

# Resources for HSE Social Studies

## Electronic Resources

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**A NOTE ABOUT THIS LIST:** This list contains links to some general electronic resources teachers can refer to when teaching HSE Social Studies. There are also resources tied specifically to the suggested links on the curriculum map, as well as a few supplementary links.

### GENERAL RESOURCES

#### **PBS: A History of Us**

*Freedom: A History of Us* by Joy Hakim is a 10-volume book set published by Oxford University Press that is geared toward middle school level readers. The books were turned into a series by PBS and webisodes can be viewed online. In addition there are teacher resources for each book. Click on “Teacher Resources,” then “Teaching Guides.”

#### **USHistory.org**

This site features an online textbook, organized by period, that is very helpful for teachers who want to learn more about particular eras. Some sections may also be excerpted for classroom use with students.

#### **Shmoop**

Shmoop has helpful, intelligent, lively three-to-four page narratives on various periods in U.S. history. These make for extremely helpful background reading for teachers, but some sections could also be excerpted for use in the classroom. A feature teachers may appreciate is called “What Does it Matter?” As this is a question we sometimes get from students, it’s helpful to get this perspective.

#### **HERB: Social History for Every Classroom**

[herb.ashp.cuny.edu](http://herb.ashp.cuny.edu)

Historians played a key role in developing this set of engaging, intelligently-designed lessons on U.S.

history that teach history through primary sources and provocative issues.

#### **EconEdLink.org**

This is probably the best go-to site for teachers who wish to introduce economics topics into their teaching. Many of the lessons go into more detail than teachers will want to take on; however there are many helpful texts available here that teach economics concepts in a clear way, and teachers may find themselves adapting some of the lessons to make them simpler and more accessible.

#### **Zinnedproject.org**

Resources for those teachers who wish to teach history from a more provocative angle. The site includes a free, downloadable graphic book about U.S. imperialism, as well as print books on colonialism. There are also short speeches from reformers read by well-known actors. This is a great way to bring historical documents such as speeches into the classroom in such a way that students will feel the power and drama of the words.

#### **For Lower Level Students:**

##### **U.S. History for English Language Learners**

[http://photos.state.gov/libraries/amgov/30145/publications-english/learner\\_english.pdf](http://photos.state.gov/libraries/amgov/30145/publications-english/learner_english.pdf)

#### **Teachinghistory.org**

Many pictures and very little text make this an engaging introduction to U.S. history for ESOL learners.

### COLONIALISM

#### **Colonial Williamsburg**

This site is a lively and comprehensive look at what life was really like in a colonial town. One of its

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best features is a set of short biographies of real people from different races and classes who lived in the town. This would be an excellent site for students to look at on their own, or that teachers could use as the basis of an exercise in taking on a historical point of view.

### Africans in America

The country's colonial beginnings were also the beginnings of the slave trade. PBS' Africans in America site has an exhaustive set of resources for studying this period, including interviews with historians that can help teachers better understand the phenomenon.

## U.S. GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION

### C-Span Classroom

C-Span Classroom is a good site with websites and teaching activities that allow students to explore constitutional issues through current debates such as Guantanamo Bay detainees.

### Annenberg Classroom

This site for civics education has a vast array of resources.

## INDUSTRIALIZATION AND THE GREAT WAVE OF IMMIGRATION

### Graph: GDP per capita growth from 1870

<http://visualeconsite.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/RealGDPperCapita-650x450.png>

### Graph: U.S. in World Manufacturing

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/ce/Graph\\_rel\\_share\\_world\\_manuf\\_1750\\_1900\\_02.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/ce/Graph_rel_share_world_manuf_1750_1900_02.png)

### U.S. steel production:

[http://www.fasttrackteaching.com/ftap/Steel&Price\\_300g15.gif](http://www.fasttrackteaching.com/ftap/Steel&Price_300g15.gif)

### Graph Rural and Urban Populations:

[http://www.phschool.com/curriculum\\_support/taks/images/PWU2ques16.gif](http://www.phschool.com/curriculum_support/taks/images/PWU2ques16.gif)

### Graph: Changes in the Labor Force

<http://www.gedboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/ss-pic-19.jpg>

### Graph: Richest people in the 1900s and Today:

<http://i.imgur.com/2iY1K.png>

### Graph: Immigration to the U.S. by Continent

<http://goo.gl/lqBP9T>

### Website: Immigrant Life

<http://immigrants1900.weebly.com/living-conditions.html>

## Past and Present

The U.S. was a manufacturing-based economy, but that is changing.

