

Web Resources for Teachers of American History

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Good Places to Start

Digital Librarian

<http://www.digital-librarian.com/history.html>

Digital History: Using New Technologies to Enhance Teaching and Research

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu>

This impressive site from Steven Mintz at the University of Houston includes an up-to-date U.S. history textbook; annotated primary sources on United States, Mexican American, and Native American history, and slavery; and succinct essays on the history of ethnicity and immigration, film, private life, and science and technology. Visual histories of Lincoln's America and America's Reconstruction contain text by Eric Foner and Olivia Mahoney. The Doing History feature lets users reconstruct the past through the voices of children, gravestones, advertising, and other primary sources. Reference resources include classroom handouts, chronologies, encyclopedia articles, glossaries, and an audio-visual archive including speeches, book talks and e-lectures by historians, and historical maps, music, newspaper articles, and images. The site's Ask the HyperHistorian feature allows users to pose questions to professional historians.

Best of History Web Sites

<http://www.besthistorysites.net/USHistory.shtml> --a great place to start for multimedia resources in U.S. History

American Studies at the University of Virginia

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/>

History Matters

<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/>

A production of the American Social History Project/Center of Media and Learning, City of University New York, and the Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, History Matters is a wonderful online resource for history teachers and students. Among the many digital resources are lesson plans, syllabi, links, and exhibits.

EDSITEment

<http://edsitement.neh.gov/>

Produced by National Endowment for the Humanities and the Council of the Great City Schools, EDSITEment is a gateway for teachers, students, and parents searching for high-quality material on the Internet in the subject areas of literature and language arts, foreign languages, art and culture, and history and social studies. The EDSITEment experience includes links to 72 of the top humanities sites and online lesson plans, which bring EDSITEment to life for teachers, students, and their families.

Teaching American History Programs

Teaching American History Grant Web Sites

<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/tahgrants/>

Teaching American History Resource Center--provides links to and information about publications, resources, and activities for teachers of history.

<http://www.oah.org/teaching/>

Libraries, Archives, Museums, Government Agencies and other Institutions with American History/Culture Web content

Library of Congress-- An outstanding and invaluable site for American history and general studies. Contains primary and secondary documents, exhibits, map collections, prints and photographs, sound recordings and motion pictures. The LOC's American Memory Historical Collections, a must-see, contains the bulk of digitalized materials, but the Exhibitions Gallery is enticing and informative as well. The LOC also offers a Learning Page that provides activities, tools, ideas, and features for educators and students. American Memory: Historical Collections for the National Digital Library

<http://memory.loc.gov/>

Chicago Historical Society

<http://www.chicagohistory.org/>

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

<http://www.gilderlehrman.org/>

UW Milwaukee Library, Division of Archives & Special Collections

<http://www.uwm.edu/Library/arch/teaching.htm>

FBI Files through FOIA

<http://foia.fbi.gov/history.htm>

The National Security Archive

<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/>

Site combines a unique range of functions in one non governmental, non-profit institution. The Archive is simultaneously a research institute on international affairs, a library and archive of declassified U.S. documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, a public interest law firm defending and expanding public access to government information through the FOIA, and an indexer and publisher of the documents in books, microfiche, and electronic formats.

Links to the Past (National Park Service)

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/>

If you are interested in becoming actively involved in archeology, ethnography, historic preservation, and/or museum management, you will want to explore the tours, events, internships, volunteer programs, study guides, glossaries, curricula and other educational tools and opportunities available on this Web site. The site's History in the Parks section lists parks based on their cultural and historic significance (e.g., African American heritage, Women's history, Civil War).

National Building Museum

<http://www.nbm.org/>

Created by an act of Congress, the National Building Museum is America's premier cultural institution dedicated to exploring and celebrating architecture, design, engineering, construction, and urban planning. Through engaging exhibitions and education programs — including innovative curricula for school and stimulating programs for adults — the Museum is an important forum for exchanging ideas and information about preserving landmarks and revitalizing urban centers.

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

<http://www.archives.gov/index.html>

The National Archives and Records Administration is an independent federal agency that preserves our nation's history and defines us as a people by overseeing the management of all federal records. Enshrined for posterity in the original building in Washington, DC, are the cornerstone documents of our government: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights.

National Museum of American History (NMAH)

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/>

The National Museum of American History, which is part of the Smithsonian Institution, collects, cares for, and preserves over 17 million artifacts that document our national heritage in technology, industrial development, military history, transportation, textiles, costume, domestic life, sports, the arts, and community life. Items on display include the Star-Spangled Banner, Ford's 1913 Model-T and Dorothy's ruby slippers from *The Wizard of Oz*.

