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## AP<sup>®</sup> United States History 2019–20 Booklist

Title	Edition	Author/Editor	ISBN	Available on the Academy's Bookstore?
America: Narrative History, Brief	9th	Tindall, George Brown	978-0-393-91265-4	No
Ethnic America	1981	Sowell, Thomas	978-0-465-02075-1	No
For the Record, Volume 1	5th	Shi, David E.	978-0-393-91940-0	No
For the Record, Volume 2	5th	Shi, David E.	978-0-393-91941-7	No
Jacksonian Era	2nd	Remini, Robert Vincent	9780882959313	<a href="#">Yes – find it here.</a>
Worldly Saints: The Puritans as They Really Were	1986	Ryken, Leland	9780310325017	<a href="#">Yes – find it here.</a>
Righteous Cause: The Life of William Jennings Bryan	1994	Cherny, Robert W.	978-0-8061-2667-8	No
Computer Microphone (required)				

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2. Many laptop computers come with built-in microphones. If your student needs to purchase an external microphone, there are many affordable options. The Academy suggests the following, but other models are completely acceptable as well.
  - a. [Microsoft LifeChat LX-3000 Headset](#) with noise-cancelling microphone
  - b. [Microsoft LifeCam HD-3000 Webcam](#) with built-in microphone—students can activate the microphone without using the camera function.
3. Book synopses and potential disclaimers can be found on the following pages of this PDF.

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## *America: A Narrative History (Tindal and Shi)*

**Synopsis & Reason for Using:** This is a college-level textbook that provides a complete overview of American History from pre-colonization through current day events. The course Master Teacher chose this book to use because it is the only college-level U.S. history textbook I know of that is Christianity-friendly and does not applaud unbiblical behavior. The textbook is not openly pro-Christian, but takes a fairly balanced approach and does not include offensive content.

**Disclaimer:** The book duly tells the story of things like the homosexual rights movement, because such stories are part of the historical record. The textbook does not, however, take a moral stance on this issue.

## *Ethnic America (Sowell)*

**Synopsis & Reason for Using:** This now-classic book discusses the immigration and assimilation experiences of America's major ethnic groups. Thomas Sowell is a famous conservative economist who has also written several stellar history books (like this one). Sowell's book is heavy with statistical data, which is ideal for an emotionally charged issue like immigration. He shows that different ethnic groups have had different experiences in America. He then goes on to account for those differences, emphasizing that factors like education, positive role models, and the ethnic groups' own cultural values are most determinative.

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## *For the Record: A Documentary History (Shi)*

**Synopsis:** This volume reprints actual documents and speeches from American history. It includes things like Jonathan Edwards' explanation of the first Great Awakening revivals, George Washington's Farewell Address, the majority opinion in the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision, statements made by Malcolm X during the Civil Rights Movement, and several of Ronald Reagan's speeches. No scandalous, vulgar, R-rated, or prurient documents are included. The book does not comment on the original documents; it only reprints them.

**Reason for Using:** This book is included in our AP<sup>®</sup> U.S. History course, because it is important for students to understand, interpret, and analyze primary source documents. Students will gain a more robust understanding of American history by examining firsthand the types of documents that historians use when writing history textbooks. Learning to analyze primary source documents will help prepare students for their AP<sup>®</sup> exams and strengthen their research and writing abilities—abilities that are key to any college degree or career.

## *The Jacksonian Era (Remini)*

**Synopsis & Reason for Using:** This brief book is an overview of Andrew Jackson, the Jackson Administration's policies, and American culture during the Jackson Era. Remini is the preeminent Jackson scholar today. The book does not provide a Christian interpretation of the period, but neither is it critical of Christianity. The book says nothing that should be alarming to Christian readers.

## *Worldly Saints: The Puritans as They Really Were (Ryken)*

**Synopsis & Reason for Using:** This book was written by Leland Ryken, an evangelical Christian scholar and longtime professor at Wheaton College. It provides a broad overview of life in Puritan communities of the 1600s. Quotations from leading Puritans and excerpts from Puritan sermons enable students to hear from the Puritans themselves as they discuss recreation, families, money, and church. Ryken debunks the common mischaracterization of Puritans as grim and cranky joy-killers. He applauds their determination to apply the Word of God to every aspect of life, even while disagreeing with a few of those applications. I assign this book because students often have an inaccurate picture of the Puritans, a picture that is usually negative. *Worldly Saints* sets the record straight by telling us how the Puritans really were.

## *A Righteous Cause: The Life of William Jennings Bryan (Cherny)*

**Synopsis & Reason for Using:** This is a sympathetic biography of William Jennings Bryan. Bryan was one of the most influential national-level politicians from 1895 until his death in 1925. He was also very public about his evangelical Christian faith and determination to let the Bible rule in whatever matters it addresses. It is not an uncritical biography—even our Christian heroes have sins, warts, and blemishes—but its overall message is one of praising Bryan. It is a pro-Christianity book.

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