

The Founders' Philosophy of Education
Plaster Network Freedom & Virtue Seminar
June 2021

Session I: Jefferson's Formal Proposals & Informal Instruction

Jefferson, Thomas. *The Educational Work of Thomas Jefferson*. Edited by Roy J. Honeywell. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1931

1. A Bill for the More General Diffusion of Knowledge. pp. 199-205 (Reader pp. 1-7)
2. A Bill for Amending the Constitution of the College of William and Mary. pp. 205-210 (Reader pp. 8-12)
3. A Bill for Establishing a Public Library. pp. 210-211 (Reader pp. 12-13)
4. A Course of Reading for a Student of Law. pp. 217-221 (Reader pp. 14-18)
5. Letter to Peter Carr, September 7, 1814. pp. 222-227 (Reader pp. 19-24)
6. Report of the Commissioners Appointed to Fix the Site of the University of Virginia. pp. 248-260 (Reader pp. 25-37)

Session II: Franklin and Rush on Education

1. Benjamin Rush, *A Plan for the Establishment of Public Schools*. Philadelphia, Dobson, 1786. Pamphlet. 36 pages (Reader pp. 39-74)
2. Benjamin Franklin, *Idea of the English School*. Philadelphia, Franklin & Hall, 1751. Pamphlet. 8 pages (Reader pp. 75-84)
3. Benjamin Franklin, *Proposal Relating to the Education of Youth in Pensilvania*. Philadelphia, 1749. Pamphlet. 32 pages (Reader pp. 85-119)

Session III: George Washington's Discourses on Education

Miller, Eugene F. "Washington's Discourses on Education." *Review of Politics* (1986); pp. 1-59 (Reader pp. 122-181)

Session IV: Three Analyses of Education

1. Miller, Eugene F. "Of the American Founders' Defense of Liberal Education in a Republic." *Review of Politics* 46 (1984); pp. 65-71 (Reader pp. 184-190)
2. Brann, Eva. *Paradoxes of Education in a Republic*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press. 1979. "Introduction." pp. 1-20 (Reader pp. 191-201)
3. John Dewey, *My Pedagogic Creed*, 1897, New York, E.L. Kellogg & Co. 1897. pp. 1-18 (Reader pp. 202-221)