# Vertical Teaming In AP Social Studies: A Teacher's Perspective

Karishma Merchant & Kara Pipoli Friendship Collegiate Academy



FRIENDSHIP PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL LEARN, ACHIEVE, GROW

#### **Teacher Profiles**

#### **Karishma Merchant**

- 4 years teaching at Friendship Collegiate Academy
- Courses Taught: Modern World History & AP U.S.
   Government and Politics
- Currently Teaching: AP U.S. Government and Politics (11th and 12th grade)
- Undergraduate: Duke University '07
- Master's in Education: American University '09
- Teach for America: Metro DC '07

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#### Jennifer Heckard

- 3 years taught at Friendship Collegiate Academy
- Courses Taught: Modern World History & AP World History
- Undergraduate: Colorado State University
- Master's in Education: University of Connecticut
- PhD In History: University of Connecticut
- College Board Reader: AP World History



## Kara Pipoli

- 4 years teaching at Friendship Collegiate Academy
- Courses Taught: DC History & Government, AP Psychology, & AP Human Geography
- Currently Teaching: AP Human Geography (9th grade)
- Undergraduate: College of the Holy Cross '07
- Master's in Education: American University '09
- Teach for America: Metro DC '07



#### **School Profile**

- Total Number of students: 1238
- African American Students: 99%
- Free/Reduced Lunch: 67%
- Number of students in AP and Early College: 400
- Graduation rate: 92%
- College Acceptance rate: 100%
- Gates DC Achievers Scholarship: 300 students (\$15 Million Dollars)
- Posse Foundation Scholars: 14 Students (\$2 Million Dollars)



## AP® @ Friendship Collegiate Academy

- Winner of College Board's AP Inspiration Award, 2008
- Has 15 Authorized AP courses
- Accounted for 29% of African American students in DC public and charter schools who took the AP exams in 2009
- Had more African American students than any other school in DC pass the AP World History exam in 2009 (60% of the total in DC)



### **Vertical Teaming in AP Social Studies**

- 1) Aligned Social Studies Skills
- 2) Block 6: Critical Thinking & Writing
- 3) Common Differentiated Instruction through Scaffolding
- 4) Data Analysis
- 5) Common Planning Time



### 1. Aligned Social Studies Skills

- Primary Source Analysis
- Secondary Source Analysis
- Research Papers



### 2. Block 6: Critical Thinking & Writing

- Enrichment course to teach stronger analysis and to improve writing and argumentation skills
- Students develop skill confidence when facing challenging texts or issues
- Students advance through course as a cohort, creating greater student ownership of discussions and peer to peer accountability



# 3. Common Differentiated Instruction through Scaffolding

- Warm-up Activities
- Guided Cornell Notes to Independent Lecture
- Flexible Groupings
- Independent Practice Activities
- Modified Rubrics for Success
- Exit Slip
- Capstone Projects



### 4. Data Analysis

- Student-Centered Data Tracking
- Mastery Goals
- Student Reflections on Achievement
- Bridge Week



#### 5. Common Planning Time

- Tuning Protocol
- Lesson Studies
- Student Work Analysis
- Strategy Swap



# THANK YOU!!!



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