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Education

William and Mary awarded grant to develop U.S. history curriculum for middle schoolers

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WILLIAMSBURG

— More than \$1 million will be used at the College of William and Mary to develop a new U.S. history curriculum for middle school students.

The university's School of Education was awarded a \$1.3 million grant from the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students Program — which is operated through the U.S. Department of Education — to develop a history curriculum that will focus on students who are at-risk for underachievement.

The curriculum will be developed by researchers from the School of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, and educators from Colonial Williamsburg, and will focus on "historical inquiry and democratic citizenship," university officials said.

"The latest Javits project extends our work in curriculum development into middle school, a pivotal time in students' school experiences," said Virginia McLaughlin, dean of the School of Education, in a news release. "The curriculum units will focus on topics of real interest to adolescents and incorporate technologies that will actively engage them in learning."

Another goal of the project is to use this curriculum in classrooms across the country. So far, school districts in Virginia, Alabama, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Hawaii have expressed interest in participating in this project.

About the Jacob K. Javits program

The Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Students program serves students "traditionally underrepresented in gifted and talented programs," especially those who are economically disadvantaged, have limited English, or are disabled.

Source: U.S. Education Department

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