



**#191-21**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #191-21**

**DATE:** July 16, 2021  
**TO:** Division Superintendents  
**FROM:** James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction  
**SUBJECT:** Dissemination of African American History Elective State-Developed Course

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is proud to announce the dissemination of the new state-developed African American History Elective course available for high school students. This memo is a follow up to the information shared in [Superintendent's Memo 229-20](#) on August 28, 2020. In partnership with [WHRO Public Media](#), the VDOE worked with public school educators, historians, and college professors to thoughtfully prepare engaging content, learning experiences, and meaningful assessments for high school students.

The course will be disseminated through [Virtual Virginia](#). School divisions are encouraged to offer the new state-developed elective course as developed. School divisions offering the state-developed elective course (that include the online modules) will use the SCED Code 4107 with the Extension Code "State." The Course Map for the state-developed course can be found on the history and social science webpage. Teachers holding history (2300) or history and social science (2700) endorsements may teach the course.

School divisions have the option to develop their own course, course map and local curriculum. Those school divisions electing to offer a locally developed course will use the SCED Code 4107 with the Extension Code "Local."

Resources to support the teaching of African American History can be accessed through [#GoOpenVA](#) using the VDOE-History and Social Science Hub.

Included in this memo are directions for schools divisions to access the online modules and a memorandum of understanding for its use. The enrollment link for the African American History (AAH) Distribution course goes through Canvas Catalog and should be shared with those teachers who are approved to instruct the course locally. School division or school counselors may also elect to enroll students into the course through the Virtual Virginia (VVA) Student Information System (Genius) taught by the VVA teacher of record.

### **Directions to access the state-developed African American History Elective State-Developed Course through Virtual Virginia**

School divisions/schools may access the African American History online modules using the following link: [Instructions to access the distribution course](#). In order to access the African American History online module files, a school division/school will need to read and agree to the End-User License Agreement (EULA). School divisions/schools accessing the online modules will need to complete a two-question quiz that guides them to the installation directions and import files for the appropriate learning management system (Brightspace®, Canvas®, or Schoology®). The EULA agreement governs the use of the online modules for the state-developed African American History Online Modules currently provided or which will be provided by the VDOE, or any learning management systems for educational purposes.

**Attachment A** outlines the EULA and sets out the basis on which the VDOE makes the African American History Online Modules available to students, teachers, schools, and school divisions and by installing or using the African American History Online Modules, students, teachers, schools, and school divisions agree to accept and to be bound by (1) this EULA and (2) the VVA/Canvas LMS Acceptable Use Policy at all times. The VDOE reserves the right to change, modify, add, or delete articles in this EULA at any time, in accordance with the procedures described below.

## For more information

For more information about course dissemination, please contact Virtual Virginia (VVA) Main Office at [Main.Office@virtualva.org](mailto:Main.Office@virtualva.org) or by phone at (866) 650-0025. For questions or further information regarding the state-developed course map and content, please contact Christonya Brown, Coordinator for History and Social Science, at (804) 225-2893 or [Christonya.Brown@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Christonya.Brown@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/CB/lh

A. Attachment: [End User License Agreement](#) (PDF)