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Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative
2026 Volume I: The Kids are not the Threat

Geometry and the Art of Close Looking

Guide for Curriculum Unit 26.01.11, published September 2026
by Kati Steiner

This unit, designed for high school seniors, suggests that students have power to control the spaces in which they spend their time and to peacefully resist those who try to take those spaces from them. Students will learn to look with their eyes (and ignore what they think they see in favor of what's in front of them,) listen with curiosity, read critically, and consider not only what they see and hear but what they do not see and hear; what voices and perspectives are missing. The curriculum covers the concept of third places, brief history of student resistance over space and place, Philadelphia specific history of resistance over spaces, and asks students to use what they know about history to change their own realities in terms of the places and spaces they occupy.

(Developed for English 4, grade12; recommended for English, grades 11-12)

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