

Robert H. Jackson Center Essay Contest

New York State Learning Standards

Social Studies Standards:

Standard 1- History of the United States and New York: Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.

Standard 2- Important ideas, social and cultural values, beliefs, and traditions from New York State and United States history illustrate the connections and interactions of people and events across time and from a variety of perspectives. Students investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant.

Standard 3- Study about the major social, political, economic, cultural, and religious developments in New York State and United States history involves learning about the important roles and contributions of individuals and groups. Students describe how ordinary people and famous historic figures in the local community, New York State, and the United States have advanced the fundamental democratic values, beliefs, and traditions expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the New York State and United States Constitutions, the Bill of Rights, and other important historic documents.

Social Studies Content taken from: *New York State K-12 Social Studies Framework* (New York State Education Department, April 2014).

Common Core Reading Standards for Literacy in History/ Social Studies

Key Ideas and Details

1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

1. By the end of grade 11, read and comprehend history/ social studies texts in grades 5-11 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

Production and Distribution of Writing:

1. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
2. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.

Grade 8 History of the United States and New York II

8.5 Great Depression: Economic and environmental disasters in the 1930s created hardships for many Americans. Amidst much debate about the appropriate role of government, President Franklin D. Roosevelt helped to create intensive government interventions in the United States economy and society.

Grade 11: United States History and Government

11.7 Prosperity and Depression (1920-1939): The 1920s and 1930s were a time of cultural and economic changes in the nation. During this period the nation faced significant domestic challenges including the Great Depression. (Standards 1, 4; Themes: ID, TCC, SOC, CIV)