

Conflict and Compromise in Ohio

Notes on using this list: The suggested topics are both broad and narrow in scope. Students are encouraged to do preliminary research and determine whether or not a topic should be narrowed. Many of the suggested topics begin as conflicts, but remember, it is best to also look at the outcome or compromise that coincides with the conflict. In other words, you will want to see your topic from both sides of the issue to create a balance in your research and ultimately your project. While recent topics may seem appealing, stay away from topics that are less than 20 years old. It takes time to understand the impact of an event on history. Remember to talk to local librarians, historians, archivists and curators. They may be able to help identify local topics with great local resources. The fourth column indicates the source of the topic's description.

Topic	Year(s)	Comments	Info From:
Hocking Valley Coal Strike	1884-1885	Workers in the Hocking Valley Coal Mines struck to refuse the lower salaries the owners of the mine set into place hoping to regain at least their previous income if not better.	Ohio History Central
Ohio Rubber Strikes	1936	Akron rubber industry workers form the United Rubber Workers Union to fight against low wages, poor working conditions and almost no benefits	Ohio History Central
Andrew Johnson's Impeachment	1865-1868	Johnson served as the vice president under Abraham Lincoln. The Primary reason for the people wanting to impeach Johnson was due to his position regarding the reunification of the United States post-Civil War.	Ohio History Central
Cincinnati Courthouse Riot	1870's-1880's	During the 1870's and 1880's the Cincinnati government was known for corruption including the spoils system and jury tampering. The people of Cincinnati rebelled.	Ohio History Central
Cleveland (Hough) Race Riots	1966	One of several Ohio Civil Rights riots. The riot lasted several days and was only stopped by 2,200 Ohio National Guardsmen.	Ohio History Central
Glenville Shootout	1968	Another Ohio Race Riot as a result of Civil rights disagreements.	
Great Railroad Strike	1877	Workers on the B&O Railroad refused to let any trains run until the company paid them their most recent negotiated pay rather than the reduced wage.	Ohio History Central
Great Steel Strike	1919	Ohio Steel workers unions organized a strike to improve working conditions and gain a more fair wage in order to support their family's basic needs.	
Halloween Riot	1952	Ohio Penitentiary inmate riot Halloween 1952 began over the quality of food served to them.	Ohio History Central

Ohio Temperance Movement	1880's-1920's	Formed out of the idea that Americans were living immorally and encouraged their fellow Americans to consume less alcohol.	Ohio History Central
John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry	1859	John Brown, an Ohio Abolitionist with 21 men raided the arsenal at Harper's Ferry Intending to distribute the weapons to slave on the run for their freedom.	Ohio History Central
Little Steel Strike	1937	Struck for better working conditions wages and benefits.	Ohio History Central

May Day Strike	1886	The purpose behind this strike in Ohio and surrounding states was to pressure employers and state governments to create an 8 -hour workday.	Ohio History Central
Ohio Constitutional Convention	1802	Comprised of Northwest Territory Residents wanting Ohio to become an official state within the United States.	
Ohio Indian Wars	1780's	Disagreements and negotiations between settlers and the Native Americans over land and reservations.	Ohio History Central
Pontiac's Rebellion	1763	Chief Pontiac of the Ottawa Indians encouraged Ohio Country Natives to rise up against the incursion of white settlers.	Ohio History Central
Prohibition	1913-1933	Supporters of Temperance formed the Anti Saloon League to make the distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages illegal.	Ohio History Central
Ravenna Ohio Teacher's Strike	1970's early 1980's	The longest teacher's strike in U.S. history these teachers were lobbying for better wages and more state funding.	Ohio History Central
Saloon Keeper's Rebellion	1888	Saloon Keeper's rejection of the Dow law which raised taxes on alcohol, breweries and bars in order to limit the amount of alcohol available for distribution.	Ohio History Central
Scopes Monkey Trial	1925	Debate and disagreements over the teaching of evolution or creationism in schools.	Ohio History Central
Sieges of Fort Meigs/ War of 1812	1813	Americans refused to let the British continue control of the Northwest Territory.	Ohio History Central
Toledo War	1812-1836	Dispute between Ohio and the Michigan Territory over ownership/control over Toledo.	Ohio History Central

Tumey v. Ohio	1927	The Crabbe act, guaranteeing extra pay for law officials persecuting people for violation of prohibition served as the basis for this Supreme court case.	Ohio History Central
Oberlin College and the Admittance of Women and Blacks as Full Time Students	19th century	Opposed to slavery and advocates of equality and civil rights.	Ohio History Central/ Ohio Memory
Women's Voting Rights and the Women's Suffrage Movements	1848-1920	Women formed suffragette groups in order to ratify the constitution to give women equal rights with men including the right to vote.	Ohio History Central
Treaty of Fort Pitt "Treaty with the Delaware's"	1778	American's and the Delaware's work together against the British. Amicable relations between the Delaware's and white Americans did not last.	Ohio History Central
Gnadenhutten Massacre	1782	Breaking of the treaty with the Delaware's when white men thought them to be responsible for an attack on Pennsylvania.	Ohio History Central
Fisher Body Plant Strike	1936	GM autoworkers in Cleveland took part in a 44-day strike as part of a	Ohio History

