



Kentucky Department of
E D U C A T I O N

**Creating Collaborative Civic Spaces
Module Overview**

Design of Module

This module explains the value of creating collaborative civic spaces in classrooms to enable effective communication and discourse among students. Each section of this module is designed to be administered in a PLC session. The session times are indicated in the Facilitator's Guide as the time required of each section differs depending on the requirements of the section. Module facilitators may include, but are not limited to: district leaders, school administrators, instructional specialists/coaches, department chairs, and/or teacher leaders. With that in mind, the facilitator's guide include information and instructional materials intended to provide support to a facilitator engaging in this work.

Goals of this module

The goals of the Creating Collaborative Civic Spaces Module are for districts and schools to:

Review how the instructional shifts of the KAS for Social Studies require the cultivation and nurturing of collaborative civic spaces.

- Examine data that highlights some of the challenges to creating collaborative civic spaces.
- Examine the role of teachers and students in building a collaborative civic space. • Explore tools and resources to engage student voice in building a collaborative civic space.
- Examine the proven practice of current and controversial issue discussions.
- Analyze strategies that can be used to support current and controversial issue discussions through inquiry.

Section A: Introduction

- Essential objective: To share an overview of the module.
- Key features: A warm-up to begin thinking about the importance of creating collaborative civic spaces and a reflection to prepare for learning about this work.

Section B: What Do We Do With Variation?

- Essential objective: To understand variation and how it can be addressed.
- Key features: Explains variation, illustrates variation in polarizing times and contains a self-reflection.

Section C: Engaging Student Voice in Community Building

- Essential objective: To explore how to build a respectful classroom.
- Key features: Participants learn strategies for deepening student collaboration and ways to encourage student voice in building collaborative civic spaces where students can engage in civil discussion, reach consensus when appropriate and respect diverse opinions.

Section D: The Proven Practice of Deliberation of Current and Controversial issues

- Essential objective: To explore the importance of incorporating deliberation of current and controversial issues in the classroom.
- Key features: Review the compelling questions associated with this work, watch and discuss a video on political education in polarizing times and explore how engaging with controversial issues supports the requirements of the Communicating Conclusions standards in the *KAS for Social Studies*.

Section E: Strategies to Support Collaborative Civic Spaces

- Essential objective: To learn about the attributes of collaborative civic spaces and strategies to support dialogue in collaborative civic spaces.
- Key feature: Attributes of dialogue in collaborative civic spaces are shared, and videos of strategies are analyzed facilitate dialogue in civic and collaborative spaces.

Section F: Reflection

- Essential objective: To allow participants to reflect on their learning about creating collaborative civic spaces.
- Key features: Reflection questions and a video are provided to encourage thinking about next steps and why participants should engage in this work. Additionally, considerations for remote learning are provided.