

# Reading American Horizons

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a higher education primary source book to accompany american horizons u s history in a global context fourth edition

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a two volume primary source collection expertly edited by the authors of american horizons provides a diverse set of documents that situate u s history within a global context covering political social and cultural history the nearly 200 selections including many visual documents will spark discussion in the classroom and give students a deeper understanding of america s history reading american horizons includes solid pedagogy to make the documents more accessible to students

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primary source documents complements the survey textbook american horizons

american horizons is the only u s history survey text that presents the traditional narrative in a global context the seven author team uses the frequent movement of people goods and ideas into out of and within america s borders as a framework this unique approach provides a fully integrated global perspective that seamlessly contextualizes american events within the wider world the authors all acclaimed scholars in their specialties use their individual strengths to provide students with a balanced and inclusive account of u s history presented in two volumes for maximum flexibility american horizons illustrates the relevance of u s history to american students by centering on the matrix of issues that dominate their lives these touchstone themes include population movements and growth the evolving definition of citizenship cultural change and continuity people s relationship to and impact upon the environment political and ideological contests and their consequences and americans five centuries of engagement with regional national and global institutions forces and events in addition this beautifully designed full color book features hundreds of photos and images and more than one hundred maps american horizons contains ample pedagogy including america in the world visual guides to the key interactions between america and the world global passages which feature unique stories connecting america to the world visual reviews providing post reading summaries to help students to connect key themes or events within a chapter maps and infographics that explore essential themes in new ways

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U.S. history is increasingly perceived, interpreted, and taught as part of a global historical experience. The mutual influence of change of global forces entering the United States and of American ideas, goods, and people moving out through the world has been a consistent feature since the 16th century. Although most Americans today are aware that their influence is felt abroad and are increasingly aware of the influence of events abroad on their own lives, they tend to think of these as recent developments. In fact, those earliest exchanges of beliefs and products some 500 years ago established a pattern of interaction that continues today. *American Horizons* tells the story of the United States by exploring this exchange on a global scale and placing it at the center of that story. By doing so, the authors provide a different perspective on the history of the United States, one that they hope broadens the horizons of those who read their work and are ever mindful of the global forces that increasingly and profoundly shape their lives. At the same time, *American Horizons* considers those ways in which U.S. influence reshaped the lives and experiences of people of other nations. *American Horizons* presents an opportunity to view the nation's history as more than a mere sequence of events for students to memorize, although adhering to the familiar chronological organization of the U.S. history course. Their narrative style and structure provide the flexibility of shifting emphasis from time to time to the global aspects of American history, although the story of the United States is always at the center. That story is told through the movement of people, goods, and ideas into, within, or out of the United States.

*American Horizons* offers students in American history courses the opportunity to put that story in a global context for more than 500 years. North America has been part of a global network centered on the exchange of people, goods, and ideas. Human migrations, sometimes freely, sometimes forced, have continued over the centuries along with the evolution of commerce in commodities as varied as tobacco, sugar, and computer chips. Europeans and Africans came or were brought against their will to the continent where they met, traded, fought, and intermarried with native peoples. Some of these migrants stayed, whereas others returned to their home countries. Still others came and went periodically. This initial circulation of people across the oceans foreshadowed the continuous movement of people, goods, and ideas that made the United States. Such forces have shaped American history, both dividing and unifying the nation. *American Horizons* truly stretches beyond our nation's borders, embracing the trading networks established during and after the colonial era as well as the digital social networks connecting people globally. Today, *American Horizons* tells the story of the United States by exploring this exchange on a global scale and placing it at the center of that story. By doing so, we provide a different perspective on the history of the United States, one that we hope broadens the horizons of those who read our work and are ever mindful of the global forces that increasingly and profoundly shape our lives. At the same time, *American Horizons* considers those ways in which U.S. influence has reshaped the lives and experiences of people of other nations.

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