



PBS Teachers.

AP U.S. History Resources from PBS

General

PBS' signature series FRONTLINE, NOW, and NewsHour regularly address a variety of the AP themes listed below. Each series' Web site features background articles, interactive features, streaming video, and lesson plans.

FRONTLINE: Teacher Center

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/teach/>

NOW: For Educators

<http://www.pbs.org/now/classroom/index.html>

NewsHour Extra

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/>

American Diversity

African American Lives

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aalives/>

This series, hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., uses genealogy, oral history, family stories and DNA analysis to trace lineage through American history and back to Africa. The Web site includes 3 lesson plans and a toolkit to help students investigate the past.

Ancestors in the Americas

<http://www.pbs.org/ancestorsintheamericas/>

This is the first in-depth television series to present the untold history and contemporary legacy of early Asian immigrants to the Americas, from the 1700s to the 1900s. The Web site contains 3 lesson plans and an interactive Asian American timeline.

The New Americans

<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/newamericans/>

This Independent Lens series focuses on immigration. The robust Web site includes 11 lesson plans, an interactive quiz, and detailed information about individuals and cultures featured in the series.

Indian Country Diaries

<http://www.pbs.org/indiancountry/>

This two-part series of documentaries explores the challenges facing Native Americans in the 21st Century. The Web site contains an extensive essay collection on Native American history and current events as well as lesson plans.

Race: The Power of an Illusion

http://www.pbs.org/race/000_General/000_00-Home.htm

This three-part documentary examines race in society, science & history. The Web site contains an extensive collection of background readings, transcripts of interviews with renowned experts, 7 lesson plans, and a discussion guide.

American Identity

P.O.V.: Borders: American ID

http://www.pbs.org/pov/borders/index_flash.html

This is an ongoing, web original series that provides a showcase for interactive storytelling; streaming video featuring interviews with leading thinkers; classroom activities and additional opportunities for students to share their ideas and voices in dialogue with others.

Freedom: A History of US

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/historyofus/>

This is a sixteen-part series, based on the award winning books by master storyteller Joy Hakim. The Web site features hundreds of primary sources, hyperlinked articles, streaming video, timelines, glossaries, interactive quizzes, and lesson plans.

Culture

American Masters

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

These award-winning primetime specials examine the lives, works, and creative processes of America's most outstanding cultural artists. The Web site includes background information and lesson plans.

Ken Burns American Stories: "Baseball," "Jazz"

<http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/baseball/>; <http://www.pbs.org/jazz/>

These award-winning documentaries focus on America's favorite pastime and original art form, respectively. The Web sites include biographies, timelines and other interactive activities, articles and lesson plans.

The Blues

<http://www.pbs.org/theblues/index.html>

This is a seven-part, Martin Scorsese-produced series about the blues and its contribution to American culture and music worldwide. The Web site includes in-depth information about songs and artists, an interactive roadmap, and lesson plans.

Demographic Changes/ Economic Transformations

The First Measured Century

<http://www.pbs.org/fmc/>

This 3-hour program, hosted by Ben Wattenberg, tells the story of America by the numbers through the eyes of those who did the measuring and the interpreting. The Web site includes extensive articles about trends of the century, an interactive timeline, and lesson plans.

People's Century: 1900-1999

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

This award-winning, 26-part series offers insights into the turbulent events of these 100 years through the revealing personal testimony of the people who lived them. The Web site offers an interactive timeline, eyewitness transcripts, a thematic overview, and lesson plans.

Environment & Globalization

P.O.V.: Borders: Environment

http://www.pbs.org/pov/borders/index_flash.html

This is an on-going web-original series that provides a showcase for interactive storytelling. The Web site offers environmentally-themed interactive games and activities, streaming video, and lesson plans.

Commanding Heights: The Battle for the World Economy

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

This 6-hour program was designed to promote better understanding of globalization, world trade and economic development. The Web site contains streaming video of the entire program, a timeline of key events, extensive country and interviewee profiles, print and video essays, discussion topics, and an educator's guide.

Politics and Citizenship

American Experience

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

Television's longest-running, most-watched history series, American Experience brings to life the incredible characters and epic stories that helped form this nation. The Web site includes an extensive collection of essays, primary sources, maps, timelines, and teacher's guides. The entire presidential collection will soon be available on the site in streaming video.

Note: Many of the American Experience films address additional AP themes.

Benjamin Franklin

<http://www.pbs.org/benfranklin/index.html>

This documentary film traces the life and work of the most remarkable and multi-talented human beings the world has ever known. The Web site includes extensive background information, interactive activities, and lesson plans.

Ken Burns American Stories: “The Congress,” “Thomas Jefferson”

<http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/congress/>; <http://www.pbs.org/jefferson/>

These award-winning documentaries focus on the legislative branch and one of America’s most remarkable and controversial presidents, respectively. The Web site for “The Congress” includes streaming video clips, a timeline, and a lesson plan; the “Thomas Jefferson” site contains a collection of Jefferson’s writings, transcripts of interviews conducted for the film, and several student assignments.

The American President

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/amerpres/>

This ten-part series tells the epic tale of the presidency. The Web site includes an extensive library of articles, primary sources, and video clips related to key figures as well as interactive activities and lesson plans.

Reform

Ken Burns American Stories: “Not for Ourselves Alone”

<http://www.pbs.org/stantonanthony/>

This remarkable film tells the story of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s work on behalf of women’s suffrage and rights in general. The Web site offers biographies, critical essays, writings and speeches, and lesson plans.

Liberty! The American Revolution

<http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/index.html>

This Peabody Award-winning series focuses on the birth of the American Republic and the struggle of a loosely connected group of states to become a nation. The Web site includes hyperlinked articles and biographies, interactive activities, and lesson plans.

Religion

The Mormons

<http://www.pbs.org/mormons/>

This film from the producers of FRONTLINE and American Experience explores the richness, the complexities and the controversies of the Mormons’ story. The Web site includes streaming video, articles and interviews, a historical map, and lesson plans.

Independent Lens: “Knocking”

<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/knocking/>

This film focuses on the Jehovah’s Witnesses. The Web site includes background information and lesson plans.

Religion and Ethics Newsweekly

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/index_flash.html

This one-of-a-kind television newsmagazine provides insightful coverage and analysis of the news, people, events and trends behind the headlines in the rich world of religion and ethics. The Web site contains extensive background information, an interactive multi-faith calendar, lesson plans, and viewer’s guides.

Slavery and Its Legacies in North America

Africans in America

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

This 4-part documentary series recounts the history of slavery. The Web site includes historical narratives, extensive resource banks with primary sources, scholarly articles and biographies, and teacher’s guides.

Eyes on the Prize

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

This award-winning series, from the producers of American Experience, tells the story of the American Civil Rights movement. The Web site includes primary sources, profiles of key people and events, essays, and lesson plans.

The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/>

This landmark four-part series explores segregation from the end of the civil war to the dawn of the modern civil rights movement. The Web site offers an historical timeline, articles about key events, people, and places, personal narratives, interactive features, and lesson plans.

War and Diplomacy

Ken Burns American Stories: “The Civil War”

<http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/>

Ken Burns’ film offers a definitive look at the U.S. Civil War. The Web site includes maps, biographies, historical documents, images, discussion questions, and lesson plans.

Ken Burns American Stories: “The War”

<http://www.pbs.org/thewar/>

This 7-part series about the Second World War airs in October 2007. The Web site will include an extensive collection of primary sources, interviews and articles, and lesson plans; in addition, the producers have collaborated with the Veterans’ History Project to create an oral history toolkit for students.