

Teacher's Guide Template - Asheesh Kapur Siddique

EAS Miscellany endeavors to promote journal readership and pedagogical use of journal articles. EAS Miscellany invites educators to utilize this guide for usage in their classrooms and curriculum design with the understanding that all courses are designed differently. This may give cause to adjust the lesson accordingly.

Lesson Information

Journal Article Name: "The Ideological Origins of 'Written' Constitutionalism"

Journal Article Author: Asheesh Kapur Siddique

Link to Journal Article/DOI Number: <https://doi.org/10.1353/eam.2023.a912121>

Primary Source Documents:

Privy Council Charter to William Penn, 1681 (both transcription and images of original)
"Pennsylvania Charter | PHMC > Our Documentary Heritage." Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, Accessed December 7, 2023.

<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/documents/1681-1776/pennsylvania-charter.html>.

Great Seal of Charles II

"- [Seal of Charles II]." Royal Collection Trust, Accessed December 7, 2023.

<https://www.rct.uk/collection/602704/seal-of-charles-ii>.

Secondary Sources:

Caroline Fowler, *The Art of Paper: From the Holy Land to the Americas* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019)

Emily Mann, "Beyond the Bounds: Exploitation and Empire in the First Map of Pennsylvania," in Andrew R. Murphy and John Smolenski, eds., *The Worlds of William Penn* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2019), 68-100

Antoinette Sutto, "The Borders of Absolutism: William Penn, Charles Calvert, and the Limits of Royal Authority, 1680-1685," *Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies* 76, no. 3 (2009): 276-300

Recommended Readings: Instructors may want to assign Siddique beforehand so students come in with context to better engage in a close read and discussion with peers. Instructors may consider secondary sources as homework to expand their knowledge in the topic.

Historical Time Period/Topic/Associated Unit: 17th- and 18th-century English America /
Material Culture

Learning Objectives/State Standards/Class Goals:

Tentative given the various ways curriculum is developed at the state and local levels. See example below:

Students will:

- Understand the importance of considering sources and their political impacts
- Explore the material culture of early modern politics
- Consider the relationship between artifacts and ideas in the past

Lesson Plan MM/DD/YYYY	
Lesson Plan Timeframe: 60 minutes	
Topic: Making parchment papers	
Activity Name	Time
Close analysis in groups	15-20 minutes
<p>Description:</p> <p>Students will form small groups and closely analyze the content, iconographical and material qualities of the Privy Council Charter to William Penn of 1681. They will discuss how the visual qualities of the charter symbolize and express its political and administrative meaning. The group will then summarize their conclusions and select a speaker to present their summary to the class, followed by a full group discussion.</p>	
Lecture	10 minutes
<p>Description:</p> <p>Follow up with a lecture giving an overview of the history of parchment and paper-making in early modern Europe, and its introduction into colonial America.</p>	
Activity/Discussion	15-20 minutes
<p>Description:</p> <p>Create your own charter</p> <p>Ask each group to create a charter establishing rules of governance for the class – how would they divide powers and responsibilities for keeping the class operating (such as dividing responsibility for homework, establishing standards for evaluating work fairly, and rules for conduct/participation)?</p> <p>Each group will then collaborate on writing and drawing their charter, adding iconographical elements that, like the early modern charter, expresses the political meanings of their rules.</p>	
Exit Ticket	5 minutes
<p>Description:</p> <p>Ask students to write 2-3 sentences reflecting on the relationship between the content of their charter and its material qualities. How did they grapple with relating form and content?</p> <p>This reflection work could be done on paper or using a web-based submission such as Google Classroom.</p>	

Lesson Images:



Figure 1: Privy Council Charter (on parchment) to William Penn, 1681, Pennsylvania State Archives, Harrisburg. Reproduced by permission of the Pennsylvania State Archives.



Figure 2: Front of the Seal of Charles II, National Archives, United Kingdom, SP 108/388. Reproduced by permission of the National Archives, U.K.



Figure 3: Back of the Seal of Charles II, National Archives, United Kingdom, SP 108/388.
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