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## Gender Identity and Gender Inclusivity: Lesson Plan for Virginia and U.S. Government

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## **Gender Identity and Gender Inclusivity: Lesson Plan for Virginia and U.S. Government**

Aligns with VA SOL GOVT.1: The student will demonstrate skills for historical thinking, geographical analysis, economic decision making, and responsible citizenship by

- a) planning inquiries by synthesizing information from diverse primary and secondary sources;
- b) analyzing how political and economic trends influence public policy, using demographic information and other data sources;
- c) comparing and contrasting historical, cultural, economic, and political perspectives;
- d) evaluating critically the quality, accuracy, and validity of information to determine misconceptions, fact and opinion, and bias;
- e) constructing informed, analytic arguments, using evidence from multiple sources to introduce and support substantive and significant claims;
- f) explaining how cause-and-effect relationships impact political and economic events;
- g) taking knowledgeable, constructive action, individually and collaboratively, to address school, community, local, state, national, and global issues;
- h) using a decision-making model to analyze the costs and benefits of a specific choice, considering incentives and possible consequences;
- i) applying civic virtues and democratic principles to make collaborative decisions; and
- j) communicating conclusions orally and in writing to a wide range of audiences, using evidence from multiple sources and citing specific sources.

**Scholars Compass Resource :** [Gender-Inclusive Library Workgroup Report](#)

### **Opening Statement from the Gender-Inclusive Workgroup Report:**

“The Gender-Inclusive Workgroup explored how VCU Libraries can better serve trans and gender-nonconforming users and staff. The group’s recommendations cover library spaces, staff, systems, services, and culture. Key recommendations include highlighting existing all-gender restrooms; building more gender-inclusive restrooms; expanding availability of menstrual products and disposal bins; continuing support for name-of-use changes in library systems; minimizing display of legal name in library systems; offering ongoing staff training in gender-inclusive language and customer service; and encouraging staff to share pronouns. The workgroup also recommends pursuing a culture of shared learning and inclusive thinking, with a reminder that gender identity is one facet of multiple intersecting identities for people in the VCU community.”

### **Opening Activity for Students**

Compare and contrast the language used in the Equal Educational Opportunities and Non-discriminatory policies surrounding gender for Richmond Public Schools and VCU.

<https://www.rvaschools.net/cms/lib/VA02208089/Centricity/Domain/876/Section%20VII=I%20-%20Student%207.13.15.pdf>

<https://equity.vcu.edu/discrimination/vcu-notice-of-nondiscrimination-equal-opportunity-and-affirmative-action/>

### **Articles for Discussion**

**Review and discuss the article on [Creating an Anti-bias Learning Environment](#)**

Lead students in a discussion about the importance and identification of personal pronouns utilizing the website: [My Pronouns.org](http://MyPronouns.org)

### **Student Project**

Using the [Gender-Inclusive Library Workgroup Report](#) as inspiration, in groups, have students choose an area in their school or community that should be redesigned to be more gender-inclusive. Encourage them to use Appendix A as a resource for appropriate and inclusive language. The news articles below may be examined for issues surrounding gender-inclusivity both positively and negatively.

Richmond Public Schools

[Richmond Public Schools Implement Gender Neutral Graduation Robes](#)

<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/richmond-times-dispatch/20190604/281505047710918>

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/transgender-bathroom-ban-federal-appellate-hearing-70881245>

Chesterfield

<https://wtvr.com/2017/03/05/transgender-teen-at-town-hall-just-dont-assume-anymore/>

VA School

[Virginia High School Teacher Fired for Refusing to Use Transgender Student's New Pronouns](#)