For additional information (e.g. pricing, copyright, ISBN) and Idaho completed evaluations, please contact the curricular materials coordinator.

Materials in this guide are contracted from September 2017- December 31, 2023.

GRADES 6-12

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company

HMH Social Studies United States History

- Grades 6-9
  - **Strengths:** Online resources, primary document choices, and assessments were all top notch. Great cross-curricular relationship with English and creative writing classes. Text is easy to read, with a heavy (highlighted and bolded) emphasis on key vocabulary. Visuals were not excessive and related to the material effectively. Great historical quotes.
  - **Weaknesses:** Emphasis of multicultural analysis seemed very limited to the basic historical entities.
  - **Key Features:** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt believes in keeping the story in history. Storytelling is cultures’ most memorable form of communication. The best stories capture imagination, affect emotions, spark further thought, and demand retelling. Stories persist, so our programs embrace the form and its ability to reach learners with diverse backgrounds, interests, and dispositions. HMH delivers these captivating stories through engaging narratives, vibrant visuals, and high-quality multimedia features. Throughout every lesson in *HMH Social Studies: United States History* © 2018, content is presented in ways that gets middle school students’ attention and sparks connections. Through HMH’s exclusive partnerships with the *HISTORY®* Channel and Maps.com, students are presented with a multi-modal presentation of details that are cohesive and correlated to the lesson. The program’s text, visual content, and support are delivered in multiple modalities, with audio, video, simulations, multimedia Close Read Screencast modeled analytical discussions, and interactive maps and illustrations. With this thoroughly engaging and focused combination of content delivery, students develop an understanding of the significance of topics and events. To promote college and career readiness, *HMH Social Studies: United States History* engages students in the rigor of the social studies discipline while building the critical thinking, problem-solving, and
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**HMH Social Studies United States History: Beginnings to 1877**

- **Grades 6-9**
  - **Strengths:** The textbook has excellent online resources, access to primary source documents, and a variety of assessments. There are opportunities for cross-curricular relationship with English Language Arts standards.
  - **Weaknesses:** There are standards where teachers will need to supplement to teach appropriately. Some topics, such as, immigration are taught through a limited cultural lens.
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HMH Social Studies United States History: Beginnings to 1914

 Grades 6-9

- **Strengths:** The textbook is easy to read, and provides students with an extensive knowledge of US history. Its font size and ratio of graphics to text make it appealing to middle school aged students. The assessments are widely varied and allow students to demonstrate many skill sets. The online material is a great addition for students to grapple with the contents. The presence of a Spanish-English reading comprehension text shows preparation for students of different languages.

- **Weaknesses:** Some individual standards are needing to be supplemented. The textbook often relies on student access to the internet in order to do so. Another major difficulty is the online resources having a little less user ease than might be necessary for younger students.

- **Other:** Purchasing the online material would be greatly emphasized for addressing students of lower comprehension levels.

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HMH Social Studies American History (US History I & II)

- **Grades 9-12**
  - **Strengths:** The text is very comprehensive and gives pertinent details regarding the history of America. The provided primary sources as reference material and learning tools are excellent and often used. “One American’s Story” is a great introduction and topic piece to start each module. There are multiple approaches to assessment and learning for all styles of learning and levels of understanding. The textbook does an excellent job of describing the migration and growth of nation throughout history. Ample amounts of charts, maps, and databases provide evidence of content including online interactive maps and activities to chart history. There are multiple examples of leaders and their lives including less known figures in history. Primary documents are referenced through online resources, and are sufficient for teachers to expand upon throughout the text ubiquitous bite size chunks of primary source material.
  - **Weaknesses:** The size of the textbook. As a class set, it will be fine but it would be very difficult to take home to review. It will probably be dropped a lot due to the heaviness. The size can also be quite overwhelming – especially for people with learning difficulties. There should be a better representation of Spanish/Mexican influences on American History. It would be nice to have more examples of guided commentary with primary sources to guide reading such as found in the section on the Constitution.
  - **Other:** HMH Social Studies American History overall provides excellent resources and supplementary materials to aid the busy classroom teacher.
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**McGraw-Hill School Education, LLC**

**Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States – Early Years**

- **Grades 6-8**
  - **Strengths:** McGraw-Hill’s *Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States, Early Years* is a good resource for teaching middle school American history from the first Americans through the Reconstruction Period. Like other McGraw-Hill text programs, the variety of print and digital materials (chapter resources, chapter introductions, lessons, primary sources, chapter wrap-ups, intervention and remediation, gifted and talented strategies, and assessment materials) provide a solid basis for setting up lesson plans-teachers have access to numerous ways to ensure that students can connect prior learning to new learning to relevant current events. The text is well designed and is logically developed.
  - **Weaknesses:** This text is best used with 6th grade level students. In addition, the use of American Indians should be used instead of Native Americans.
  - **Key Features:** *Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States* brings the people, issues, and events of yesterday to life for today’s students with the first truly integrated print and digital Middle School U.S. History curriculum. Networks combines print resources grounded in solid pedagogy with a full suite of teaching and learning tools for a flexible, customized learning experience.

