

## Historical Topics

For the Introduction to Historical Studies class (HIS 2005), students had to do web-based research on topics of their choosing. The goal was not only to find websites but to evaluate them. These students consented to sharing their findings with the world. The experience proved to them the necessity of reading closely to find the best possible materials. The students then collected their findings and collated them into a bibliography. Are you interested in sources on European History, American History, or Middle Eastern History? If so, check out the bibliography here.

### European History:

Germany:

Concordat Watch. "Reichskonkordat (with Hitler, 1933), Full Text." Concordat Watch. [http://www.concordatwatch.eu/showkb.php?org\\_id=858&kb\\_header\\_id=752&order=kb\\_rank%20ASC&kb\\_id=1211](http://www.concordatwatch.eu/showkb.php?org_id=858&kb_header_id=752&order=kb_rank%20ASC&kb_id=1211)

Pro: It is a primary document with the ability to shed a lot of light on the situation between the Nazis and the Catholic Church as it was unfolding.

Con: It seems like, as a site, it has something to prove, as if it is waiting for the Catholic Church to "crack" and admit that it was in complete support of Hitler.

Darring, Jerry. "A Catholic Timeline of Events Relating to Jews, Anti-Judaism, Anti-Semitism, and the Holocaust From the 3rd Century to the Beginning of the Third Millennium." Spring Hill College. <http://www.shc.edu/theolibrary/resources/Timeline.htm>

Pro: It is published from an educational institution; it has no advertisements, and has some hyperlinks to outside sources.

Con: There is no list of references beyond the hyperlinks.

Faulkner, Lauren N. "Negotiating the Cross and the Swastika: Catholic Priests and Seminarians as German Soldiers, 1935-1945." Brown University. <http://repository.library.brown.edu:8080/fedora/objects/bdr:103/datastreams/PDF/content>

Pro: It is approved and published by a prestigious academic institution.

Con: It is not the final version of the document.

Krieg, Robert A. "The Vatican Concordat with Hitler's Reich." America: The National Catholic Weekly. [http://www.americamagazine.org/content/article.cfm?article\\_id=3131](http://www.americamagazine.org/content/article.cfm?article_id=3131)

Pro: Krieg is a Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame, and is considered an expert researcher on the subject of the Catholic Church and Nazi Germany. The website is clean with very few advertisements, and is kept up on a regular basis.

Modras, Robert. "The Catholic Church and Anti-Semitism, Poland, 1933-1939: Studies in Anti-Semitism." Hebrew University of Jerusalem. <http://sicsa.huji.ac.il/studies1.html>

Pro: It is published by and for an academic institution.

Con: It also is not technically about Germany, but rather Germany's influence on the surrounding countries.

Podles, Leon J. "German Reform Catholicism and Nazism." Leon J. Podles Dialogue: A Discussion on Faith and Culture, entry posted February 25, 2011. <http://www.podles.org/dialogue/german-reform-catholicism-and-nazism-424.htm>

Pro: Leon J. Podles has his doctorate and has written several critically acclaimed books on Catholicism and Nazism. He is also critical of the Catholic church.

United States Holocaust Museum. "Father Jaques." Holocaust History. <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/online/jacques/>

Pro: It is published by a national museum which specializes in this particular time period and subject matter.

Con: It does not delve deep into the subject matter.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. "German Churches and the Nazi State." Holocaust Encyclopedia. <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005206>

Pro: It is published by a national museum which specializes in this particular time period and subject matter.

Con: It is narrowed only to the church as it related to the holocaust, rather than Hitler and his regime in its entirety.

Russia:

"A Country Study: Russia." Library of Congress: Country Study. <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/rutoc.html>

Pro: Many good links to different subjects dealing with the history and politics of Russia.

Con: Not all the links have much information.

"A Short Overview of the Russian History." A short overview of the Russian history. <http://www.studyruussian.com/history/history.html>

Pro: A good short overview of Russian history.

Con: Not much on the subject of the Romanovs.

