PRINCIPIA COLLEGE

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# Principia Policy on Constitution Day

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| Author: | Compliance Program Manager |
| Policy Title | Principia Policy on Constitution Day |
| Policy Purpose | Comply with Constitution Day |
| Policy Effective Date | 11/01/2024 |
| Responsible Office | Dean of Academics |
| Related Policies | Policy on Institutional and Financial Assistance Information for Students Disclosure and Documentation |
| History | |

I. *Policy Statement*:
Principia College will comply with the required civil and educational activities in observance of Constitution/Citizenship Day and complete instruction of citizens in their responsibilities and opportunities as citizens of the United States.

II. *Purpose*
To comply with 36 U.S.C. 106 which reads "each educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17 of such year for the students served by the educational institution."

III. *Definitions:*
N/A

IV. *Procedures:*
The Office of the Dean of Academics will appoint a group of faculty which will develop and hold an educational program addressing civic responsibilities and opportunities. This program will be offered on September 17. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, a Constitution Day event will be held during the preceding or following week.

V. *Responsibility*:
Dean of Academics

VI. *Attachments:*
Attachment A: Reflection questions
Attachment B: Resources

VII. *Approval and Effective Date:*
November 1st 2024

Attachment A: Example reflection questions

- Who did the phrase "We the People of the United States" refer to when it was written in 1787?
- What did the preamble to the Constitution promise to those people?
- What are the benefits and responsibilities of citizenship in a country?
- How did America's leaders justify excluding women, African Americans, and Native Americans from the benefits of citizenship?
- What options are available to individuals when their nation does not live up to its ideals?
- What is a democracy? How is it different from other forms of government? How should a democratic society define its universe of obligation?
- Is the U.S. Constitution a living document that adapts to the times or does it mean today exactly what it meant when it was written?
- If the Constitution needs to be changed, how should that be done – through court decisions or by amendments?
- What are three main ideas about the Constitution?

Attachment B: Resources

https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-day
https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-workshop
https://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/senate-stories/celebrating-constitution-day.htm
https://constitutioncenter.org/education/constitution-day-resources

Organizers are encouraged to access information about the Constitution on the National History Education Clearinghouse (NHEC) site at https://teachinghistory.org/. The NHEC is funded by the U.S. Department of Education under contract NO. ED-07-CO-0088