

Graphic Organizer & Guiding Questions

Central Historical Question

Why does the School District of Philadelphia have an African-American history graduation requirement?

Write down your hypothesis to the historical question

Timeline: Contextualizing

What is happening in the United States that might explain the African-American history mandate?

What is happening in the city of Philadelphia that might explain the African-American history mandate?

What is happening in the *school district* that might explain the African-American history mandate?

Document Set A: Carter G. Woodson and Black History Month

1. **Close Reading:** What does Woodson mean when he says, “We should emphasize not Negro history, but the Negro in history.”?
2. **Contextualizing:** How was Woodson remembered when he passed away in 1950?
3. Why do you think I included these sources when the question is about Philadelphia’s graduation requirement?

Document B: SRC Commission

1. **Sourcing:** What kind of document is this? How reliable is it? What other types of perspectives do you think you will need to answer the historical question?

2. **Close Reading:** According to the resolution, why did the SRC make African-American history a graduation requirement?

3. **Close Reading:** Under the “further resolved” section there are four additional aspects. How are they connected to the purpose of this resolution?

Source C: Video-Philadelphia's Innovative Black History Requirement

1. What motivated Sandra Dungee Glenn to suggest the resolution to the rest of the SRC?
2. Why did Dana King suggest making African American history a graduation requirement?
3. The filmmaker, Shukree Hassan Tilghman, says that history months are a symptom of nature of power and equality. What do you think he means?
4. One of the experts interviewed said that "the interaction of white and black over 400 years is who we are as a nation." What do you think he means?
5. How does the mandatory requirement impact the filmmaker's understanding of black history month?

Sources D-H: Article excerpts from 2005 (NYTimes & The Notebook)

Arguments <i>SUPPORTING</i> the requirement	Arguments <i>OPPOSING</i> the requirement
<p>Questions or thoughts that you have as you read the excerpts:</p>	

