COURSE OVERVIEW

Teens today are using the immense power of digital media to explore, connect, create, and learn in ways never before imagined. With this power, young people have extraordinary opportunities, yet they face potential pitfalls like cyberbullying, online oversharing, plagiarism, trouble evaluating online sources, and more. These issues underscore the need for students to learn — and for teachers to teach — digital citizenship. This course is designed to improve your understanding of teens' digital lives, introduce you to eight core topics of digital citizenship, and equip you with high-quality resources to teach digital citizenship in your high school classroom.

COURSE GOALS

- Develop an accurate picture of the diverse digital lives of teens, including their motivations, behaviors, and understandings
- Build a toolkit of strategies to teach digital citizenship in order to help students harness technology for learning and life
- Familiarize yourself with high-quality teaching resources, including curriculum for students and a parent engagement program, to enable a whole-community approach to digital citizenship in your school community

The course contains authentic learning experiences with carefully selected articles and videos, as well as activities from Common Sense Education's free Digital Citizenship Curriculum. An online community of educators provide interaction around the course materials, assignments, and sharing of best practices.
OVERVIEW OF COURSE SECTIONS

Session 1 – Defining Digital Citizenship
In this introductory session, you will define digital citizenship and be introduced to eight core topics (the focus of sessions 2-9). You will begin interacting with Common Sense Education’s free Digital Citizenship Curriculum, including lesson plans, videos and activities, family engagement materials and more.

Session 2 – Privacy & Security
How can teens keep their online data safe and secure? Explore common risks to personal data online, including data mining and tracking, online scams, and identity theft. Learn how to help students keep their information safe and secure by protecting their information, understanding privacy policies, and identifying ways companies collect and use their personal information.

Session 3 – Internet Safety
As teens communicate with others (known and unknown) online, there is potential for risky behavior. Examine how and why some teens engage in risky online talk as well as who some teens are engaging with. Discover research-based ways to support students to make informed, healthy choices in their online interactions.

Session 4 – Self-Image & Identity
How has the internet changed the way teens develop their identity and concept of self? Gain a richer picture of the interplay between teens developing online and offline identities in the context of the stages of teen identity development.

Session 5 – Digital Footprint & Reputation
What teens share in their digital lives can affect their reputation ... now and in the future. Learn how to help students self-reflect before they self-reveal, and how to build positive digital footprints they are proud of.

Session 6 – Relationships & Communication
Is digital media helping or hurting interpersonal communication? How are teens developing healthy relationships in an age of digital sharing? Learn what teachers and students can do to address digital drama, move from being bystanders to becoming upstanders, and build a positive community of care and respect.

Session 7 – Cyberbullying & Digital Drama
What is cyberbullying? How does it compare to face-to-face bullying or harassment? Learn what teachers and students can do to address digital drama, move from being bystanders to becoming upstanders, and build a positive community of care and respect.

Session 8 – Information Literacy
Teens have information at their fingertips, yet finding high-quality online sources and evaluating the trustworthiness of online information is challenging. Discover ways to integrate information literacy in your classroom by analyzing the reliability and credibility of online sources.

Session 9 – Creative Credit & Copyright
More than ever before, teens are using digital tools to create, remix and share content with a wide audience. Learn how to empower students as creators, while avoiding plagiarism and giving credit where credit is due. Deepen your understanding of copyright and fair use, and learn how to develop students as responsible media creators.

Session 10 – Engaging Families in Digital Citizenship
Parents look to schools for advice to guide teens in a media-saturated world. Learn how to take a whole-community approach to digital citizenship by engaging parents and families, in addition to providing classroom instruction. Explore Connecting Families, Common Sense Education’s free parent engagement program, which includes multiple ways to support the unique needs of your parent population.