# **Literacy Across the Disciplines: Social Studies**

## **Course Companion Literacy Academy on Demand**

The Course Companion is designed to allow participants to capture notes, reflections and action steps as they work through the course. Additionally, the Course Companion contains a list of all extra resources listed in the course. Each section of the Course Companion is linked to a corresponding section of the course.

### **CONSIDER THIS SCENARIO**

Mr. Janeway is an American History teacher at Central High School. Over the past few years, he has worked to supplement the textbook with primary source documents and multi-media such as music and videos. For many students, these additional resources help to make history feel more alive and interesting. However, some of his students have grown frustrated, especially when engaging with primary texts. The vocabulary and style of the texts often feel distant and antiquated to students. While they can make it through passages, sounding out most of the unfamiliar words, they still do not seem to comprehend the meaning of the primary texts or their connection to the subject matter. Mr. Janeway knows that he needs to provide support to these students, but he is unsure of what steps he needs to take to be successful.

Can you relate to the above scenario? In what ways are your challenges in literacy instruction similar or different?

**Supporting Social Studies Literacy – Video Presentation with Dr. Joshua Lawrence**

**Notes:**

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**Reflection Question:** Consider some components of the Simple View of Reading identified by Dr. Lawrence that impact reading in social studies (Background knowledge, reasoning, academic language and vocabulary, searching and sources, literacy knowledge, perspective taking).

* Which of these elements of effective reading do you commonly draw on in your classroom?
* Which elements might you begin to employ to more effectively teach your students?

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### **COURSE REFLECTION**

Which of the tools and/or strategies identified by Dr. Lawrence could you incorporate into your current instruction? What steps do you need to take?

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### **RESOURCES LISTED IN THE COURSE**

[Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, 6-12](https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/English-Language-Art/English-Language-Arts-Standards/ELA-Learning-Standards-2017.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US#page=63)

[Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects 6-12](https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/English-Language-Art/English-Language-Arts-Standards/ELA-Learning-Standards-2017.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US#page=67)

[Reading Like a Historian](https://inquirygroup.org/history-lessons) from Stanford History Education Group engages students to read like a professional historian. The lessons utilize primary texts and strategies to support reading comprehension.

[Reading and Writing in the Disciplines](https://www.learner.org/series/reading-writing-in-the-disciplines/) by Annenberg Learner: Reading and Writing in the Disciplines contains video demonstrations of classroom lessons in addition to explanations and resources to support literacy in mathematics, science, English, and social studies.