"Background Note: Russia." U.S Department of State: Diplomacy in Action. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3183.htm>

Pro: Updated facts and history of Russia.  
Con: Not very much information on Russian History with Nicholas II.

Kitchen, Martin. "The Ending of World War One, and the Legacy of Peace." BBC History. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/war\\_end\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/war_end_01.shtml)

Pro: Excellent information on Russia and what happened during WWI.  
Con: Mostly deals with the Bolshevik party.

"Nicholas II (1894-1917) The Last Czar." Coins and Medals of Imperial Russia: Collections of Coins and Medals Yale University. <http://www.library.yale.edu/slavic/coins/html/nicholas2.html>

Pro: Descriptions of the medals and coins that Nicholas II had.  
Con: Limited information.

"Russian History." Bucknell University. <http://www.bucknell.edu/x17601.xml>

Pro: Connects with multiple sources both secondary and primary.  
Con: Not everything is in English.

"WWI: The Abdication of Nicholas II." WWI Document Archive. [http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/The\\_Abdication\\_of\\_Nicholas\\_II](http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/The_Abdication_of_Nicholas_II)

Pro: Online document about Nicholas II's abdication.  
Con: Not much information on who posted it.

## Vikings:

The Ancient World's Greatest Civilizations. "The Ancient Norse World," The Ancient Web. <http://ancientweb.org/explore/country/Norway>

Pro: a wide array of information on the Viking era.  
Con: some advertising on the right side of the webpage.

Ashliman, D. L., ed. "Vikings in America," University of Pittsburgh. <http://www.pitt.edu/~dash/vinland.html>

Pro: useful information and photos (of Viking artifacts).  
Con: site has not been revised since 2002.

BBC History. "Vikings," BBC. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/vikings/>

Pro: no extra ads, it is all about the Vikings.  
Con: There should perhaps be more pictures in the article.

Byock, Jesse L., "The Viking Site," University of California Los Angeles. <http://www.viking.ucla.edu/>

Pro: site contains many links to other sections related to UCLA and Scandinavian Viking associations.

Con: it needs more pictures.

Delahoyde. "Anglo-Saxon Culture," Washington State University. <http://public.wsu.edu/~delahoyd/medieval/anglo-saxon.html>

Pro: the site is straight-forward and informative about the culture of the Anglo-Saxons.

Con: There is very little information in comparison to other Viking culture sites.

Mandia, Scott A. "Influence of Dramatic Climate Shifts on European Civilizations: The Rise and Fall of the Vikings and the Little Ice Age," SCCC (Suffolk County Community College). [http://www2.sunysuffolk.edu/mandias/lia/vikings\\_during\\_mwp.html](http://www2.sunysuffolk.edu/mandias/lia/vikings_during_mwp.html)

Pro: Sheds light on climate factors in the Viking era and its effect on them.

Con: includes personal beliefs about current climate theories, which perhaps should not be in a medieval climate article.

National Museum of Natural History. "Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga," Arctic Studies Center. <http://www.mnh.si.edu/vikings/>

Pro: site is tied to major organizations such as the Scandinavian Foundation.

Con: could contain more information about who the Vikings were aside from the exhibits of what they would have lived in.

## United States History:

### Native Americans:

California State University, San Marcos. "Native American Documents Project." Published Reports. <http://public.csusm.edu/nadp/>.

Pro: The website wants to bring in multiple types of documents on one site.

Con: It has not been updated since 2007.

Castillo, Edward D. "Short Overview of California Indian History." California Native American Heritage Commission. <http://www.nahc.ca.gov/califindian.html>

Pro: He is well qualified to write on this topic and there is plenty of information.

Con: It is not easy to navigate the page and find exactly what you need to find.

First People. "American Indians: First People of America and Canada – Turtle Island." First People. <http://www.firstpeople.us/>

Pro: This website is very comprehensive including many tribes and has links to many articles, artwork, and photos.

Con: It is kid-friendly and does not seem very scholarly.

