelH: If I think of anything else, I'll let you know

MaryHard: Muchas gracias. Hasta la vista.

MichaelH: Martin, do you have much of an opportunity for collaboration with instructors in a higher education setting?

MartinM: we used to have something called writing across the curriculum (sp?) that did this

MichaelH: I didn't know if you could put together a course of study with someone in your history department... based on the role of technology in modern culture and history, maybe?

MartinM: what I would like to do is get a class that brought together bio sciencecell cloning genetics etc as social issues teach the science and look at the implications for society

MichaelH: so it would be as much a philosophy/ethics course as it would be science?

MartinM: how is society responding to these new technologies

MichaelH: maybe a study of "1984"?

MartinM: yes, but I think that to understand the social implications one must really understand the science

MichaelH: I would agree with that; maybe that would be a good lesson for people who are in government service to understand as well.

MartinM: is society responding to the science or their "idea" of what it is?

MartinM: genetically engineered food is a good example

MichaelH: certainly the education system does that.... I was thinking back on "intelligent design", etc.

MartinM: all our food has been genetically altered from its "native form"

MartinM: science does a poor job in educating the general public about science

MichaelH: so, would you discuss the political ramifications of that sort of issue, also (genetically altered food, for example)

MartinM: yes, perhaps look at past history where societies responded to technological change

MartinM: compare historical responses to the present day response

MichaelH: hmmm... that sounds interesting... maybe consider the impact of available popular media on American lifestyles... radio and TV?

MartinM: yes, history, science and mass communication in one class

MichaelH: so, you're thinking that this would need to be a semester long course, and not just a segment of an existing course?

MartinM: yes, I think a whole class is the only way to do this justice, but a trial run with a segment of a class is not a bad idea

MichaelH: The college I attended offered a course called "Science and Society", but I don't know if that is the same sort of idea you have or not... I think that course is mainly a history of scientific achievement

MartinM: as a science teacher I think it is important that produce good consumers of science so a class that deals with issues and problems of science is the way to go

MichaelH: I'm looking for the book that's used for the Science and Society course... I don't know if it will give you any ideas for a similar course or not

MartinM: anything will help

MartinM: by the way I have really enjoyed this discussion it has gotten my creative juices going

MichaelH: that's great, Martin...

MichaelH: I did a quick search on Amazon...

MichaelH: the book, I recall, is called "This Wild Abyss", and the professor who teaches the class also authors the book

MartinM: how can you do two things at once?

MichaelH: I don't know if this is too long a link or not, but click on this and see if you can see more about Dr. Christianson

MartinM: thanks for the info

MichaelH: what will happen is that a separate browser windows opens with the new infor

MichaelH: if you have a pop-up blocker, you may want to hold down the CTRL key while you click the link

MichaelH: here goes...

MichaelH: <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/search-handle-url/index=books&field-author-exact=Gale%20E.%20Christianson&rank=-relevance%2C%2Bavailability%2C-daterank/102-6011088-8788101>

MartinM: thanks

MartinM: can I cut and paste?

MichaelH: I had Dr. Christianson back in the mid '70s...

MichaelH: you might be able just to click on the blue link, and it should open in anew browser window

MichaelH: but I did not have him for "Science and Society"

MartinM: ok but I do not want to drop out of this discussion

MichaelH: you should be fine.

MichaelH: just remember that the new window may cover this one, and you'll have to toggle back to this window

BJB2: you may need to overlap some screens, Martin

MartinM: well I tried to hold down the ctrl key but no luck

MichaelH: or, the URL will be in the transcript, and you should be able to click on it anytime (even after you log off)

MichaelH: You might be able to copy and paste, but it might be tough with that large of a link

MartinM: where do I go for the transcript

MichaelH: you'll get it automatically... it will just come to you e-mail

MartinM: cool

MichaelH: . o O (since you are a TAPPED IN member)

MartinM: very cool

MichaelH: it may take a few minutes, but you'll get it

MichaelH: or, you can always do a google search for "This Wild Abyss", which is Dr. Christianson's book on astronomy

MichaelH: he's written a lot of others.

MartinM: of course should have thought of that my self

MartinM: thanks

MichaelH: Dr. Christianson was a pretty intense lecturer, but he was good... really knew his stuff

MartinM: I am looking forward to reading the book

MichaelH: I'm not even sure if he is still faculty at school or not... it's been 30 years since I had him, and he may have retired

BJB2 heads for The Art of Storytelling

MichaelH waves to BJ

BJB2 waves bye to Michael. Thanks

MichaelH: see you soon