Smithsonian Institution

<http://www.si.edu/>

The Smithsonian Institution is an independent trust instrumentality of the United States holding some 140 million artifacts and specimens in its trust for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge." It is composed of sixteen museums and galleries, the National Zoo, and numerous research facilities in the United States and abroad. The Smithsonian is also a center for research dedicated to public education, national service, and scholarship in the arts, sciences, and history.

Metropolitan Museum of Art American Paintings and Sculpture

http://www.metmuseum.org/Works_of_Art/department.asp?dep=2

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

<http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/>

National Public Radio

Fresh Air

<http://freshair.npr.org>

To The Best of Our Knowledge

<http://www.wpr.org/book/>

NPR

<http://www.npr.org/>

Public Broadcasting Service

Start at http://www.pbs.org/history/history_united.html

The American Experience

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/>

American Masters

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/index.html>

Oral Histories and Other Audio Sources

WhiteHouseTapes.org

Between 1940 and 1973, six American presidents from both political parties secretly recorded just under 5,000 hours of conversations while in the White House. This site is designed as a service to the research community by making freely available all of the presidential recordings, along with relevant research materials, so that scholars, teachers, students, and the public can hear and use these remarkable tapes for themselves.

The site is hosted and maintained by the Presidential Recordings Program at the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs.

<http://whitehousetapes.org/>

The Authentic History Center: Primary Sources from American Popular Culture

<http://www.authentichistory.com>

Talking History

Based at the University at Albany, State University of New York, is a production, distribution, and instructional center for all forms of "aural" history.

<http://www.talkinghistory.org/>

Historical Voices

<http://www.historicalvoices.org/>

Earliest Voices: A Gallery from the Vincent Voice Library

http://www.historicalvoices.org/earliest_voices

History and Politics Out Loud-- a diverse collection of audio -- speeches and private communications -- relating to U.S. history and politics.

<http://www.hpol.org>

Studs Terkel

<http://www.studsterkel.org/ghits.php>

U.S. Labor and Industrial History Audio Project

Recordings relating to American labor history.

<http://www.albany.edu/history/LaborAudio/>

The History Channel

Short clips from three categories: Politics & Government, Science & Technology, and Arts, Entertainment & Culture.

<http://www.historychannel.com/speeches/index.html>

Vincent Voice Library

<http://www.lib.msu.edu/vincent/>

Samples from the collections at the MSU Libraries.

Historic Audio Archives

<http://www.webcorp.com/test/audioarchive.htm>

A hodge-podge of mostly short audio clips and some video. Includes among others Richard Nixon, Joe McCarthy, and Leon Trotsky.

Great speeches

<http://www.chicago-law.net/speeches/speech.html>

A few excerpts and some complete speeches from American history, 1940s through the 1990s.

National Gallery of the Spoken Word

<http://www.ngsw.org>

From Thomas Edison's first cylinder recordings, to the voices of Babe Ruth and Florence Nightingale, and Studs Terkel's timeless interviews, the National Gallery of the Spoken Word (NGSW) will preserve and, within the limits of copyright law, make these and other historically significant voice recordings freely available and easily accessible via the Internet. The NGSW will create a significant, fully searchable, online database of spoken word collections that span the 20th century. The project is in the early stages of its development.

The Archer Audio Archive:

<http://www.archervalerie.com/audio.html>

Lots of historical sound clips including Martin Luther King Jr., many US presidents, Thomas Edison, The Beatles, and many other people.

C-Span American Political Archive
[C-Span American Political Archive](#)

History Channel Speech Archives
<http://www.historychannel.com/speeches/archive.html>

Visual Sources and Advertising

The Living Room Candidate: Presidential Campaign Commercials, 1952-2004
<http://livingroomcandidate.movingimage.us/>

Digital Librarian:
a librarian's choice of the best of the Web
<http://www.digital-librarian.com/images.html>

Google Image Search
<http://www.google.com>

Other Sites

U.S. Supreme Court Multimedia
<http://www.oyez.org/oyez/frontpage>

White House Tapes: The President Calling
<http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/prestapes/index.html>

Remembering Jim Crow
<http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/remembering/index.html>

Pluralism and Unity
<http://www.expo98.msu.edu/>

Exploring the idea of Americanism in the early part of the 20th century. With audio clips from figures such as Jane Addams, Samuel Gompers and Woodrow Wilson.

John F. Kennedy
http://www.cs.umb.edu/jfklibrary/tapes_1998.html
From the Kennedy Library. Samples of recordings of President Kennedy's meetings, conversations, phone calls and dictation. Tapes include conversations with Presidents Hoover, Eisenhower & Truman.