Prints. <http://photos.legendsofamerica.com/nativeamericans>

Pro: It is very easy to view many photos because they are organized very nicely.

Con: There is no way to know who the actual photographer of each photograph was.

Library of Congress. "Indian Removal Act." Primary Documents in American History. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Indian.html>

Pro: There is a good variety of types of sources and uses a bibliography.

Con: There is not much content and it is a little bit confusing to navigate.

National Archives. "Native American Heritage." National Archives. <http://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans/>

Pro: This website has a variety of government related laws, information and data.

Con: The specific topics are not very helpful and tend to lack in topics.

Nebraska Studies. "A Long History of Treaties." Native American Citizenship. [http://www.nebraskastudies.org/0700/frameset\\_reset.html?http://www.nebraskastudies.org/0700/stories/0701\\_0141.html](http://www.nebraskastudies.org/0700/frameset_reset.html?http://www.nebraskastudies.org/0700/stories/0701_0141.html)

Pro: The website is easy to navigate and is very interactive with plenty of links to make it reliable.

Con: There is not enough citation and bibliographic material to make it citable in a paper.

University of Houston. "Native American Voices." Digital History. [http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/native\\_voices/native\\_voices.cfm](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/native_voices/native_voices.cfm)

Pro: There is a great variety of primary sources from settlers and Indians.

Con: It is all on one page so there is quite a bit of scrolling.

University of Washington Library. "History: Native Americans." Subject and Class Guides. <http://guides.lib.washington.edu/history-nativeam>

Pro: This website has very good links to other websites and document readers of primary sources from multiple Native American regions.

Con: The site has a lack of sources from the Southeast region.

West Virginia History Center. "Native American Clashes with European Settlers." History of Native Americans in West Virginia. <http://www.wvculture.org/history/indland.html#treaty>

Pro: There is reliable information on this website and it is very interesting.  
Con: The website should link to primary documents and other sources.

## Revolution and Early Republic:

Bowman, Rebecca. "Jefferson's Religious Beliefs."  
Monticello.org.<http://www.monticello.org/site/research-and-collections/jeffersons-religious-beliefs>

Pros: This site examines Jefferson's religious beliefs in several ways, including his church attendance and religious background. There are a number of footnotes and primary sources given to back up the article.

Cons: This is a site dedicated to Monticello, the home of Jefferson. While the site shows dedication to Jefferson's life, it is also a travel information site designed to get people to visit Monticello. This could lead to biases in the information since they want to positively portray Jefferson and his home.

"The Constitution." The White House. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/our-government/the-constitution>

Pros: This site gives a detailed, easy-to-read overview of the history of the Constitution.

Cons: The site does not spend much time exploring the reasons why the Constitution was needed.

Cullen, Jim. "G.W. 2/22/32." American History Now.  
<http://amhistnow.blogspot.com/2011/02/gw-22232.html>

Pros: This site was recommended by Fea, an author I trust. This author is a history teacher and a writer of many books and essays.

Cons: This article was written to celebrate George Washington's recent birthday and is more of an inspirational post than an informative post.

"Declaration of Independence: A History." U.S. National Archives and Records Administration.[http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration\\_history.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/declaration_history.html)

Pros: This is a well-written site by the National Archives. The site is visually appealing and there are many footnotes.

Cons: The article is quite long and the font is very small.

Fea, John. "Deism and Providence." The Way of Improvement Leads Home.<http://www.philipvickersfithian.com/2011/08/deism-and-providence.html>

Pros: Having read Fea's work, I know that he is a credentialed scholar who presents information in an unbiased way. This encourages readers to digest the information and form their own conclusions.

Cons: This particular essay is rather short.

Gier, Nicholas F. "Religious Liberalism and the Founding Fathers." University of Idaho. <http://www.class.uidaho.edu/ngier/305/foundfathers.htm>

Pros: This is a credentialed author and professor from the University of Idaho. Many footnotes are provided and concise biographies of many of the founding fathers are provided.

Cons: The site is visually unappealing. There are no graphics and the background is white with plain, black writing.

