



Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative  
2023 Volume I: Histories of Art, Race and Empire: 1492-1865

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## **Racialization: Past and Present**

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In the world after the George Floyd uprising, how have we as educators discussed race in the classroom? This unit provides tools on how to address race, in part, through the famous Shakespearean play *Othello* and the novel *There, There*. Through art, we are able to confront the frays of our human condition in order to explore ourselves and our deepest wants and desires. In the play *Othello* (c.1603), we are going to explore the art *The Miracle of the Relic of the True Cross on the Rialto Bridge* by Vittore Carpaccio (c.1496), *Altarpiece with St. James in the central panel. Chapel of the Alcazar of Segovia* (c.15th century) and *The Return of Othello, 'Othello,' Act II, Scene II* by Thomas Stothard (c.1799). In *There, There* (2018) we are going to explore Native American stereotypes and narrative archetypes by exploring the paintings such as *RCA Indian Head Test Pattern* (c.1947) by Brooks, *Captain Cold or Ut-ha-wah* (c.19th century) by William John Wilgus, and *The warriors making their grand entry into the Medicine Lodge* (c.1875) by Howling Wolf. Through this unit, students will be empowered to explore how race, religion and identity has changed over time and tools for bridging difference in the present.

(Developed for English, grades 11-12; recommended for English, grades 11-12)

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