The major challenges facing the world today—such as borders, climate change, and gun control—are often studied using newspaper articles, magazine articles, and bite-sized synopses. Global Issues Library changes this by providing over 500,000 pages of deep primary sources, essays, case studies, and commentary, and over 900 hours of documentaries and historical news footage.

Organized and indexed around key issues affecting society, it has much richer and intensely personal resources than available previously. Video interviews, oral histories, letters, and diaries show these issues at human scale, so students can empathize with people and populations affected. Government reports, books, and documentaries present the regional and global impact with statistical and qualitative measures. Historical coverage allows students to compare issues today with earlier examples and trace similarities and differences. Editorial oversight ensures multiple perspectives are preserved.

No other resource enables similar research or understanding.

### Thematic Coverage

The Global Issues Library will grow to cover over 180 issues, topics, and events, from the late 1780s to the present, critical to understanding global affairs today—including U.S./Mexico border issues, the Rwandan genocide, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Cuban Revolution, climate migration in the Pacific, and international nuclear disarmament.

Curated by cross-disciplinary advisory boards of scholars from around the world, the complete Library will incorporate:

- 575,000 pages, including rare, previously unpublished archival material, government documents, oral histories, and personal narratives;
- 900 hours of streaming documentaries, media footage, and other video;
- 250 case studies for the classroom;
- 3,000 photographs.

Issues and events are presented from multiple directions—personal, governmental/institutional, legal, contemporaneous, and retrospective—that demonstrate interactions and interconnectedness. Students and scholars can consider:

- How atrocities and war occur and their aftermath across borders;
- How climate change and security issues affect displacement;
- How institutions have responded to global crises;
- The triggers of revolutions and what follows after regime changes.

### Teaching Power

**Varied document types and media:**

The resource includes primary sources, oral histories, scholarly essays, conference proceedings, letters, diaries, images, plays, posters, documentaries, contextual monographs, links to websites, and other archival documents.

**Opportunities for comparative study:**

Content is organized around thematic units, such as the Cambodian genocide, the Burma-Myanmar conflict, the Iranian Revolution of 1953, and the European Union and its borders. This structure allows students to compare issues geographically, historically, or from other viewpoints.

**Interdisciplinary:**

Aligning with curricula, the Global Issues Library combines historical, political, sociological, anthropological, artistic, and human rights perspectives. It supports research and teaching in international studies, global affairs, history, political science, sociology, security studies, peace studies, law, public policy, environmental studies, and anthropology.
HOW CAN THE GLOBAL ISSUES LIBRARY SUPPORT RESEARCH AND TEACHING?

Use Case: Guide students through the genocide in Rwanda with primary-source documents, retrospective court cases and testimonies, firsthand accounts, and contextualizing monographs.

**Personal**

- Hutsu-Tutsi Rwanda: The Endless War Nova-T documentary
- “War Devastates Rwandan Refugees” Getty Images

**Contemporaneous**

- “Action Data Summary Report,” Records Concerning the Genocide in Rwanda, William J. Clinton Presidential Library

**Retrospective**

- “Acting Bishop in Rwanda Who Fought Against Genocide Wrongly Accused,” Human Rights Watch, Records Concerning the Genocide in Rwanda, William J. Clinton Presidential Library

**Institutional**

**SPOTLIGHT: THREE GORGES DAM**

Analyze the human impact of dams around the world, including the Three Gorges Dam, a massive feat of engineering that took a step toward clean energy but displaced millions of Chinese villagers and caused significant ecological changes to the surrounding area. Documentaries, contemporaneous writing, and construction records link the dam’s history to contemporary issues.

- Documentary to provide background context and introduce economic/social perspectives
- Contemporary text exploring social implications
- Records and documents about the dam construction and its ecological implications
- Historic records from other dam construction projects, such as Hoover Dam, to provide points of cross-cultural comparison
In the 20th century alone, more than 20 million people died as a result of genocide. Still millions of others endured violence, oppression, and violations of their basic human rights yet survived to tell their stories. Genocide and atrocity crimes show humanity at its worst. They lead us to question our very nature—what it means to be human. Despite their horrors, they must be documented and they must be studied. In doing so, we hope to understand them.