### Short article:

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/ciocentral/2012/04/19/services-not-manufacturing-will-revive-the-u-s-workforce/>

### Short article about change from a manufacturing-based economy:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/govbeat/wp/2014/09/03/watch-the-u-s-transition-from-a-manufacturing-economy-to-a-service-economy-in-one-gif/>

## IMPERIALISM

### Zinnedproject.org

For an “alternative” retelling of American imperialism, this site has a downloadable graphic

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book on the topic as well as free print books for teachers.

**Map: Colonial Possession, 1900:**

Map images are widely available online.

**Map: U.S. possessions after Spanish American War:**

[http://www.binghamtonschools.org/Downloads/US\\_Possessions\\_in\\_19172.jpg](http://www.binghamtonschools.org/Downloads/US_Possessions_in_19172.jpg)

**Map: U.S. Activities in Latin America**

<http://media.maps101.com/SUB/HGIFS/USAH020-H.gif>

**Link: Text: Is Puerto Rico a State?**

<http://gopuertorico.about.com/od/introductiontopuertorico/f/Statehood.htm>

**Yellow Journalism and Bias in the News:**

**Buzzfeed: Fox News Headlines vs. Actual Headlines**

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/mjs538/actual-news-headlines-vs-fox-news-headlines#.qvG4GEyGq>

**Website: Yellow Journalism Past and Present**

<http://www.americanhistoryusa.com/yellow-journalism-present-and-past/>

**Media Bias Lesson Plan:**

[http://mediasmarts.ca/sites/mediasmarts/files/pdfs/lesson-plan/Lesson\\_Bias\\_News\\_Sources.pdf](http://mediasmarts.ca/sites/mediasmarts/files/pdfs/lesson-plan/Lesson_Bias_News_Sources.pdf)

### WORLD WAR I

**Easy to understand weebly on World War I:**

<http://jarredjoly0.tripod.com/id3.html>

**Weapons of World War I:**

<http://www.history.co.uk/shows/the-world-wars/articles/5-technological-innovations-from-ww1>

**Poem: *Dulce et Decorum Est*:**

<http://www.warpoetry.co.uk/owen1.html>

### WORLD WAR II

**Lessons on World War II from National Geographic:**

<http://education.nationalgeographic.com/archive/expeditions/lessons/13/g68/involved.html>

**Lessons on World War II from BBC Online:**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwtwo/>

**Lessons on World War II from Awesome Stories:**

<https://www.awesomestories.com/collections/detail/World-War-II>

### POST-WAR AMERICA

**Capitalism and Communism**

**Comparing Economic Systems: Capitalism and Communism**

<http://www.ushistory.org/gov/13b.asp>

**Lesson: Comparative Economic Systems from EconEdLink:**

<http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.php?lid=322&type=student>

**Lesson: Nothing to Buy from EconEdLink:**

<http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.php?lid=177&type=educator>

## Print Resources

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### GENERAL RESOURCES/TEXTBOOKS:

***A History of Us* by Joy Hakim,  
Oxford University Press**

This series, written for middle school readers, is engaging and lively. In addition to the books themselves, teaching guides are available online at [PBS.org](http://PBS.org). Books in the series:

- Book One: The First Americans*
- Book Two: Making Thirteen Colonies*
- Book Three: From Colonies to Country*
- Book Four: The New Nation*
- Book Five: Liberty for All?*
- Book Six: War, Terrible War*
- Book Seven: Reconstructing America*
- Book Eight: An Age of Extremes*
- Book Nine: War, Peace and All that Jazzz*
- Book Ten: All the People*

