



How can I find the best social studies classroom content?

3 components to strengthen North Carolina's social studies content

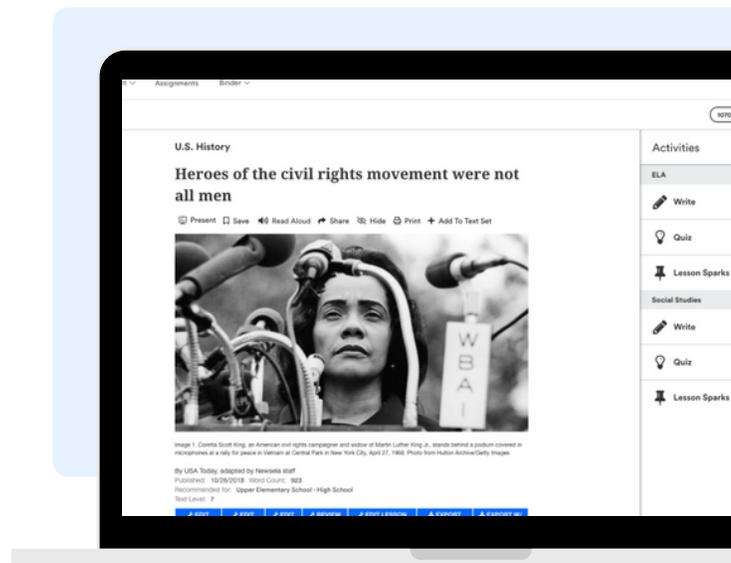
North Carolina's recently approved [2021 K-12 Social Studies Standards](#) marks a time of instructional shifts. However, this change may be tricky to keep up with, resulting in gaps in social studies core materials and a reliance on [unvetted sources on the internet](#). The need for academic recovery resources and a drive towards inquiry-based instruction to teach the full spectrum of historical events reflects the shifting needs of the state to foster a rigorous and engaging learning environment. Additionally, recent state laws such as the [Gizella Abramson Holocaust Education Act](#), mandating Holocaust education in North Carolina's middle and high public schools beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, show movement towards more culturally responsive instruction.

With [Newsela Social Studies](#), North Carolina educators can access high-quality and rigorous content that prioritizes culturally responsive lessons, sustains inquiry-based learning, and covers a variety of content genres. Teachers and administrators may want to strengthen their social studies content, but just need the appropriate resources to ensure students are ready for [college, career, and civic life](#).

Take a look at these 3 components you need to strengthen North Carolina's social studies content.

1 DIVERSE AND CURRENT PERSPECTIVES

North Carolina classrooms are becoming more diverse. The percentage of white students enrolled in [North Carolina K-12 public schools](#) has decreased between 2010-11 to 2020-21, while the percentage of Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic students has increased. Social studies instruction that reflects changing demographics keeps students engaged and the content relevant.



It's important for students of color to see themselves reflected in the curriculum because it shows them they matter. However, [North Carolina educators](#) also shared that teachers need diverse content, regardless of the makeup of the class. Why? Including [diversity in the curriculum](#) improves self-efficacy in learners and appreciation for different views.

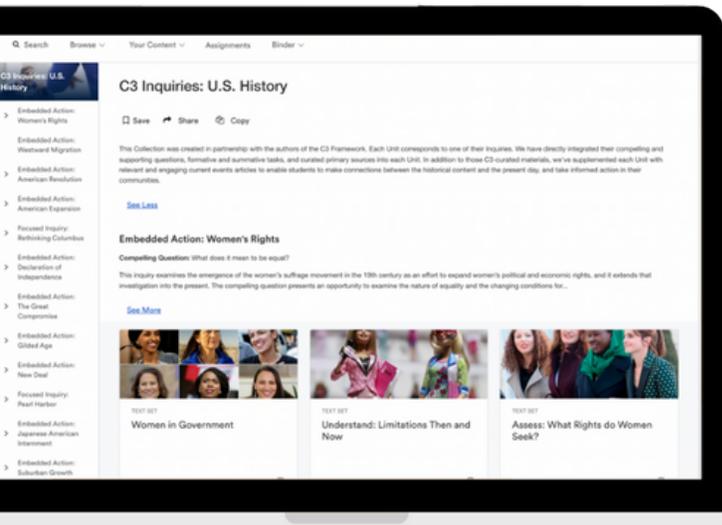
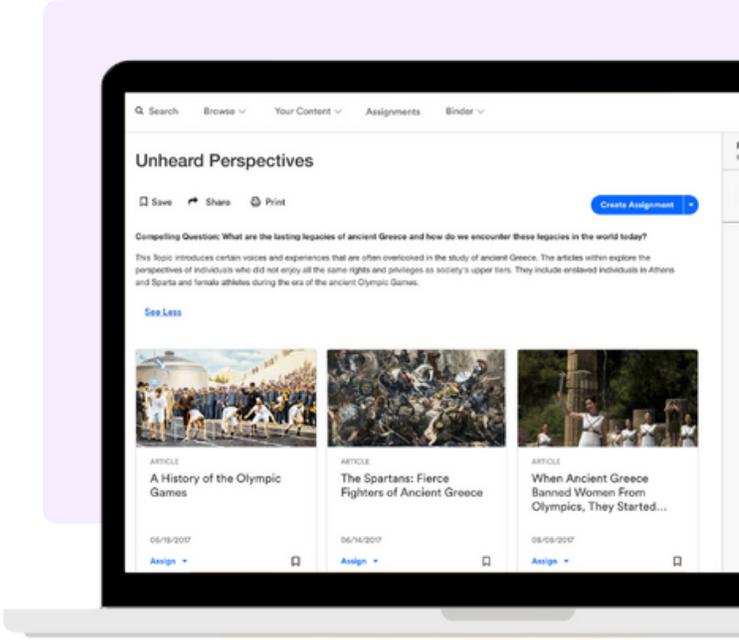
Integrating diverse and current perspectives means that existing resources contain perspectives of underrepresented communities and/or are culturally responsive for all learners. Students can examine history and the present day through multiple perspectives that answer the "why" behind the lessons and elevate non-dominant narratives. With Newsela, your social studies curriculum can remain authentic, representative, and culturally responsive, so every learner feels connected.

