

Strengthening Civic Education

THE OFFICE OF CITIZENSHIP

The Office of Citizenship, within U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, is mandated by the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to promote instruction and training on citizenship rights and responsibilities and to provide immigrants with information and tools necessary to successfully integrate into American civic culture.

Providing the adult education community with the resources and materials needed to prepare immigrant students for naturalization is a key component of the Office of Citizenship's mission. In addition to U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online, the Office of Citizenship has developed several other educational products and initiatives for adult educators and volunteers. These include:

Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants English Language Learner Edition

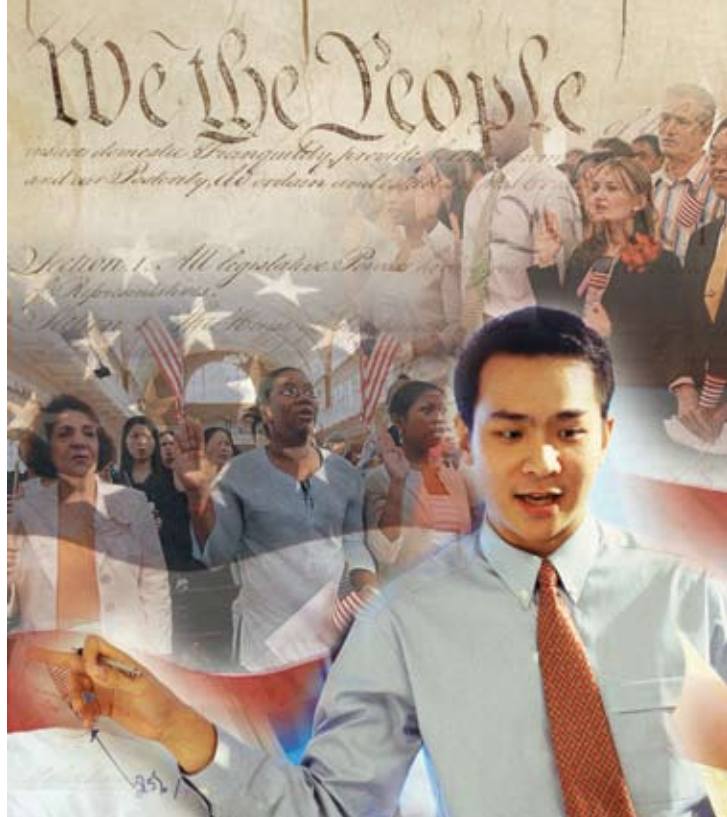
The Office of Citizenship's comprehensive orientation guide for new immigrants written at a more basic language level. Designed specifically for ESL learners and formatted according to the advice of ESL and adult education experts for use in a classroom environment.

EL/Civics Online

Web-based training modules for adult educators and volunteers that includes courses and materials in the following content areas: the U.S. naturalization process, U.S. government, U.S. history, and civics education. Please visit <http://www.elcivicsonline.org>.

Regional Training Conferences

FREE regional training conferences to help adult educators and volunteers improve skills in teaching U.S. history, civics, and the naturalization process to immigrant students. Please visit <http://www.uscis.gov/teachertraining>.



U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online Resource Center for Instructors



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online: Resource Center for Instructors

OVERVIEW

U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online: Resource Center for Instructors is a web-based tool that offers teachers and volunteers a single source for locating appropriate educational resources to incorporate civics into English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction and to prepare adult students for naturalization. This online resource provides links to educational curricula, lesson plans, teacher assessments, and other instructional material on civics and citizenship.



Developed in response to suggestions from ESL programs and instructors, community-based organizations, and state and local governments,

this online resource centralizes access to civics and citizenship educational resources for the teachers and volunteers who work directly with adult immigrant students.

U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online provides a quick and easy path to available resources for instructors who help prepare adult students for naturalization and seek to incorporate civics into ESL instruction. Resources were chosen based upon their relevance, usefulness, and quality, with guidance from adult ESL and English Literacy/Civics and citizenship instructors, program directors, and researchers.



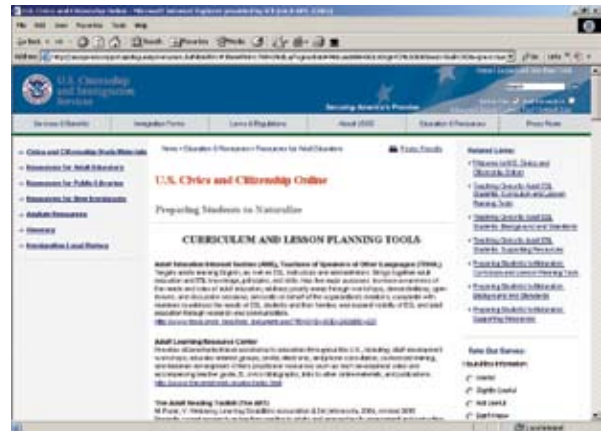
U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online is located at <http://www.uscis.gov/civiconline>.

U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online* resources are available in the following two categories:

PREPARING STUDENTS TO NATURALIZE

This section provides resources to help instructors prepare students for the naturalization test such as:

- Online lessons about the U.S. Constitution.
- Civics and citizenship multimedia resources.
- Educational materials tailored to the naturalization test.



TEACHING CIVICS TO ADULT ESL STUDENTS

This section provides resources to help educators incorporate civics into ESL instruction such as:

- Civics-related activities for adult learners.
- Relevant “how-to” manuals.
- Links to basic information on U.S. history and government.

*The links provided in U.S. Civics and Citizenship Online are meant to serve as a resource for educators. This linking does not constitute U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ endorsement of the content of these websites or of their respective policies or products.

