

# The Vietnam War: Origins, History, and Legacies

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## STUDENT READINGS

### Part I: Wars in Vietnam

Selected Key Events	Selected Key People	Selected Key Terms
French colonialism WWII and Decolonization First Indochina War Dien Bien Phu Geneva Accords The Cold War Gulf of Tonkin	Ho Chi Minh President Truman President Eisenhower Ngo Dinh Diem President Kennedy	guerrilla war puppet government Viet Minh National Liberation Front strategic hamlets

### Part II: The U.S. War in Vietnam

bombing and use of napalm Ho Chi Minh Trail My Lai massacre Tet Offensive “Vietnamization” of the war Pentagon Papers withdrawal	President Johnson President Nixon war resisters General Westmoreland Henry Kissinger Le Duc Tho	chemical defoliant civil disobedience search and destroy POW
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### Part III: After the Wars

Third Indochina War Communist Victory (1975) Cambodian Genocide Chinese invasion (1979) World response to refugee crisis War Powers Act	Khmer Rouge Vietnamese refugees UNHCR Maya Ying Lin Iraq Veterans Against the War	war reparations re-education camps embargo entrepreneurs public opinion Vietnam Syndrome
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## PRIORITIZING UNDER-REPRESENTED HISTORIES

- Provides numerous Latino, African-American, and Indigenous voices of soldiers and anti-war activists, both female and male.
- Includes stories, viewpoints, and experiences of Vietnamese people.
- Call-out boxes throughout the unit focus on typical Vietnamese people and how they experienced the war.

## SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

A short description of each lesson can be found on the unit webpage [here](#).

Students will:

**Explore** the geography of Vietnam today as well as important locations and events in the history of the Vietnam war using Google Earth.

**Close** read primary source documents to understand how from 1945 to 1965 the war in Vietnam was a war of independence, a war of reunification, and a war of decolonization.

**Consider** the concept of historical narrative and select sources to develop an historical narrative on social change in the 1960s-1970s.

**Analyze** the role that Vietnamese and American women played in the War.

**Create** a timeline of the “Long history” of the Vietnam war.

**Explore** oral history, geography, and data sets to compare and contrast varied Vietnamese refugee experiences.

## LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

**Videos** - A [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions.

**Print Format** - This [preview](#) includes the table of contents, a reading excerpt, and a sample lesson plan.

**Digital Editions Format** - Interested in what the Digital Editions format looks like? Check out our web-based curriculum [here](#).