### ***National Geographic Reading Expeditions Seeds of Change in American History Series:***

This series is ideal for the adult classroom. Books are short and engaging—more like magazines than books—with lots of pictures and interesting details, but also help students learn the most important information related to each topic/era. Reading level is approximately grade 5 and up. Books in the series:

- *Two Cultures Meet* by Ann Rossi
- *The Industrial Revolution*  
by Susan Washburn Buckley
- *Building the Transcontinental Railroad*  
by Monica Halpern
- *The Anti-Slavery Movement* by Ann Rossi
- *The Progressives* by Monica Halpern
- *America Enters World War I*  
by Carol Dombrowski
- *The Great Migration* by Monica Halpern
- *Votes for Women* by Ann Rossi
- *The Home Front During World War II*  
by Monica Halpern
- *The Struggle for Equality* by Ann Rossi

### ***National Geographic Documents of Freedom Series. In the series:***

- The Mayflower Compact
- The Declaration of Independence
- The Constitution
- The Bill of Rights
- The Emancipation Proclamation

### ***Decades of American History series published by Facts on File***

With one volume on each of the decades in 20th century American history, these books are too long for students to read in class, but excerpts can be very useful for teaching about each time period. Reading level is grade 7 and up.

## TRADE BOOKS AND HISTORICAL FICTION BY ERA

While textbooks can help students build background knowledge in a particular era, historical fiction, trade books, and biographies really help history come alive. Books in these genres are listed below by era. Please note that only titles of books in each era will be included on this list. To see full descriptions and excerpts of the books, go to [cunyhistoryclub.wordpress.com](http://cunyhistoryclub.wordpress.com) and click on the desired category.

Within each era, books at lower levels will be listed first, followed by books for students who read at higher levels.

Another good source of books for adult education teachers is Townsend Press, which offers a number of historical titles at a middle school reading level for only \$2 each.

## COLONIAL/REVOLUTION

### ***April Morning* by Howard Fast**

A historical novel about the American Revolution, 5th grade level.

### ***My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier**

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A historical novel about the American Revolution, high school reading level.

### ***Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson**

An enslaved girl in New York City tries to save her sister at the time of the American Revolution.

### ***A Break with Charity* by Ann Rinaldi**

A novel of the Salem witch trials.

## WESTWARD EXPANSION

### ***The West, an Illustrated History*, by Geoffrey Ward, Steven Ives and Ken Burns**

Based on the PBS series by Ken Burns.

## SLAVERY AND THE CIVIL WAR

### ***Harriet Tubman* by Anna Petry**

A biography written at a middle school level

### ***Get on Board: The Story of the Underground Railroad* by Jim Haskins**

Tells the stories of “conductors” and runaway slaves. Very engaging. Fifth grade reading level.

### ***Amistad* by Joyce Annette Barnes**

This is the junior novel, and is accessible to pre-HSE and HSE students.

### ***Anthony Burns: the Defeat and Triumph of a Runaway Slave* by Virginia Hamilton**

An exciting read

### ***Bull Run* by Paul Fleishman**

A novel told in the voices of different characters during the Civil War. Accessible but students must first build background knowledge about the war.

### ***The Last Silk Dress* by Ann Rinaldi**

A high school reading level. Tells the story of the Civil War from a Confederate perspective.

## INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT

### ***The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire* by Katie Marisco**

Excellent trade book about the fire.

### ***Mother Jones* by Betsy Harvey Kraft**

This biography of Mother Jones also comes as a graphic novel.

### ***Lyddie* by Katherine Paterson**

Historical fiction about a Lowell Mill girl

## THE GREAT DEPRESSION

### ***The Great Depression* by Elaine Landau**

Accessible to pre-HSE, engaging and informative

### ***Dear Mrs. Roosevelt, Letters from Children during the Great Depression*, edited by Robert Cohen**

A wonderful book to take excerpts from when teaching this period.

### ***Restless Spirit, the Life and Work of Dorothea Lange* by Elizabeth Partridge**

Dorothea Lange’s photographs did much to goad the government into action during the Depression.

