



# YALE NATIONAL INITIATIVE

*to strengthen teaching in public schools®*

Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative  
2016 Volume I: Contemporary American Indian History

---

## **The Menominee Journey to Self Determination**

Guide for Curriculum Unit 16.01.08, published September 2016

by Ashley Pate

The strategies employed during this unit will lead students to research and analyze the Menominee tribe, who are considered the oldest continuous residents of Wisconsin, in an effort to answer the Essential Question: How did the Menominee tribe achieve tribal sovereignty? In order to accomplish this, students will read and engage with a number of text and multimedia sources to uncover how major government agencies and legislation impacted the tribe throughout its history, especially the Termination Act of 1954. The Menominee's rich history and legacy of self-sufficiency caused the US government to see them as ideal candidates for this policy. Though termination caused devastating effects, the Menominee tribe was able to collectively exercise their rights to end termination, achieve restoration and reestablish themselves as a sovereign nation.

(Developed for U. S History, grade 7; recommended for U. S. History, grades 6-11)

---

<https://teachers.yale.edu>

©2023 by the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute, Yale University, All Rights Reserved. Yale National Initiative®, Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute®, On Common Ground®, and League of Teachers Institutes® are registered trademarks of Yale University.

For terms of use visit [https://teachers.yale.edu/terms\\_of\\_use](https://teachers.yale.edu/terms_of_use)