



Goals for your Second Amendment Scholar Exchange

The goals for this session are for students to understand the text of the Second Amendment, understand the conversation surrounding standing armies and citizen militias in the Founding Era, and how that conversation evolved during the Reconstruction Era. Students will also examine how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Second Amendment over time.

Throughout the session, we will ask the students engagement questions, pause for conversation, and encourage discussion. Those factors of the session are just as vital to its success as the sharing of content.

Format of the session

<p>Second Amendment Textual Analysis</p>	<p>Right to Bear Arms: Founding Era</p>
<p>Right to Bear Arms: Reconstruction Era</p>	<p>Second Amendment SCOTUS Cases <i>Heller v. District of Columbia (2008)</i> <i>McDonald v. City of Chicago (2010)</i></p>

There are conversation breaks between each section, which includes time for engagement questions from the moderator, student questions, and discussion.

How to prepare

Share the handout

This is a great way for students to get an idea of what to expect from the session. Students can work on the **warm-up activity** prior to the session, as well, as a way to explore the topic beforehand.

If you are using this session as an introduction to your Second Amendment studies

Read the text of the amendment with your students and ask them to identify questions about the text itself. Brainstorm some questions beyond the text, too, including what might be some questions and debates about the Amendment.

If you are using this session as a review of your Second Amendment studies

Read the text of the amendment and discuss the evolution of the role of standing armies and militias. Ask the students to identify what are the primary arguments in debates about the Second Amendment today and ask students to compile their thoughts about the Second Amendment and any questions they might have about the debates surrounding it.