Local History Topics: Debate & Diplomacy in History

History happens every day and in your own backyard! In fact, Ohio played an essential role in both U.S. and World History. Below we’ve put together a list of Ohio topics for the 2022 NHD theme of Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences.

**Political History**
- 1980 presidential debates
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 1978
- *Baker v. Carr* – “One man, one vote” doctrine
- *Brown v. the Board of Education, 1954*
- The Dawes Act, 1887
- Dayton Accords, 1995
- *DeRolph v. State of Ohio*
- *Dred Scott v. Sanford*
- Equal Rights Amendment
- Florence Ellinwood Allen – First woman elected to the Ohio Supreme Court, and serve on the Supreme Court of any state
- Fugitive Slave Act of 1850
- Haudenosaunee Confederation
- *Hawke v. Smith* and Prohibition in Ohio
- Indian Removal Act, 1830
- *Jones v. Van Zandt & the Constitutional Question of Slavery*
- Joshua R. Giddings – Abolitionist, one of the founders and member of the Republican Party
- National Prohibition Act (18th Amendment), 1919-1933
- Native American Protection and Repatriation Act, 1990
- The Northwest Ordinance, 1787
- Ohio Black Codes & Ohio Black Laws, 1804 & 1807 respectively
- Ohio Civil Rights Act of 1959
- Ohio Public Accommodations Law of 1884
- Ohio Statehood, 1803
- Ohio Un-American Activities Committee

**Social & Cultural History**
- American Indian Cartography
- American Indian Movement, 1960s/70s
- Colonel Charles Young – First African-American man to achieve the rank of colonel in the U.S. Army
- The Great Lakes Exposition
- Harry C. Smith – Journalist & Legislator who championed Civil Rights in Ohio
- Jesse Owens & 1936 Berlin Olympics
- Jim Thorpe, 1912-1922
- Lane Seminary Debates
- Lockbourne Army Air Force Base (Columbus) – Tuskegee Airmen
- Natalie Clifford Barney – American playwright, poet and novelist
- Native American Boarding Schools, 1880s
- Ohio Americanization Committee during WWI
- Ohio in the Underground Railroad
  - John P. Parker
  - John Rankin
  - Levi Coffin
- Paul Laurence Dunbar – African American Poet and activist
- ‘Red Power’ – Pan Indian Identity, 1960s
- United Freedom Movement
Diplomatic History

- Bouquet’s Expedition
- French and Indian Wars, 1754-1763
- King Philip’s War, 1675-1678
- Ohio Indian Wars & Removals
- Toledo War, 1835-1836
- Treaty of Greenville, 1795
- War of 1812
- World War I
- World War II

Environmental History

- Cuyahoga River Fire
- National Environment Policy Act, 1970
- Ohio Conservancy Law
- The Wilderness Act of 1964

History of Science & Medicine

- Ella P. Stewart – First African-American female pharmacist in the U.S.
- Thomas Alva Edison – Inventor of the phonograph, motion picture camera, and the first long-lasting light bulb

Economic History

- Baldemar Velasquez – American labor union activist and co-founder of Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO.
- Building of the Miami and Erie Canal
- Cleveland Strike at General Motors – Formation of the United Auto Workers
- Coal Mining Disputes, 1873 & 1882
- Construction of the National Road in Ohio, 1825-1838
- Great Lakes Trade & Beaver Wars, 1640s

Women’s History

- Betsy Mix Cowles – Prominent educator, activist & suffragist
- Gloria Steinem – Famed women’s advocate
- Lucy Stone – Abolitionist & Suffragist
- Ohio Women’s Convention at Salem
- Victoria Woodhull – First women to be nominated for president in 1872 and member of the suffrage movement

Youngstown “Little Steel” Strike – Led to the formation of the United Steels Workers Union