

How to Use the Digital History Reader

Introduction

Welcome to the Digital History Reader, an online learning experience designed to enable students to develop the analytical skills employed by historians. The Reader presents key events in U.S. and European history in the format of self-contained modules. Students learn by exploring the data presented, evaluating conflicting accounts or interpretations, and developing their own conclusions based on the evidence provided.

This introduction is intended to familiarize you with the structure of the Digital History Reader's U.S. History segment. This module also discusses techniques students may find useful as they read and analyze each module.

The Introduction section within each U.S. History module establishes the central question to be examined. Let's use the question, What happened in the Boston Massacre? as a way of exploring how the Context and Evidence components of each module help us understand and interpret particular historical events.