



Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative
2026 Volume IV: Resistance from Aristotle to Star Wars

Modern Indigenous American protests, from American Indian Movement to the Dakota Access Pipeline

Guide for Curriculum Unit 26.04.03, published September 2026
by Marc Hillis

This curriculum unit focuses on how protests evolved in America and how these protests apply to Navajo/Indigenous students' situations today. The United States has a long history of protest, from the colonial era, to mining of the early 1900s, to the antiwar protests of Vietnam, to the No Kings protests in 2026. The protest traditions of Native peoples can be traced to the Indian Wars, and before. Now they have national issues confronting them with the environment and even Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Students will learn is that protest is common among all peoples, and that it is protected in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Yet this unit curriculum will focus on Native protests.

(Developed for U.S. History and AP U.S. History, grade 10; recommended for U.S. History, Geography, Navajo/Native Studies, and U.S. Government, grades 9-12)

<https://teachers.yale.edu>

©2026 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