

# Resources for EL/Civics Instruction

## Curricula

**Community Connections: Education for Involved Communities** is a fully reproducible, multilevel EL-Civics curriculum which is easily integrated into any existing ESL curriculum. The curriculum contains six field-tested modules and includes 1) Community Connections Curriculum, 310 pages of illustrated, multilevel activities, 2) Classroom Picture Set, 243 pages of enlarged illustrations from the curriculum, and 3) Flashcard Picture Set, 200 flashcards for individual and group vocabulary practice. The curriculum can be ordered from the Curriculum Publications Clearinghouse at [www.wiu.edu/CPC](http://www.wiu.edu/CPC).

**English Beyond the Classroom: Community-Based Tasks for ESL Students** is a curriculum developed by Asian Human Services, a community-based organization in Chicago. It is available in a free PDF version from the Illinois Community College Board website at [www.iccb.org/aegateway/educator/pdfs/English\\_Beyond\\_Class.pdf](http://www.iccb.org/aegateway/educator/pdfs/English_Beyond_Class.pdf)

A paper version with accompanying CD-Rom for adapting materials to your program is available for \$15 from the Curriculum Publications Clearinghouse at [www.wiu.edu/CPC](http://www.wiu.edu/CPC).

## Instructional Materials & Lesson Plans

### **Illinois EL/Civics Classroom Activity List**

This free, downloadable document contains multilevel suggestions for classroom activities, ways students can demonstrate competency, and resources for many of the Illinois EL/Civics Competencies. Go to the Excellence in Adult Ed website at [www.excellenceinadulthood.org](http://www.excellenceinadulthood.org), then choose ESL and ESL/Civics from the menu at the left. There is an iLEARN course that introduces the Activity List as well.

### **Civic Participation and Citizenship Collection (New England Literacy Resource Center)**

<http://www.nelrc.org/cpcc/index.htm>

This section of the New England Literacy Resource Center's website provides annotated websites and original materials that cover a wide range of topics related to community action and active citizenship.

### **OTAN (Outreach and Technical Assistance Network)**

<http://www.otan.us>

On the OTAN website are many resources for teaching EL/Civics as well as links to other websites.

### **Talking with the Police: An English Language and Civics Workbook for English Language Learners.**

<http://www.fremont.k12.ca.us/cms/lib04/CA01000848/Centricity/Domain/189/TalkingtothePolice.pdf>

This is a 52-page PDF document to teach students about how to talk with the police. It was developed by OTAN and has many useful activities and illustrations.

### **Chicago Ventures Civics Worksheets**

[http://www.cambridge.org/us/esl/chicago\\_ventures/chicago\\_civics.html](http://www.cambridge.org/us/esl/chicago_ventures/chicago_civics.html)

Level: high beginning and intermediate

Author: Gretchen Bitterlin, et al.

Publisher: Cambridge University Press, 2010

These downloadable worksheets have been correlated to the original (2007) Illinois EL-Civics Competencies, CASAS EL Civics Objectives, and the Florida Civics, Family and Community Resources Standards. Correlation charts at the front of the worksheet set make it easy to find exercises directly relevant to the Illinois EL-Civics Competencies. They can be used independent of the Ventures ESL textbooks.

## **EL/Civics Textbooks**

### ***Rights and Responsibilities: Reading and Communication for Civics***

Level: High Beginning – Low Intermediate  
Author: Stephen Sloan  
Publisher: McGraw-Hill ESL/ELT, 2004

### ***Community Experiences: Reading and Communication for Civics***

Level: Low Intermediate - Intermediate  
Author: Lynda Terrill  
Publisher: McGraw-Hill ESL/ELT, 2005

The two books listed above are now out of print; however, if your program has them available, they are still useful resources. These student textbooks are for beginning and intermediate ESL students. Many of the Illinois EL-Civics Competencies are addressed in these books. A Teacher's Manual and Audio CD accompany the textbooks.

## **Professional Development**

[www.elcivicsonline.org](http://www.elcivicsonline.org) A free professional development opportunity for EL-Civics instructors, **EL/Civics Online** includes four online courses:

- U.S. History
- U.S. Government
- Civic Engagement
- The Naturalization Process

There are also tutorials on lesson planning and adapting materials.

[www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/citizenship.html](http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/citizenship.html) This is the citizenship section of the Adult Learning Resource Center's website. The citizenship section has information and resources for those teaching citizenship (naturalization) preparation classes.

[Center for Adult English Language Acquisition \(CAELA\) Brief: English Literacy and Civics Education](#). This document describes basic strategies for teaching civics at all ESL levels and includes a list of online resources.