2

INQUIRY

It can be challenging to find content that's not only rigorous but also engages students in sustained inquiry. Inquiry-based learning pushes students to [learn something new and triggers curiosity](#). When this occurs, students become more engaged and learn to lead as they have a space to [drive their own learning](#).

For instance, districts have shared struggles with standards for American History such as [AH.E.1](#) on analyzing the American economic system. Our updated American History course deepens inquiry and engagement with our [Unheard Perspectives](#) collection, encouraging students to think through questions like, what does the government owe its citizens in times of economic crisis?



You know your district more than anyone. But with [Newsela Custom Collections](#), your social studies instructional leaders and appropriate stakeholders can partner with us to develop inquiry-based instruction.

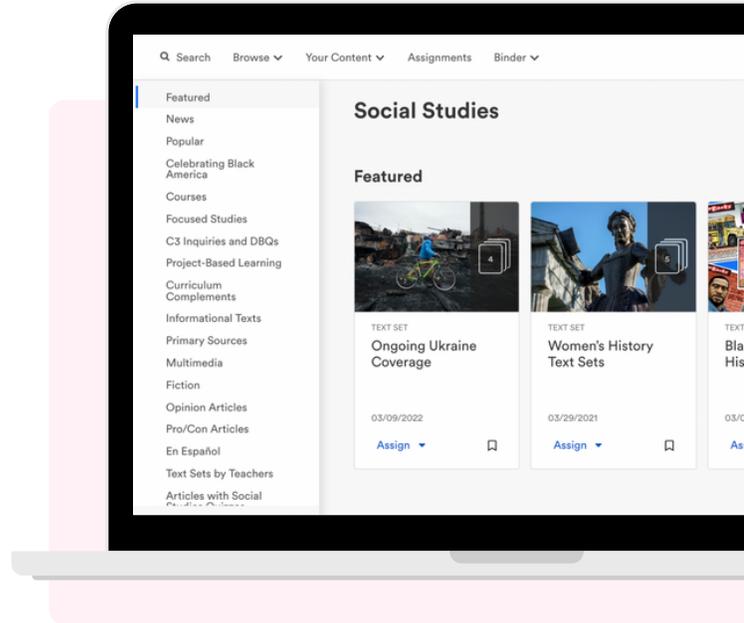
With [Newsela Social Studies](#), you will have access to authentic content that includes primary sources and supporting questions, and instructional resources aligned to the [College, Career and Civic Life \(C3\)](#) developed inquiries.

3

CONTENT COVERAGE

Instead of relying on the web to find content for your lessons, resources should cover all of the content genres or topics teachers need. Existing resources should cover certain content genres, such as primary sources, or topics, such as civics.

We understand that North Carolina teachers are lacking engaging, authentic content to meet the new state social studies standards. But don't worry. [Newsela Social Studies](#) can provide teachers with content to teach to the new standards, and save them time searching for content. We offer 20+ genres of content and dozens of curations all in one place.



The best lessons in North Carolina start with the best content.

With [Newsela Social Studies](#), North Carolina educators can strengthen their social studies content with these 3 components. Visit [Newsela for North Carolina](#) to learn more about why North Carolina educators trust Newsela for authentic and engaging content.

Interested in scheduling a solution mapping session to discuss strengthening your social studies content? Contact us at go.newsela.com/contact