### ***Hard Times* by Studs Terkel**

Oral histories from people of all classes in all walks of life.

## WORLD WAR II

### ***The Story of Blima, a Holocaust Survivor* by Shirley Russak Wachtel**

Students have been very affecting by this book which is an easy read.

### ***I Had Seen Castles* by Cynthia Rylant**

Beautifully written novel of regret from the point of view of a soldier who misses pre-war life.

### ***The Year of Impossible Goodbyes* by Sook Nyul Choi**

The Japanese occupation of Korea

### ***Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac**

A historical novel about the important role of Navajo code talkers during the War.

# Recommended Books on Teaching for Social Studies and ELA Teachers

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## ON LEARNING

***How People Learn*, edited by Committee on Developments in the Science of Learning, published by National Academy Press**

Important insights for teachers on the nature of learning, and why studying content deeply is so important.

***Why Don't Students Like School?* by Daniel T. Willingham, published Jossey-Bass**

Written for teachers, this book illuminates the cognitive science behind learning and explains the scientific basis behind learning content, extensive practice, ways to help students remember what they have learned.

***Background Knowledge: the Missing Piece of the Comprehension Puzzle* by Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey, published Heinemann**

This book provides a solid rationale for teaching content and helping students build and activate background knowledge in order to succeed in school, along with many helpful suggestions and sample activities.

***Better Learning Through Structured Teaching* by Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey published Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development**

This book provides an excellent guide to planning and delivering lessons that help students gradually take on responsibility for learning and become engaged, self-directed learners.

## ON READING

***Effective Practices for Developing Reading Comprehension* by Nell K Duke and P. David Pearson**

This article is freely available on the web and provides a thorough summary of recent research in reading development and best practices.

***When Students Can't Read What Teachers Can Do* by Kylene Beers, published Heinemann**

Beers puts assessment of reading behaviors front and foremost, with helpful lists on behaviors of what she terms “dependent” and “independent” readers. Grounded in classroom work and observations, this is a must-have for literacy teachers.

***Strategic Reading* by Jeffery D. Wilhelm, published Boynton Cook**

Wilhelm emphasizes the “how” of teaching and learning, not just the “what.” This book is extremely helpful not just for the teaching of reading, but for an understanding of how to build lessons built on inquiry, open-ended questions, and before, during and after reading activities.

***You Gotta BE the Book* by Jeffrey Wilhelm**

This book is especially helpful for teachers of teen-aged or reluctant readers. It focuses on role play and drama as a way to make books come alive for readers.

## ON LITERACY IN THE SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSROOM

***Building Literacy in Social Studies* by Donna Ogle, Ron Klemp and Bill McBride, published Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development**

A wide variety of helpful graphic organizers and sample lesson plans for teaching social studies skills like reading and understanding maps, graphs, textbook chapters, primary sources and political cartoons.

# Recommended Books on Teaching for Social Studies and ELA Teachers

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## ON VOCABULARY

***Bringing Words to Life* by Isabel Beck, Margaret McKeown, and Linda Kucan, published Guilford**

Based on an extensive review and synthesis of the research on vocabulary learning, this book provides a sound basis for teachers who wish to bring effective vocabulary instruction in to the classroom.

***Inside Words: Tools for Teaching Academic Vocabulary Grades 4–12* by Janet Allen, published Stenhouse**

While Beck and McKeown's book emphasizes all-purpose academic vocabulary ("tier two" words), this book is an invaluable tool for teachers who want to teach content-related words.

***Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary***

This dictionary was designed for English language learners but it is indispensable for all adult learners because of its clear, plain-language definitions and comprehensive examples.

## ON WRITING

***Learning to Write/Writing to Learn* by John Mayher, Nancy Lester and Gordon Pradl, published Heinemann**

This is THE book on writing-across-the-curriculum, emphasizing the apprenticeship model and writing as a thinking process.

***They Say/I Say* by Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, published Norton**

An invaluable guide for teachers wishing to help their students learn how to write in the academic context.