Hall, Mark David. "Did America Have a Christian Founding?" The Heritage Foundation. <http://www.heritage.org/research/lecture/2011/06/did-america-have-a-christian-founding>

Pros: This is an in-depth lecture given by Hall, a professor at George Fox University. He is a well-known scholar and has written many books on this topic. Many citations and footnotes are given and the form of the written lecture is extremely organized and easy to read.

Cons: In an "About Us" section of the website, it states that the mission of the Heritage Foundation is "to formulate and promote conservative public policies based on the principles of free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense." Because of this mission, it is possible that some of the information on the website is biased toward that view.

Heyrman, Christine Leigh. "The Church of England in Early America." TeacherServe. <http://www.nationalhumanitiescenter.org/tserve/tsaboutus.htm>

Pro: This is a comprehensive website featuring many essays from history professors on religion in early America.

Con: While the writing is sophisticated the article is meant as a resource for teachers to spark discussion with younger students.

"Religion and the Federal Government." Library of Congress. <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/religion/rel06.html>

Pros: The Library of Congress runs the site so I can know that the information is reliable.

Cons: The format of the website is fairly unsophisticated and unprofessional looking.

"The Roots of Religious Liberty."  
InfoUSA. <http://infousa.state.gov/government/overview/roots.html>

Pros: This site offers a great analysis of the Constitution's First Amendment and the religious liberty granted by it.

Cons: This is a very long article that lacks organizational formatting.

## Progressive Era and World War I:

“American Leaders Speak: Recordings from World War I and the 1920 Election.” Library of Congress. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/nfhtml/nfhome.html>

Pro: Good links and information on topic.  
Con: Disorganized.

Arlington National Cemetery. “John Joseph “Blackjack” Pershing.” Michael R. Patterson. <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/johnjose.htm>

Pro: Interesting and helpful information.  
Con: A bit disorganized.

Ashland University. “Woodrow Wilson.” Teaching American History. <http://www.teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?subcategory=9>

This web site contains a variety of Wilson’s speeches and excerpts from his publications as well as online lectures from professors who have studied Wilson. The web site does not contain any biographical information on Wilson or his role in the progressive movement.

BBC History. “World War One.” <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/>

Pro: Easy to follow and good links to other articles and periods in history.

Beschloss, Michael and Hugh Sidey. “The Presidents of the United States of America.” The White House. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/woodrowwilson/>

This web site contains good general information regarding Wilson. The web site does not mention Wilson’s racism and it also contains boxes on the sidebar that allows people to tweet or like the page.

Center of Military History: United States Army. “John Joseph Pershing.” U.S. Army Center of Military History. <http://www.history.army.mil/html/faq/pershing.html>

Pro: Easy to follow. Clearly sets out facts on topic.  
Con: Website is large and has many links to other topics

Duffy, Michael. “Who’s Who-John Pershing.” A multimedia history of World War One. <http://www.firstworldwar.com/bio/pershing.htm>

The Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project. “Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924).” George Washington University. <http://www.gwu.edu/~erpapers/teaching/glossary/wilson-woodrow.cfm>

The web site has a pretty good summary of Woodrow Wilson's life and its' sources are cited. However, the web site does not mention Wilson's racism and has faint hints of bias.

General John J. Pershing History. "John J. Pershing: General of the Armies of the United States of America." <http://www.pershingmuseum.com/history.php>

Pro: Easy to read and follow.  
Con: At times disorganized.

The Great War Society. "1914-1918." <http://www.the-great-war-society.org/mission-projects.html>

Pro: Easy to follow links and good information.  
Con: I dislike the font and the site seems to be disorganized at times.

The Heritage Foundation Leadership for America. "Woodrow Wilson Asks "What is Progress?" The Heritage Foundation. <http://www.heritage.org/initiatives/first-principles/primary-sources/woodrow-wilson-asks-what-is-progress>

This site contains valuable primary source documents with introductions explaining the document. There is clear bias against Woodrow Wilson.

