

Teaching Civics and Economics

Reasons Why Teaching Civics and Economics Is Important

- Humanistic and materialistic values are subtly displayed in messages all throughout daily life. The goal is to disciple youth to recognize and counter this “invisible” saturation.
- Anabaptists have a unique culture of strength from which to approach these subjects (e.g. prioritizing community over self and the two-kingdoms theology).
- Giving students knowledge about these topics enables them to:
 - Pray and respect from an informed position
 - Determine their responsibilities relating to the law
 - Better understand current social problems and tensions
 - Develop critical thinking skills
 - Make informed financial decisions (personally and on a business level someday)
 - Understand how the past informs the future
 - Develop a calling of their duty to their community, nation, and humanity as a whole

General Advice and Teaching Tips

- Instead of focusing only on rote facts, let your underlying push be to transmit truth across generations, using history and culture as identity markers. Make it your goal to instill Anabaptist identity without fostering egotism.
- To keep a two-kingdom concept in mind while teaching civics, consider teaching rights and responsibilities through the lens of being “responsible aliens.”

Recommended Resources

- Principles for personal economics: [Principles For Personal Economics - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Economic standards and concepts: [Economic Standards and Concepts - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Classroom economic system activity: [Classroom Economic System - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Advice for navigating election-related conversations: [Navigating Election Years in the Christian School Classroom - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Christian perspective on law and politics:
 - Teacher version: [Christian Perspective On Law And Politics: Teacher - The Dock for Learning](#)
 - Student version: [Christian Perspective On Law And Politics: Student - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Biblical perspective of church and state:
 - Teacher version: [Biblical Perspective Of Church and State - The Dock for Learning](#)
 - Student version: [Biblical Perspective Of Church And State Handout - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Overview of Canadian parliament: [Canadian Parliament - The Dock for Learning](#)

- Crash course in economics: [Economics Crash Course - The Dock for Learning](#)

Sources

- Helping Students Think as Anabaptists through Teaching History, Geography, and Civics by Pete Peters [Helping Students Think as Anabaptists Through Teaching History, Geography, and Civics - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Living Out Our Faith in Economics and Civics by Arlyn Nisly [Living Out Our Faith in Economics and Civics - The Dock for Learning](#)
- Why Should We Teach Government? By various authors [Why Should We Teach Government? - The Dock for Learning](#)