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Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative
2005 Volume III: War and Civil Liberties

Arthur Miller's History Lesson: The Crucible as a Link from the Past through Mccarthyism to Present-Day Terrorism

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This unit is designed for an eleventh grade scholars' English class. Targeting civil liberties in America, students will get an overview of civil liberties through the wars in which the U.S. has been involved. Arthur Miller's attack on McCarthyism, *The Crucible*, in the existing curriculum, will serve as the basis for this study culminating in an original narrative where the students will have to defend their own civil liberties. Through the course of examining the play students will study dramatic structure.

Included in this study are the Nicholas Hytner film of *The Crucible*, video viewing guides, study questions for each act of the play, two writing assignments, an essay exam, and an oral presentation. Necessary materials are the above-named film and copies of *The Crucible*. All other information is included.

(Developed for English III Scholars, grade 11; recommended for English, grade 11)

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