



# THE CIVIL WAR

## A COMMON CORE PROGRAM

*Curriculum, Assessments, Student Literacy  
& Teacher Professional Development*

The California History-Social Science Project  
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The California History-Social Science Project (CHSSP) is proud to announce the launch of our first History Blueprint Curriculum unit, *The Civil War*. The unit:

- Aligns with both the Common Core Standards for E/LA and History, as well as the California Content Standards for History-Social Science
- Builds student literacy and critical thinking
- Includes a variety of formative and summative assessments to inform classroom instruction.
- Is research-based and classroom-tested

## WAS THE CIVIL WAR A WAR FOR FREEDOM?

To commemorate the sesquicentennial of the war, the CHSSP brought together leading historians and expert teacher leaders to design a comprehensive series of lessons that combine primary and secondary sources to engage students in investigation of questions. The unit's historical question is: "Was the Civil War a War for Freedom?" Each lesson is also organized around a question to guide student inquiry:

1. The Road to War: What Caused the Civil War?
2. Secession: Did the South Have the Right to Secede from the Union?
3. Strategies and Battles: Why Did the North Win?
4. Perspective: How Did Individual Americans Define Freedom?
5. Lincoln's Speeches: Why Did Lincoln Fight?
6. Emancipation: How Did Slaves Gain their Freedom?
7. Effects: How Did the Civil War Impact Different Groups of Americans?

## FORMATIVE & SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS

Blueprint resources include formative and summative assessments, complete with teacher keys, in order to customize instruction. Armed with data detailing their students content knowledge, critical thinking, and literacy, teachers can increase the chances of substantive learning and avoid time-consuming reteaching.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ten-hour workshops for teachers and administrators that provide an introduction to Blueprint materials, presentations by leading historians, and practical guidance by experienced teacher leaders to improve student thinking, disciplinary understanding, expository reading & writing ability, and historical content knowledge.

# DEVELOPING COMMON CORE SKILLS

All History Blueprint materials provide research-based support for student literacy as detailed in the Common Core. Embedded within the Civil War unit are strategies to improve student ability to:

- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources [Common Core Reading Standard for Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12 (RH) 1]
- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinion [Common Core RH2]
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text [RH4]
- Describe how a text presents information (e.g. sequentially, comparatively, causally) [RH5]
- Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose [RH6]
- Integrate visual information with other information in print or digital texts [RH7]
- Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic [RH9]
- Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content [Common Core Writing Standard for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects (WHST) 1]
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience [WHST4]

## THREE WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

1. Attend one of three open History Blueprint workshops (see schedule and registration link at right). Tuition: \$185. Participation will be limited to 30 teachers for each workshop.
2. Contact the CHSSP Statewide Office to schedule a customized program of Common Core support at your school or district.
3. Download The Civil War curriculum by visiting the History Blueprint website, <http://historyblueprint.org>.

## CONTACT US

The California History-Social Science Project  
University of California

One Shields Ave., 1254 SSH, Davis, CA 95616

email: [chssp@ucdavis.edu](mailto:chssp@ucdavis.edu), phone: 530.752.0572

web: [chssp.ucdavis.edu](http://chssp.ucdavis.edu) & [historyblueprint.org](http://historyblueprint.org)

registration link: <http://chssp.ucdavis.edu/programs/historyblueprint/history-blueprint-common-core-workshops>

## OPEN BLUEPRINT WORKSHOPS

CSU Fresno\* (February 2, 2013)

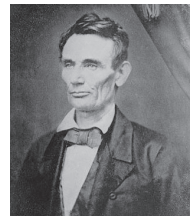
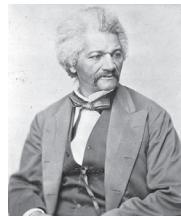
UC Irvine\* (February 9, 2013)

UC Davis\* (February 16, 2013)

UC Berkeley (February 28, 4:30 - 7:30 pm, & March 2, 9 am - 4 pm).

\*Completion of 2-hour online program required prior to 8-hour in-person workshop sessions at CSUF, UCI, & UCD.

To Register: <http://chssp.ucdavis.edu/programs/historyblueprint/history-blueprint-common-core-workshops>





# History Blueprint

The History Blueprint has been made possible by the contributions and expertise of CHSSP teacher leaders, scholars, and site leaders, as well as the guidance and support of our Blueprint Advisory Council and our institutional partners.

## BLUEPRINT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tom Adams, California Dept. of Education

Victoria Austin, UC Davis

Nancy Bier, SRI International

Kristen Cruz Allen, California Dept. of Education

Kimberly Gilmore, History Channel

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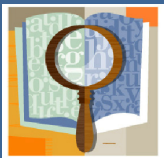
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## INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

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The History Blueprint (<http://historyblueprint.org>) is a program of the California History-Social Science Project (CHSSP), one of nine disciplinary networks that make up the California Subject Matter Projects. Headquartered in the Department of History at UC Davis, CHSSP sites are located at the following California universities: UC Berkeley, UC Davis, CSU Fresno, UCLA, CSU Long Beach and Dominguez Hills, and UC Irvine. For more information, contact the CHSSP Statewide Office: 530.752.0572, [chssp@ucdavis.edu](mailto:chssp@ucdavis.edu), <http://chssp.ucdavis.edu>. You can also like us on Facebook (search California History-Social Science Project).