Classroom Tools for Exploring the Vibrant Culture and History of Afro-Latinos

By delving into these themes, educators can deepen classroom understanding of Afro-Latino identities and contributions while learning about ongoing struggles for racial justice and visibility.

Themes for Classroom Activities

Afro-Latino Literature and Arts
Explore Afro-Latino literary contributions, examining how authors Juan Francisco Manzano, Nicolás Guillén and others influenced perceptions of race and identity. Examine contemporary Afro-Latino artists and musicians and their role in expressing cultural pride and social activism through art and performance.

Comparative Afro-Latino Studies
Conduct comparative studies between Afro-Latino communities in different countries (*e.g.*, Brazil, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico) to better understand similarities and differences in their experiences with race, culture and identity.

Afro-Latino Religion and Spirituality
Explore the intersections between Afro-Latino identity and religion, particularly Afro-Caribbean and Afro-Brazilian spiritual practices, such as Candomblé, Santería and Vodou and their role in community identity.

Afro-descendant Communities in Contemporary Latin America
Focus on the experiences of Afro-descendant communities in contemporary Latin America, especially in the context of globalization, economic challenges and the ongoing struggle for equity.

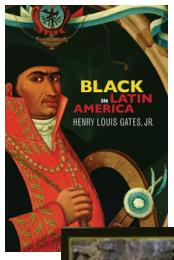
Transatlantic Connections
Investigate how Afro-Latino communities maintain cultural ties with African nations and how these connections have shaped global conversations about race and identity.

Environmental Activism and Afro-Latino Communities
Research the environmental struggles faced by Afro-Latino communities, particularly those in rural areas, who often bear the brunt of environmental degradation and climate change.

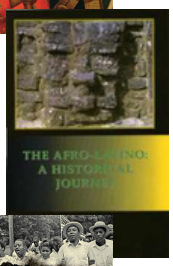
Books for High School Students

With accessible and engaging writing, these books cover various topics and perspectives, comprehensively understanding the Afro-Latino American experience. They:

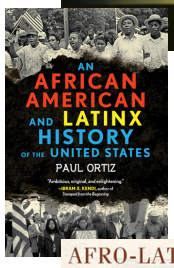
- Introduce the African diaspora in Latin America and the United States,
- Offer a broad overview of Afro-Latin American studies,
- Explore the complex history and experiences of Afro-Latino Americans,
- Highlight the shared struggles and contributions of African Americans and Latino communities, and
- Showcase the activism and resilience of Afro-Latino communities.



Black in Latin America, by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
This book introduces the African diaspora in Latin America. It is written in an engaging and accessible way. Gates takes readers on a journey to six Latin American countries, exploring Black communities' African roots and influence on their culture and history.

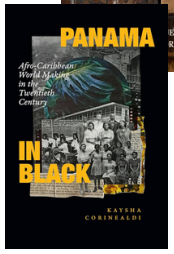


The Afro-Latino: A Historical Journey, by Leslie K. Best
This book provides an accessible introduction to the African diaspora across Latin America, emphasizing the legacy of slavery and the persistence of racial discrimination.



An African American and Latinx History of the United States, by Paul Ortiz
This book offers a unique perspective on the intertwined histories of African American and Latino communities in the United States. Ortiz explores their shared struggles for freedom, civil rights and liberation from oppression, making it a great resource for high school students to learn about the complexities of U.S. history.

Afro-Latin American Studies: An Introduction, edited by Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews
This anthology offers a broad overview of Afro-Latin American studies, covering various disciplines, such as literature, politics and social movements. It is a great resource for high school students to learn about the diverse experiences and contributions of Afro-Latin Americans.



Panama in Black, by Kaysha Corinealdi
This book delivers a well-researched case study of an important Afro-Latino community in Panama and the United States, highlighting their activism and contributions to social justice.

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