“To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity.”
— Nelson Mandela

Learning on this topic is often complex and labor-intensive; it’s difficult for students and scholars to find documentation that addresses the full scope of an event. Human Rights Studies Online provides comprehensive, comparative documentation, analysis, and interpretation of major human rights violations and atrocity crimes worldwide.

Organized around 30 historical and contemporary events, the resource guides users through the facts as they unfolded, the international response, prosecution of perpetrators, and steps toward rebuilding.

Resources include personal accounts, diaries and letters; personal items, such as identity cards and arrest warrants, that demonstrate the impact of policy on individuals; television footage and photographs; NGO press releases; government and court documentation, including memos, reports and court transcripts; witness testimonies; monographs, essays, and articles; documentaries and reference works; and art and literature inspired by reconciliation processes.

**Coverage includes:**

**Themes**
- Documentation of Crimes
- International Response
- Never Again Militancy
- Origins
- Post-Conflict Support
- Transitional Justice

**Events and Areas**
- Argentina’s Dirty War
- Brazil Military Dictatorships
- Burma-Myanmar Conflict
- Cambodia
- Darfur
- Kosovo War
- Ottoman Empire and Armenia
- Rwanda
- Sierra Leone Civil War
- South Africa Apartheid
- Yugoslav Wars: Bosniaks, Serbs, Croats

**Testimonials**

“Considering current events, this curated collection offers students and researchers a range of excellent primary sources and coverage extensive enough to suit historical researchers and those seeking context for more recent news events. Highly recommended.”
— CHOICE Reviews

“As compelling and challenging as it is comprehensive, Human Rights Studies Online is an immensely valuable, even unparalleled, resource not only for expanding awareness about mass atrocity crimes—genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity—and other human rights abuses but also for encouraging resistance against them. Its content can bring one to tears but inspire defiance as well.”
— John K. Roth, Edward J. Sexton Professor of Philosophy Emeritus Claremont McKenna College

**CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Military Coup In Chile In 1973**

**Operation Sofia: Documenting Genocide in Guatemala**

**Cambodia Dreams**
Eighteen years in the making, Cambodia Dreams is the stunning documentary about a Cambodian family divided by the proxy war that ravaged the country in the 1970’s and led to civil war and revolution.
Border and Migration Studies Online

In 2015, the world recorded the largest number of displaced individuals in modern history. Across Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe, the environmental, financial, political, and cultural impacts of migrant populations and borderland disputes dominate headlines. Yet in order to contextualize modern crises, it is vital to understand the historical, geographic, demographic, economic, social, and diplomatic dimensions of past border and migration issues.

"It is a fantastic commentary on the inhumanity of our times that for thousands and thousands of people a piece of paper with a stamp on it is the difference between life and death."

— Dorothy Thompson, American journalist and radio broadcaster

Coverage includes:

**Themes**
- Border Identities
- Border Disputes
- Human Trafficking
- Undocumented Migration
- Border Enforcement
- Maritime Borders and Sea Migration
- Global Governance of Migration

**Events and Areas**
- Mexico and the United States
- The Congo and its Borders
- France and its Borders
- Argentina and its Borders
- Burma and Thailand
- India and Pakistan
- Austria and Hungary

**CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS**

*Purgatorio: A Journey Into the Heart of the Border*, produced by Rodrigo Reyes, La Maroma Productions, Foprocine and RR Cinema (Surrey, England: Journeyman Pictures, 2015), is a mosaic of vignettes about the everyday struggles of those who work and live in the borderlands separating Mexico and the United States.

*Beyond la Frontera: The History of Mexico-U.S. Migration* edited by Mark Overmyer-Velazquez, fl. 2011 (New York, NY: Oxford University Press) examines the transnational and historical impact of migratory trends as they developed in Mexico and the U.S. from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.

*Barbed Wire Fences and Highway Paralleling Mexican Border*, June 2, 1919 written by Henry Jervey, 1866-1942, in Records of the War Department General and Special Staffs (RG165), of United States. National Archives and Records Administration.