**Pearson Prentice Hall**

**Pearson American History Beginnings to 1877**

- **Grades 6-8**
  - **Strengths:** The text is visually appealing, easy to navigate and it covers all the information required to thoroughly meet the standards. S.E has maps, charts and analysis information on nearly every page (S.E. pg. 290-291, maps (Latin America) and primary source painting of South American Independence). The teacher edition includes resources for teacher directed discussion, project ideas, and differentiation suggestions. (T.E. 297 - Henry Clay’s Missouri Compromise) The primary sources in the back of the book are an excellent tool to enhance learning and analysis. The documents include the Constitution, the Mayflower compact, the Magna Carta and various presidential speeches. The documents align to the information in the textbook and could be used for further in depth discussion and analysis. A comprehensive glossary and atlas is also provided in the back of the student edition book. The student note taking study guide is
helpful in teaching cornel style of note taking, and would be useful in developing these vital skills.

- **Weaknesses:** While the reading and note taking study guide is a helpful tool, the weakness is it ultimately is just a worksheet, so less high level discussion would take place as students would be tempted to read documents to scan for answers only. Many of the questions are more basic, just fill in the blank type of answers - example - N.T page 150 - review questions on the topic of post war America (after WWII and start of Cold War) Topic 15. Topic 15 has 7 lessons associated with the topic, and it would be difficult to cover the material using that many worksheets.

- **Other:** The American History Textbook covers history from the early American civilizations and the development of the colonies and the establishment of the American Government. The book ends with the Obama administration. We recommend this textbook.

- **Key Features:** *Pearson American History © 2016* provides standards-based instruction that seamlessly integrates print and digital instruction, as well as primary source focused project-based learning. This balanced approach is built using backward design with assessment aligned with instruction.
  - Vast array of video and interactive digital resources to differentiate learning
  - Strong critical-thinking resources.
  - Integrated 21st century skills tutorials and videos.
  - Many levels of assessment and remediation.
  - Core Concept lessons remediate key social studies content for geography, civic and government, history, economics, and personal finance.
  - Strong focus on Inquiry, primary sources, and using evidence to support arguments and conclusions.

Major tools for the student include the:
- Print Student Edition with Digital Courseware
- eText Student Edition
- Reading and Notetaking Study Guide

These student components include chronological Topics and Lessons that take students through a comprehensive and engaging journey through the content. Key features include Topic Inquiries (project-based-learning activities based on primary sources), interactive primary sources, document-based questions, NBC Learn videos, flipped videos for each lesson, interactivities for every lesson (including interactive maps, timelines, image galleries, 3-D Models and more), reading comprehension and critical thinking questions, numerous graphs, charts, maps for visual literacy, biographies, and Core Concepts lessons, Personal Finance lessons, Atlas, Rubrics, Annotated U.S. Constitution, Interactive Supreme Court Cases, Supreme Court Case Glossary.

Major tools for the teacher include the:
- Print Teacher Edition with Digital Courseware
- eText Teacher Edition
- Reading and Notetaking Study Guide Answer Key
The Teacher’s Edition (print and etext) includes resource and pacing information for each Topic and Lesson, differentiated instruction suggestions, English Language Learner Instruction suggestions, and lesson plan information for integrating digital resources and project-based learning at point of use.

Pearson American History Survey

- Grades 6-8
  - **Strengths:** This Textbook tells the Story of history. It discusses the factual content necessary to understand the topics but does so in a way that will draw the student in and make History come alive. The Enduring Understandings are well thought out and assessed at the end of each chapter. The ancillary materials are varied and vast and will appeal to a wide variety of learners.
  - **Other:** It also includes an outline and study guide of the Constitution. This textbook also has charts, graphs, and illustrations that would be quite appropriate to use in Government classrooms.
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Pearson United States History Survey

- Grades 9-12
  - **Strengths:** Very good brief overview of all of US History. It details fully political history, outlining laws, wars, and conflicts. It detailed both social and economic history as well, discussing in depth the major parts of US History that required a social or economic analysis. It was a good survey, a lot of information without much depth.
  - **Weaknesses:** It was fairly one sided. It showed the US government perspective of a lot of different social groups, but did not show those social group’s perspectives (such as the Native Americans and the Women). Discussion questions contained in the book were often irrelevant and often missed the main point of the passage it was outlining.

- **Key Features:** Pearson American History © 2016 provides standards-based instruction that seamlessly integrates print and digital instruction, as well as primary source focused project-based learning. This balanced approach is built using backward design with assessment aligned with instruction.
  - Vast array of video and interactive digital resources to differentiate learning
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For Questions Contact
Content & Curriculum
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