

C-SPAN in the Classroom

News from "C-SPAN in the Classroom"

"Short Subjects" air weekly throughout school year.

"Short Subjects"—a series of informational vignettes about how government agencies and Congress operate designed for classroom use—debuted the week of August 21. "Short Subjects" programs run from between ten and 25 minutes and air at the same time every week for educators to tape for classroom use.

In accordance with C-SPAN's copyright policy for educators, professors can set their video recorders to tape the programs for use during regular classroom hours and retain the tapes for an unlimited period of time, as long as they are only for educational use and not for sale or political purposes.

This addition to the network's "C-SPAN in the Classroom" program is part of the recently announced cable television industry alliance designed to educate teachers about cable's value in the classroom.

"C-SPAN in the Classroom" newsletter now available.

"C-SPAN in the Classroom" member professors are now receiving the "C-SPAN in the Classroom" newsletter as part of their free membership. The newsletter, published five times yearly, is a forum for professors of all disciplines to share methods of incorporating C-SPAN into classroom discussions. Michael Rich, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Brown University, shared his experiences using C-SPAN telecasts in the April/May newsletter.

In addition to serving as a network for member news, the newsletter contains C-SPAN programming information, upcoming "C-SPAN in the Classroom" workshops, news from the Purdue Video Archives, and timely network happenings.

To receive your free newsletter and information about the no-cost "C-SPAN in the Classroom" program, write C-SPAN Department of Educational Services, 444 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, or call (800) 523-7586.

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An American Way of Justice

Narrated by Bill Moyers

"PLEA BARGAINING is an incredible film. More than many working professionals and researchers have been able to do, this documentary cracks the system open and provides a striking glimpse of the realities of the decision making process in the criminal courts. The film is a marvelous teaching supplement in the way that it brings the viewer behind the scenes and into the day to day reality of the court. One is able to get a real feel for the dynamics of plea bargaining in a way that has never been done before."

William McDonald
Institute of Criminal Law and Procedure
Georgetown University Law Center

Available for rental or purchase. **Thurber Productions Film Library**
For more information contact: **P.O. Box 315**
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417
(201) 891-8240

Instructor's Guide to C-SPAN Now Available

Professor Stephen Frantzich of the U.S. Naval Academy has recently published *Using C-SPAN in the Classroom: A Faculty Guide to Integrating Public Affairs Programming*. This 70-page monograph outlines the rationale for using C-SPAN, discusses various viewing formats, provides a series of student exercises and presents a variety of practical appendices of gaining access to C-SPAN materials. While focused at college-level faculty, most of the arguments and exercises could be used at other levels of education.

Professor Frantzich has been using C-SPAN in the classroom for eight years and is one of the original presenters at the C-SPAN seminars for professors. The guide is designed for faculty who have thought about using C-SPAN to augment their teaching and need some guidance to put their ideas into action. It combines Professor Frantzich's personal experience, ideas from the critical viewing literature and perspectives shared in the C-SPAN faculty seminars. It was made possible through a grant from the Dirksen Congressional Leadership Center.

Copies can be ordered for \$5 from:

Purdue Public Affairs Video Archives
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The Public Affairs Video Archives is an important new resource of primary source material for teaching and research. In addition to the complete videotape record of U.S. House and Senate sessions, the collection includes press conferences, hearings, speeches, debates from the British House of Lords and Canadian Parliament, and many public policy conferences. Transcripts are now available for some Washington events. The Academic Consortium permits schools to borrow tapes through an annual membership.

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