Storytelling of the North Carolina Native Americans
<http://metalab.unc.edu/storytelling/index.html>
Stories from Cherokee, Lumbee, and Occaneechi tradition. Sound and video.

History Happens: Cool Stories!

<http://www.ushistory.com/cool.htm>

Stories from American History presented in musical format. Interesting approach.

Radio Advertising Bureau Collection

<http://www.lib.umd.edu/UMCP/LAB/AUDIO/soundbites.html>

Samples of vintage radio commercials from the University of Maryland Library of American Broadcasting.

Radio Days

<http://www.otr.com>

A great repository of 20th century American radio. Categories include radio news (with historic broadcasts from reporters such as Edward R. Murrow and Eric Sevareid), mystery, private eyes, comedy, and science fiction.

Normandy: 1944

<http://normandy.eb.com/>

A virtual march through the World War II invasion by means of photos, articles and essays, interactive maps, audio and video clips, and transcripts of first-person accounts. (0)

The Whole World Was Watching: an oral history of 1968

<http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/1968>

The resource contains transcripts, audio recordings, and edited stories of a series of interviews conducted in the spring of 1998. Members of the Sophomore Class at SKHS interviewed Rhode Islanders about their recollections of the year 1968. (/)

Broadcasting in Chicago, 1921-1989

<http://www.mcs.net/~richsam/home.html>

Historical Text Archive

<http://historicaltextarchive.com/>

African-American Studies Web Guide

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/ecuip/diglib/afam/guide/>

THE FATHOM ARCHIVE

<http://www.fathom.com/>

This archive, provided by Columbia University, offers access to the complete range of free content developed for Fathom by its member institutions. Columbia encourages you to browse this archive of online learning resources, including lectures, articles, interviews, exhibits and free seminars. You can find additional online resources from Columbia University at www.columbia.edu and from the members of the Fathom consortium at their own websites.

Wisconsin Electronic Reader

<http://www.library.wisc.edu/etext/WIReader/Contents.html>

Stories, essays, letters, poems, biographies, journals and tidbits from Wisconsin history.

The Literature & Culture of the American 1950s

<http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/home.html>

Nixon White House Phone Calls

<http://www.c-span.org/executive/presidential/nixon.asp>

Richard M. Nixon: The Watergate Tapes

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/MRC/watergate.html>

Books on Web Resources for Historians include:

African American History on the Web

Websites with an emphasis on Wisconsin state history

UW Oshkosh Area Research Center

<http://www.uwosh.edu/archives/>

Wisconsin Historical Society

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org>

Pioneer Experience: <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/wipionexp/>

American Journeys: <http://www.americanjourneys.org/>

Turning Points: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/>

Local History and Biography Articles:

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wlhba/>

Great Lakes Maritime History:

<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/GreatLakes.html>

History of Wisconsin Agriculture and Rural Life:

<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/USAINAbout.html>

The new Wisconsin Goes to War site (under development):

<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/WIWarAbout.html>

McMillan Memorail Library (Wisconsin Rapids)

http://www.scls.lib.wi.us/mcm/local/local_history.html

Oshkosh Public Library Digital Collections

<http://oshkoshpub.cdm.oclc.org/>

Milwaukee Neighborhoods (when working)

<http://www.uwm.edu/Library/digilib/Milwaukee/index.html>

For an inventory the Wisconsin Heritage On-line is creating of Wisconsin digital projects go here and search by keyword

<http://heritage-stwi-url.auto-graphics.com/agurl.asp?sid=5BB4126ED009467985B91B0490356711&w=c>

Appleton Public Library Local History Collection

<http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/AppletonPlatsAbout.html>

Outagamie County Historical Society and Appleton Public Library

<http://www.foxvalleymemory.org/>

Oshkosh Public Museum Virtual Exhibit

<http://publicmuseum.oshkosh.net/Virtual/>

List of websites recommended by TASAH faculty

See lists on the Presenter pages in our D2L content section and:

Joshua Ranger:

"Learning Page" Library of Congress' portal for teachers -

<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/index.html>

National History Day's National Site - <http://www.nationalhistoryday.org/>

National History Day's Wisconsin Site -

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/teachers/historyday/>

Michelle Kuhl:

Africans in America (web companion to PBS video series, which is also a good source):

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/home.html>

American Slave Narratives, An On-Line Anthology (a guide to WPA narratives):

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/wpa/wpahome.html>

Born in America, Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers Project (Library of Congress):

