

Social Studies Curriculum/Textbook Review

The Nevada textbook rubric scoring system was used by the adoption committee to determine the alignment of each publisher to the Nevada Classroom Instructional Material Alignment, and Textbook and Instructional Material. If a publisher was not selected it was due to the committee scoring the textbook lower in areas of alignment to district curriculum, independent usability of the resource by the students, technology, layout and flow of the textbook, etc. It was through this process of scoring that the team selected America Through The Lens: U.S. History 1877 to the Present by Peggy Altoff, Fritz Fischer, and Fredrik Hiebert and published by National Geographic Learning/Cengage.

America Through the Lens: U.S. History 1877 to the Present: National Geographic Learning/Cengage

This textbook and resources were chosen because it incorporates high level questions and activities throughout the text, with an emphasis on Primary Sources. Examples are embedded DBQ's for each chapter and differentiated instruction options for ELL's and struggling readers. Also, the visual format is superior to all other textbooks that we reviewed. The reading level is appropriate for 11th grade students and there is a focus on building key vocabulary throughout the text.

American History: Reconstruction to the Present: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

This text was not chosen because it lacked some of the high level questions and activities found in the Nat. Geo text. Primary Source options were limited and it lacked the DBQ options found in the Nat. Geo text. The reading level seemed to remain static throughout. Visual format was severely lacking compared to the other options.

United States History: Reconstruction to the Present: Pearson

The biggest drawback of this text was the simplistic reading level that remained static throughout the book. The visual format was appealing, and there were some good online components, however it lacked the differentiated practices found in the Nat. Geo text. The reading level was just not rigorous enough given the college and career ready standards students must achieve in this day and age.