

Teacher Professional Development Programs with Edward T. O'Donnell, Ph.D.

America Becomes an Imperial Power

Until the 1890s, America prided itself for its isolation from world affairs. Territorial ambitions and visions of empire were limited to westward expansion across the American continent. But in the 1890s, as the nation emerged as the world's leading economic power, America took an increasingly aggressive role in international affairs. By 1910 America had become an imperial power, controlling territories around the globe such as the Philippines, Guam, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and Cuba, not to mention the Panama Canal. While many Americans welcomed these events as confirmation of the nation's status as a world power, others were troubled by the seeming incompatibility of imperial conquest and republican government.

This presentation, augmented with more than 75 visuals, examines the following:

- the isolationist tradition in American political culture

- the sources of emerging imperialist spirit and policy
- key events like the annexation of Hawaii, the Spanish-American War, the Filipino insurrection, and building the Panama Canal
- the anti-imperialist movement

About the Presentation:

Today's students are visual and interactive learners – and so are their teachers. Consequently, this multimedia presentation is built around 75-100 unique and carefully selected visuals, including vintage photographs, etchings, maps, cartoons, and documents (samples appear on this page). O'Donnell uses them to enhance a lively and interactive presentation. Ample time is allotted for Q & A, but O'Donnell always welcomes questions at any time during the session.

Benefits for your teachers:

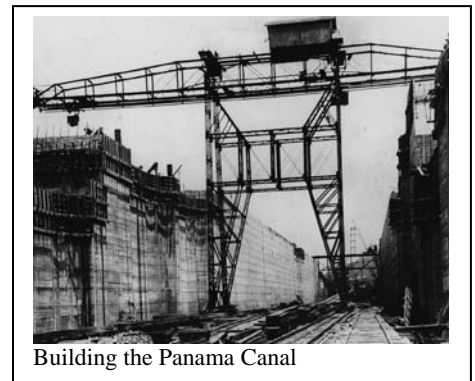
- a renewed and/or deepened awareness of topic's **essential content**.
- an enhanced understanding of the topic's critical **questions, concepts, & ideas**.
- new ideas for finding and using **primary sources** and developing DBQ's, simulations, projects, debates, and field trip preparation.



Programming Options:

- Time Flexibility – all presentations and workshops can be tailored to meet your needs, from 1 to 3 hours.
- Pedagogy Workshops – O'Donnell is also available to lead workshops on primary sources, DBQ's, simulations, projects, and debates.
- Walking Tours & Historic Site Visits - O'Donnell has led thousands – just ask!

Edward T. O'Donnell, Ph.D. is a professional historian, author, and speaker. He earned his Ph.D. in American History from Columbia University (1995) and currently is Associate Professor (tenured) of History at Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA. He is the author of several books and frequently publishes history essays in publications such as the *New York Times*. He has made countless teacher professional development presentations and served as lead historian for the Teaching American History grant, "Enlivening American History Through Primary Sources" (2001, Queens College). For a full c.v., please visit his website: www.EdwardTODonnell.com.



Building the Panama Canal