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html>

See also at this site references to related sources:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snrelated.html>

Classics on American Slavery (a bibliography of books and articles by historians, see especially entries under "Fugitives," "Resistance" and "Slave Culture"):

<http://www.dinsdoc.com/slavery-3.htm#cult>

North American Slave Narratives (bibliography of writings by slaves and former slaves):

<http://www.dinsdoc.com/slavery-3.htm#cult>

Jim Feldman:

Environmental History for High School Students and Teachers: bibliographies, internet links, lesson plans, and more

<http://www.geocities.com/athens/delphi/5777/>

Environmental History on the Internet: an index of web pages dealing with environmental history and related topics

<http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/departments/espm/env-hist/eh-internet.html>

Explorations in American Environmental History: Includes lesson plans and links to digital resource in the Library of Congress's American Memory collection for topics on the exploration of the American West and resource management.

<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/98/enviro/intro.html>

Environmental History—Explore the Field: contains lesson plans, discussion questions, and study guide to complement *Major Problems in American Environmental History*, ed. Carolyn Merchant

<http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/departments/espm/env-hist/>

H-Environment: Internet discussion group for professional environmental historians

<http://www.h-net.org/~environ/>

Jeff Pickron:

American Labor History

<http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Quad/6460/AmLabHist/index.html>

Women's Labor History

<http://www.afscme.org/otherlnk/whlinks.htm>

UFW

<http://www.ufw.org/history.htm>

Local History – Labor (Sites for specific strikes)

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Lake/1968/topics/labor.html>

Illinois Labor History Society

<http://www.kentlaw.edu/ilhs/>

Slavery

<http://hitchcock.itc.virginia.edu/Slavery/>

Flint Sit Down Strike

<http://www.historicalvoices.org/flint/>

Haymarket

<http://www.chicagohs.org/hadc/>

Inside a Factory: The Westinghouse Works

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/papr/west/westhome.html>

Labor Arts

<http://www.laborarts.org/>

Labor History Bibliography

<http://www.oah.org/pubs/magazine/labor/labor-bib.html>

Wisconsin Labor History

<http://wisconsinlaborhistory.org/>

New Deal Network

<http://newdeal.feri.org/index.htm>

Like A Family: Life in a Southern Cotton Mill

<http://www.sohp.org/laf/index.html>

Lost Labor: Photography of Work

<http://www.lostlabor.com/>

Posters on the WWII Homefront

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/victory/>

Sources on US Women's Labor History

<http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/tam/women/cover.html>

Women and US Social Movements

<http://womhist.binghamton.edu/>

Who Built America? American Social History Project

<http://www.ashp.cuny.edu/>

Pacific Northwest Labor History Project

<http://faculty.washington.edu/gregoryj/pnwlabor/>

Triangle Factory Fire

<http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/trianglefire/>

Sources on Women's Work 1870-1930

<http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/ww/>

Factory Life in Patterson, NJ

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wiphtml/pthome.html>

Michelle Kuhl:

http://www.pbs.org/wonders/fr_e5.htm "The Road to Timbuktu". Good site for students interested in the African origins of black history.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part1/index.html> "The Terrible Transformation: 1450-1750." Scholarly descriptions and primary documents bolster this well organized PBS site detailing the early years of Africans in America.

<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/slavery/plantation.html> "Plantation America: The Work of Slaves." Let your students browse documents and images from southern plantations.

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/aahtml/exhibit/aopart2b.html> "Free Blacks in the Antebellum Period: The Revolutionary Era." Good summaries of important topics such as black soldiers in the American Revolution, the inspirational Haitian slave revolt, free black musicians, the debate over colonization, the convention movement, and the free black press.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part2/index.html> "Africans in America: Revolution 1750-1805." PBS site w/ great links to descriptions and documents on the American Revolution.

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/JACOBS/hjhome.htm> *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*. Full text online version of a slave narrative classic. Harriet Jacobs, a slave in North Carolina endures mistreatment and sexual harassment before she plans a grueling escape for herself and her two children. Shows the determination and creativity one slave woman employed to overcome the cruelty of enslavement.

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/aaphtml/> "From Slavery to Freedom: The African American Pamphlet Collection, 1824-1909." Library of Congress site that links to full-text primary documents, mainly black-authored pamphlets. Extremely well-organized and user friendly. Could be a great resource for more advanced students to use for research projects.

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html> "The African-American Mosaic: A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the Study of Black History and Culture." Very accessible site that highlights colonization, abolition, migration, and the WPA. Good brief historical descriptions linked with primary documents, heavy on visual images. Great possibilities for classroom discussion.