		nationwide attack against the automaker.	Central
American Anti-Slavery Society	1833	Established to fight for the abolition of slavery	Ohio History Central
Treaty of Greenville	1795	Loose agreement with the Ohio Indians and the settlers over land for occupation in the Ohio country. This treaty was not always paid attention to and caused many violent movements between the natives and the settlers. The Treaty of Greenville also acted as a catalyst for the War of 1812.	Ohio History Central/ Book: "Ohio and it's People"
Historic Preservation Conflicts and Compromises	?	Does your town or city have a restoration project taking place? Was there a historic home or building that was going to be torn down but members of your community lobbied to save it? Were the members of your community successful?	
Battle of Buffington Island	1863	Brigadier-General John Morgan, a Confederate leader, led approximately two thousand soldiers across the Ohio River into southern Indiana. Morgan's superiors had dispatched him into northern Kentucky to cause disarray among the Union military. Morgan violated these orders by crossing north of the Ohio River, he did succeed in creating turmoil for the United States army.	Ohio History Central

Battle of Chattanooga	1863	This battle in the Civil War resulted from the defeat of the Union's Army of the Cumberland, commanded by Ohioan William Rosecrans, at the Battle of Chickamauga.	Ohio History Central
Battle of Chickamauga	1863	Union Army of the Cumberland commanded by Ohioan William Rosecrans, versus a Confederate army commanded by Braxton Bragg. The Northern army numbered approximately sixty thousand men, while the Confederates had forty-three thousand soldiers.	Ohio History Central
Beaver Wars	1650-1700	The Iroquois hunters and trappers had killed off most of the fur-bearing animals in their homeland. To satisfy their desire for more European trade items, the Iroquois turned toward the rich hunting grounds of the Ohio Country. Armed with guns, the Iroquois killed or drove out the Indians they found living here.	Ohio History Central
Environmental Conflicts and Compromise	?	Think about businesses and industries in Ohio. Did they run into problems with environmental agencies? With city codes where they wanted to build their business or factory? What about the product producing toxins and airborne pollution?	
Conscientious Objectors	?	Americans who refused to serve in the military during wartime are commonly known as conscientious objectors. Many refuse to serve in the military for religious and moral reasons. They are pacifists who do not believe in war and believe that it is immoral to kill another human being. In Ohio, the Amish and the Mennonites have been conscientious objectors. Many Quakers and Seventh-Day Adventists also oppose war. Some conscientious objectors were even	Ohio History Central

		sentenced to jail time for their failure to serve if drafted.	
Cedar Bog and the Building of U.S. 68	1972-1973	The proposed building plans for highway U.S. 68 were to interfere with the Cedar Bog Nature Preserve in Champagne County Ohio. The highway plans were redrawn in order to avoid interference with <i>"The best example of a boreal and prairie fen complex in Ohio with many rare plants and animals, excellent orchid and prairie wildflower displays."</i> According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.	Ohio Historical Society Cedar Bog Web Page/ Cedar Bog Report
Zoarites	1817-1898	A group of separatists, eventually known as Zoarites, established the small community of Zoar in Tuscarawas County. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, they had separated from the official German religion, the Lutheran Church. Separatists faced severe persecution in Wurttemberg, including confiscation of their properties and imprisonment. The group's leader, Joseph Bimeler (or sometimes spelled Joseph Bäumeler), decided to bring the Separatists to the United States. Upon arriving in Philadelphia the Quakers loaned them money and gave the separatists an offer for land in eastern Ohio where they established their community they called Zoar.	
Ohio's Capitol Chillicothe v. Zanesville	1802-1816	Ohio did choose Chillicothe as its first state capitol being as though it was becoming a center of political influence. The capitol remained there until 1810 when the government moved to Zanesville for 2 years then back to Chillicothe in 1813 until it was permanently moved to Columbus in 1816.	Ohio History Central
Choosing a Path for the Ohio and Erie Canal	1810-	The Commission hired James Geddes, an engineer who had worked on the Erie Canal in New York, to determine the best routes available for a canal from the Ohio River to Lake Erie. Geddes proposed three routes. The first ran along the Miami and Maumee Rivers in western Ohio; the second included the Scioto and Sandusky Rivers in central Ohio; and the final route included the Muskingum and Cuyahoga Rivers in eastern Ohio.	Ohio History Central
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	1976	Regulating the misuse of handling of solid and hazardous waste in landfills and groundwater contamination.	
Ohio's Crime and Punishment Laws	1815-	Ohio's ratifications concerning it's laws on crime and punishment	
Farm Labor Organization Committee (FLOC)	1969	This organization developed into a formal labor union for migrant farm workers in 1979. Its primary goal was to increase wages and benefits for all types of farm workers.	Ohio History Central
Potters versus Pottery Owners	19th Century	Conflict in East Liverpool, Ohio	