History Channel. "World War 1." <http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-i>

Pro: Easy to read and well done website. Organized in a clear way.  
Con: Large website so it can be easy to "get lost."

The Library of Congress. "Woodrow Wilson." The Library of Congress: American Memory. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/dec28.html>

The web site has general information on Wilson and it contains pictures, paintings, and documents that are relative to his life and links to relevant items. However, the links that are throughout the article can be distracting.

Miller Center University of Virginia. "American President: A Reference Resource." Miller Center. <http://millercenter.org/president/wilson/essays/biography/5>

Contains some great detailed information about Woodrow Wilson's presidency. It does not contain a bibliography.

The Official Web Site of the Nobel Prize. "Woodrow Wilson-Biography." Nobel Prize. [http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/1919/wilson-bio.html#](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1919/wilson-bio.html#)

Contains a lot of basic confirmation and it has a bibliography. It is biased towards Wilson.

PBS. "People and Events: John J. Pershing." American Experience. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/macarthur/peopleevents/pandeAMEX100.html>

Pro: Great information and links to other articles.

The Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library & Museum. "Woodrow Wilson Biography." Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library & Museum. <http://www.woodrowwilson.org/woodrow-wilson-biography>

The web site's biography is comprehensive and it has part of the library and its archives on the web site. However, as a Presidential Library, it will put Wilson in a positive light.

## Middle Eastern History:

Bard, Mitchell. "The 1948 War." Jewish Virtual Library. [http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/1948\\_War.html](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/1948_War.html)

Pro: This site references a number of good sources.

Con: The site does not look very professional.

"A Concise History of the 'Hagana.'" The "Hagana": The Defense Force of the Jewish Community (Yishuv) and the Zionist Movement Prior to the Establishment of the State of Israel. [http://www.hagana.co.il/show\\_item.asp?itemId=56&levelId=60321&itemType=0](http://www.hagana.co.il/show_item.asp?itemId=56&levelId=60321&itemType=0)

Pro: This site focuses on the Israeli army.

Con: It is not clear who is in charge of this site, although it is very much in favor of the Hagana.

Lorch, Netanel. "The Arab-Israeli Wars." Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. <http://www.mfa.gov.il/MFA/History/Modern+History/Centenary+of+Zionism/The+Arab-Israeli+Wars.htm>

Pro: This webpage is hosted by the Israeli government. This fact gives the site some credence.

Con: The webpage is hosted by the Israeli government. This means it presents the Israeli position. The article is also short.

"The Middle East 1916-2001 : A Documentary Record." The Avalon Project. [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject\\_menus/mideast.asp#1940](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/mideast.asp#1940)

Pro: This site provides the text of a great many United Nations documents relating to Israel.

Con: There are many documents, and most of them have no distinguishing title. It is easy to get them confused.

Office of the Historian. "The Arab-Israeli War of 1948." U.S. Department of State. <http://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/ArabIsraeliWar>

Pro: This is a government website, meaning that it is reputable.  
Con: The print is gray instead of black, making it harder to read.

Office of the Historian. "Creation of Israel, 1948." U.S. Department of State. <http://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/CreationIsrael>

Pro: This source gives insight into America's perspective on Israel's War of Independence.  
Con: There is little information regarding the events of the war in Israel.

"Proclamation of Independence." The Knesset. [http://www.knesset.gov.il/docs/eng/megilat\\_eng.htm](http://www.knesset.gov.il/docs/eng/megilat_eng.htm)

Pro: This website includes the text of The Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel and an audio recording of David Ben Gurion reading the declaration in Hebrew.  
Con: One has to do some searching on this website in order to find additional information. It is not readily available.

[Www.ourdocuments.gov](http://www.ourdocuments.gov). "Press Release Announcing U.S. Recognition of Israel (1948)." <http://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=83>

Pro: This site gives information regarding some of the events that led up to the war as well as the actions of the United Nations in response to the war. There is also a picture of Truman's document which announced that the United States recognized Israel as a nation.  
Con: The website's layout is confusing.