

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

A Nation of Immigrants: How America Became a Multicultural Society *or* *Tolerance vs. Hate: America's Uneasy Relationship with Immigration*

Nearly every American is the descendant of immigrants, some recent and some in the distant past. As a people, we are intensely proud of our nation's immigrant legacy and the idea of our ancestors as "huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Yet throughout the history of the United States, Americans have periodically denounced particular immigrant groups (i.e., the Irish in the 1840s, Chinese in the 1870s, Jews and Italians in the 1890s, and more recently Mexicans and Arabs) as undesirable, dangerous, and unassimilable.

This presentation, augmented with 75+ visuals, examines the following:

- the main periods of immigration to America
- who came to America and what were their primary motivations for migration?
- the sources of anti-immigrant sentiment and why, despite broad acceptance of a multicultural ideal, it still persists.
- the impact of immigration on African Americans and race relations
- key contributions of immigrants to American culture and to the economy and labor movement.

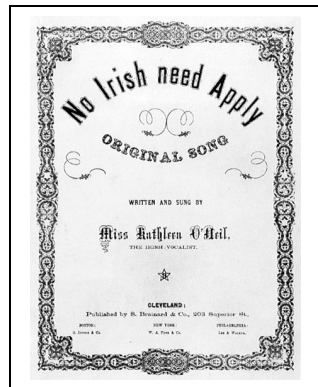
Note: this talk can be tailored to your specific needs, focusing on a particular ethnic group, time period (i.e., 1880-1924), or theme such as nativism.

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, and 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.



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