American Federation of Labor (AFL)	1886	In 1881, Samuel Gompers took the lead in organizing the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States of America and Canada. This union became the American Federation of Labor (AFL) in 1886, in Columbus, Ohio.	Ohio History Central
Kirtland Ohio and the Mormons	1830's	As the Mormons' numbers increased, many Ohioans became fearful of this group's increasing power. Many non-Mormons opposed the Mormons' practice of owning land communally. In 1838, Smith and many of his followers, facing growing hostility from other Ohioans, moved westward.	Ohio History Central
Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)	1933-1942	The Civilian Conservation Corps hired unemployed American men between eighteen and twenty-five years of age to work on various government projects in order to help them cope with the Great Depression. In Ohio the CCC employed 14,000 men and helped to develop the Muskingum Conservancy District.	Ohio History Central
Schoenbrunn: Pacifists and the Revolutionary War	1777	During the American Revolution, the Moravians and their converts hoped to remain neutral, yet both the English and the Americans refused to trust them. Facing harassment from both sides, Zeisberger and his followers abandoned Schoenbrunn in 1777.	Ohio History Central
The Role of the Courts in Ending Institutional Racism in Ohio	1851-	Ohio's original constitution, adopted in 1802, declared, "all men are born equally free." The current version of the Ohio Bill of Rights, 1851, provides for the people's "equal protection and benefit." During the Nineteenth Century, the Ohio Supreme Court dealt with several racial case issues at end of the century, however, the Ohio Supreme Court had largely abandoned the quest for a distinctive jurisprudence of equality, deferring instead to the U.S. Supreme Court's approach under the Fourteenth Amendment.	
Vallandigham and the Copperhead Movement in Ohio	1860-1864	Copperheads or Peace Democrats opposed the American Civil War and Abolition because many had family members residing further south who owned African American slaves. These people oftentimes sympathized with slaveholders, agreeing with many white Southerners that the federal government did not have the power to limit slavery's existence.	Ohio History Central

Underground Railroad Conductors and the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850	1850-	The Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 was part of the Compromise of 1850. This law required the United States government to actively assist Southern slave owners in recapturing their runaway slaves. Anyone caught hiding or assisting runaway slaves faced stiff penalties.	
Hayes-Tilden Presidential Contest	1876	During the election between Tilden and Hayes dispute arose in the Electoral College. The voting returns from South Carolina, Florida, Louisiana, and Oregon were contested. If Hayes received the Electoral College votes from these states,	Ohio History Central

		he would win the election by a single vote (185 to 184). Republican leaders negotiated an agreement with Southern Democrats in the House. The Republicans agreed to remove federal troops policing the South as soon as Hayes became president and Hayes also agreed to appoint at least one Southerner to his cabinet. This agreement became known as the Compromise of 1877.	
Construction of Highways in Ohio that Broke Up Minority Communities	19th Century -	Ex: Wilbur and Orville Wright and Paul Laurence Dunbar lived a few blocks apart near downtown Dayton, Ohio, in the late 19th century. Dunbar, who became well known as a poet, edited the city's first African American newspaper that was printed at the Wright brothers' print shop. The neighborhood blossomed into a thriving African American community, over some four decades later, the area was devastated by highway construction, disinvestments, and abandonment. As late as 1988, city plans called for demolition and clearance of the area.	
Enola Gay	1945-	Paul Warfield Tibbets, Jr, once a student at the University of Cincinnati, flew the <i>Enola Gay</i> to Hiroshima to drop the atomic bomb. Obviously the dropping of that bomb is still a controversial issue.	
The Role of Immigrants in Ohio's Rise to Industrial Power	19th Century	Due to ethnic discrimination, many of the immigrant workers were denied better paying jobs. They worked long hours for little pay on the floors of the meatpacking plants and other factories. By the mid-to-late nineteenth century, a number of Ohio cities had emerged as industrial centers. As a result, the populations of these cities had grown tremendously. Ohio became one of the wealthiest states in the United States.	Ohio History Central
Americanization Committee	WWI	Governor James M. Cox originally created the Americanization Committee to promote American values and the teaching of the English language to immigrants who wanted to become American citizens. Raymond Moley, a professor at Western Reserve College, was the chair of the committee.	Ohio History Central
Freedman's Bureau	1865-Civil War	The Freedmen's Bureau was to provide displaced persons of the South, including both whites and blacks, with assistance at the end of the American Civil War. The Freedmen's Bureau opened schools to provide newly freed African Americans and whites with educational opportunities. This agency also helped find employment for people of all races.	Ohio History Central
League for the Preservation of Citizens' Rights	1888-1889	The "League for the Preservation of Citizens' Rights" organized to protest the Dow Law during 1888 and 1889. Numerous Cincinnati residents formed the "League for the Preservation of Citizens' Rights" to protest the increased tax on alcohol created by the Dow Law.	Ohio History Central
Federated Department Stores	1929-	In 1929, several department stores combined to form Federated Department Stores. The new company's headquarters were located in Columbus, Ohio. The	Ohio History Central

		1930s were a difficult time for American businesses, as the United States was in the midst of the Great Depression. To improve sales and make its merchandise more accessible for customers, Federated Department Stores began offering credit to its shoppers in 1939.	
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