

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

## *The Era of World War I: Idealism and Anxiety*

The Era of World War I (1910-1920) was one of the most contentious in the nation's history, as Americans struggled with the challenges of corporate power, labor unrest, record immigration, and the rising demand for women's suffrage. Americans were likewise divided over the U.S. entry into World War I and later, following the armistice, over membership in the League of Nations. These and many other unsettling changes ultimately led to a resurgent conservatism (red scare, immigration restriction, and prohibition) that would last through the 1920s.

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

- the high tide of immigration and the growing restriction movement
- the contentious relationship between business and the labor movement
  - reform efforts to rein in the power of Big Business.
- sources of isolationist sentiment and key factors influencing the U.S. decision to enter the war
- America on the home front, including women's suffrage and the Great Migration
- the post-war turmoil (mass strikes, etc) that led to the red scare and 1920s conservatism

Note: this talk can be tailored to your specific needs, focusing on a particular incident (i.e., The Red Scare, etc.), political figure, theme, or issue such as women's suffrage.

### About the Presentation:

Today's students are visual and interactive learners – and so are their teachers. Consequently, this multimedia presentation is built around 75+ 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.

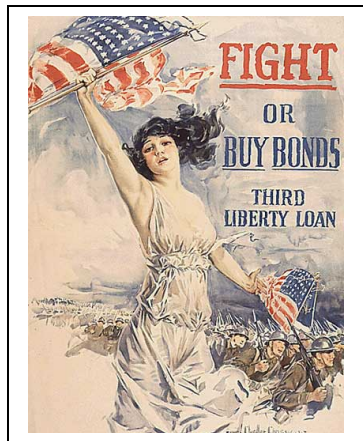


### Benefits for your teachers:

- 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](http://www.EdwardTODonnell.com).



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