



Using the US Census Bureau 6-12

Student reFraming Grant Project

Instructors' Names:	Thaddeus Steele and Dr. Allison Upshaw
Email Address:	tsteele@stillman.edu and aupshaw@stillman.edu

COURSE PREREQUISITES.

NONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

THIS PROJECT IS OFFERED IN ASSISTANCE TO A GRANT FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC INTERACTION WITH PUBLIC HISTORICAL RECORDS. MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESEARCH PUBLIC ARCHIVES SUCH AS CENSUS RECORDS, IN SEARCH OF INFORMATION REGARDING AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE LANDOWNERS IN THE ALABAMA BLACK BELT.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1. Understand the role and purpose of the US Census Bureau.**
- 2. Learn how to access and interpret census data.**
- 3. Apply census data to real-world issues such as community planning, government representation, and economic development.**
- 4. Develop critical thinking skills by analyzing demographic trends**

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- Computers/tablet with internet access
- Projector or smartboard for demonstration
- Printed worksheets (optional)
- Student notebooks

CLASS	TOPIC	READING / ASSIGNMENT
1	<p>I. Introduction</p> <p>II. Navigating the Census Bureau Website</p>	<p>I. Introduction (15 minutes)</p> <p><i>Hook:</i> Why do you think the government collects population data? How might census data affect our daily lives?</p> <p><i>Objective Overview:</i> Explain the Census Bureau's purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducts Census every 10 years • Gathers population, housing, and economic data • Helps allocate federal funding and determines congressional representation <p><i>Examples:</i> Show short video explaining the census.</p> <p>II. Navigating the Census Bureau website (20 min)</p> <p>Guide students through www.census.gov.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search for population data in their city/state • Explore demographic categories (age, income, education, etc.) • Census Quick Facts and Data Explorer <p><i>Activity:</i> Work in pairs to research census data on their hometown and record three interesting things.</p>
2	<p>I. Applying Census Data</p> <p>II. Reflection & Discussion</p>	<p>I. Applying Census Data (30 min)</p> <p><i>Activity 1:</i> Divide students into small groups. Assign each group a different topic (school funding, local businesses, healthcare, etc.)</p> <p>Each group will use census data to explain how population trends affect their assigned topic.</p> <p><i>Activity 2:</i> Students choose a state or county and create a visual representation of census data (population density, income levels, racial diversity, etc.)</p> <p>Use digital or tools or hand-drawn graphs</p> <p>II. Reflection & Discussion (15 min)</p> <p>What surprised you most about the census data? Why is it important for people to participate in the census?</p>

		How can this data be used to improve communities? What is one takeaway from this lesson and one question they still have?