*United Nations plan for the partition of Palestine*, 1947, Printed map of Palestine: Plan of Partition with Economic Union proposed by the ad hoc committee on the Palestinian Question, Bridgeman Images.
Revolution and Protest Online

From the French Revolution to the Arab Spring, revolutionary acts have forced change upon dominant social and political orders. To understand the impact and aftermath of revolutions, it is imperative to shine a historical lens on the ideologies, origins, goals, and stakeholders that drove them.

“Every war, every revolution, demands the sacrifice of a generation, of a collectivity, by those who undertake it.”

— Simone de Beauvoir, The Ethics of Ambiguity

Revolution and Protest Online enables students and researchers to investigate how revolutions, protests, resistance, and social movements have shaped and transformed the human experience globally from the 18th to 21st centuries. Content is curated around independence movements in Latin America, Asia, and Africa, as well as labor movements, gender revolutions, student movements, nonviolent revolutions, guerilla movements, and protest art. The accounts are presented to show each movement’s origins, goals, methods, accomplishments, and setbacks.

Content is centered around more than 30 historical revolutions, representing diverse time periods, regions, and topics, selected for their prevalence in syllabi and curriculum.

Coverage includes:

**Themes**
- Gender Revolutions
- Guerilla Movements
- Indigenous Movements
- Labor Movements
- Nonviolent Protest
- Protest Art
- Slave Rebellions

**Events and Areas**
- Fédon’s Rebellion of 1795
- India Civil Disobedience and Independence
- The Chinese Revolution of 1949
- The Cuban Revolutions of 1848 and 1953
- The Hungarian Revolution of 1956
- The Iranian Revolution of 1953
- The Russian Revolution of 1905

**CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS**

Situation in Iran, 1978, The National Archives, London, United Kingdom

Influence of the Cuban Revolution in Latin America, The National Archives, London, United Kingdom

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi / Universal History Archive / UIG / Bridgeman Images
Environmental Issues Online

Environmental Studies is an inherently multidisciplinary field, where solutions to real-world issues lie at the intersections of the social sciences, the biological and earth sciences, the humanities, legal studies, and policy. Today’s most pressing environmental issues require a thorough and nuanced analysis of the relationship between people and the planet.

Environmental Issues Online positions students to understand today’s socio-environmental challenges by bringing together interdisciplinary content from history, social and cultural studies, anthropology, economics, politics and policy, planning, migration studies, law, and ecology. Curated around key environmental issues and events from the 20th and 21st centuries, the collection includes archival primary sources, film documentaries, photographs, monographs, reports, and essays that link critical historical context to contemporary issues.

“Saving our planet, lifting people out of poverty, advancing economic growth... these are one and the same fight. We must connect the dots between climate change, water scarcity, energy shortages, global health, food security and women’s empowerment. Solutions to one problem must be solutions for all.”
— Ban Ki-moon

Coverage includes:

Themes
- Environmental History
- Environmental Justice
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Consumption and Waste
- Freshwater Issues
- Urban Resiliency

Events and Areas
- Three Gorges Dam
- Air Pollution in London
- DDT Case
- Global Indigenous Environmental Perspectives
- Sea Level Rise in the Pacific
- Clean Air and Clean Water Acts
- Xeriscape Design

Security Issues Online

From global terrorism threats to water insecurities wrought by climate change, national and international security issues require interdisciplinary and comprehensive analyses that pull together political, social, ideological, cultural, and historical contexts.

Security Studies Online explores international issues such as terrorism and counterterrorism, insurgency and counterinsurgency, cybersecurity, ethnic conflicts and resolution, epidemics, biological weapons, and transnational organized crime. The collection integrates documentaries and news footage, archival materials, reports, government documents, and contextualizing essays, giving students the empirical evidence for deep and comprehensive analyses of today’s most challenging threats to human security and well-being.

“There is no world of absolute, complete privacy, nor a world of complete national security.”
— Andrew McCabe

Coverage includes:

Themes
- Intelligence and Espionage
- Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency
- Biological Weapons
- Cyber-Security
- Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism

Events and Areas
- Iran U-2 Incident
- World War II and Intelligence
- Vietnam War: The Tet Offensive
- Soviet Union and International Relations
- Cold War: The Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis
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