



Puerto Rican History and Culture Course Overview

September 15, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent

Dr. Fatima Morrell, Associate Superintendent for CLRI









Welcome

Mr. Louis Petrucci, President, Board of Education

Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent

Dr. Fatima Morrell, Associate Superintendent for CLR

Mr. Casimiro D. Rodriguez, Sr., Founder of Hispanic Heritage Council

Mrs. Esmeralda Sierra, President of Hispanic Heritage Council



Staff Contributors

Director Dalphne Bell
Dr. Andrés Rafael Arroyo
Deborah Bertlesman
Walter Diaz
Enadrienne Dubose
Bonnie General-Vazquez
Alba Gomez
Wilfredo Garcia
Sonia Gomez

Danielle Gray
Genah Lasby
Pietro Mendola
Niya Sosa
Claudine Picado
Richard Pyszczek
Lawrence Ramos
Yajaira Toro
Arayoan Tylec

Hispanic Heritage Council



Casimiro D. Rodriguez, Sr., Founder of Hispanic Heritage Council

David Báez, Member

Esmeralda Sierra, President of Hispanic Heritage Council

Evelyn Rosario, Member



Purpose

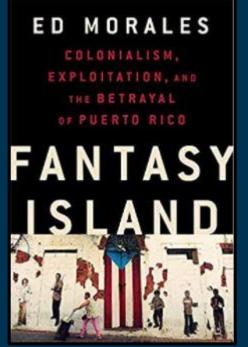
- This course will engage a multifaceted examination of Puerto Rico's history, geography, culture and its peoples' contributions to our society
- Students will engage in lessons focused on:
 - * topography, culture, and historical development of Puerto Rico
 - Spanish colonization of Puerto Rico, the lives of the Taino people & the enslaved Africans' influence on Puerto Rican identity,
 - ❖ Puerto Rico's influence on American society & economy
 - Puerto Ricans as American citizens
- To introduce a curriculum for a 1.0 credit bearing, elective course in Puerto Rican History and Culture that will be used towards graduation from High School
- To center joy, and lived experiences while raising an awareness amongst students, staff, and community, of the vast and rich history and culture of the Latinx community, allowing scholars to raise their voices related to issues of equity and social justice

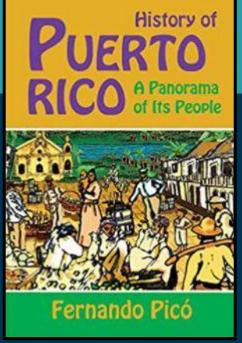


Resources

- Center for Puerto Rican Studies, Hunter College
- Fantasy Island: Colonialism, Exploitation, and the Betrayal of Puerto Rico by Ed Morales
- History of Puerto Rico: Panorama of Its People by Fernando Pico
- Hispanic Heritage History Project: Historia del Proyecto, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
- Library of Congress
- Digital Public Library of America
- Smithsonian National Museum















Facets of the Curriculum



Geography & Topography



Puerto Rico's Influence on the American Economy



Spanish-American War of 1898



Puerto Rican
Cultural, Identity,
Influence of
Enslaved Africans



Puerto Rican and Latinx Presence in Buffalo



Course Rollout: 2021 - 2022 School Year

- Two High Schools: Olmsted and Lafayette International High Schools
- Duration: 40 weeks
- 1.0 High School Elective Course Credit
- Approximately 125 lessons
- Aligned to NYS Social Studies and ELA Standards at Grades 11 and 12
- Incorporates literacy, criticality, and Latinx history and culture
- Infuses culturally diverse curriculum
- Raises the voices of all scholars, staff, and community members
- Will also be offered as a bilingual course with curriculum translations
- Extension to World Languages and Native Language Arts Courses

Curriculum Timeline

Access to Course Scope and Sequence

Puerto Rican History and Culture Curriculum

To preview the lesson collection, click on the ICONS, LESSON LINKS, and IMAGES. Click the title to view the cover page for this course. Click the BLUE BOX to access Course Scope and Sequence. Click the RED CIRCLE to access Curriculum Documents.

Access to Curriculum Documents



Lesson Link: The Taino People

In this lesson students will learn about the status of the Taino people today. Students will read articles and watch videos about how the Taino culture and community has been revived in the last couple of years. How DNA studies have shown that the Taino blood still runs today.



Lesson Link:

Puerto Rican Street Art

In this lesson students will dive into Puerto Rico's culture by taking an Art tour around the Old San Juan neighborhood of Santurce. The Artists are contributing powerful pieces representing opinions of the current political crisis and highlighting the historical factors that led to the present. The students will start by analyzing a graffiti art mural about the Covid 19 worldwide Pandemic Students will read, then watch a video clip about the unique Street Art located around Puerto Rico and take a virtuL art tour around Santruce Finally, students will reflect on creating a piece of Street Art in Buffalo.



November

February

May



In this lesson, students will review the impact of the Spaniards to Puerto Rico, the role of the Tainopeople to the history of Puerto Rico, and how the enslaved Africans were brought to Puerto Rico. Drawing connections to the previous lessons, students will identify an important event in Puerto Rican history that they want to represent in a graphic novel. Students will learn how comic books and graphic novels can be used to raise awareness and promote social justice about a topic or historical event. Students will create a graphic novel that displays their feelings about a historical event in Puerto Rican history that is important to Puerto Rico's culture.



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Lesson Link:

Puerto Rican Relocation to Buffalo

In this lesson students will learn about the Puerto Rican relocation to Buffalo, NY from the 1940's to the present, and identify the reasons for their relocation. Students will name local Puerto Rican pioneers in Buffalo that have arrived in Buffalo between the 1940's to the present times, reflect on the impact of Puerto Rican presence in the city of Buffalo during this time frame, and create an oral presentation of their findings.



BUFFALO BOARD OF EDUCATION

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- Fatima Morrell, Ed.D., Associate Superintendent for Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Initiatives

Thank You