

# VFT: THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

# USER GUIDE

## OVERVIEW

The University of Georgia virtual field trip provides students with an in-depth look at both the creation of the first state-chartered institution and its founder, Abraham Baldwin. It also provides information about the school's past struggles with social issues such as racial and gender discrimination. We recommend students explore this virtual field trip after they have read through page 221 of *The Georgia Studies Book: Our State and Our Nation*. Teachers could use this activity as a whole-group experience, provide class time for students to explore the field trip at their own pace, or assign it as homework in a flipped classroom setting.

## FEATURES

- **video** footage of interviews with a retired professor of history from the University of Georgia and a tour of the modern UGA campus
- historical and modern **photographs** of the school, students, and more
- **360° experience** of Sanford Stadium
- biographical information about the university's founders and notable alumni
- **timelines** of significant events in the university's history

## GEORGIA STANDARDS

**SS8H4** Explain significant factors that affected westward expansion in Georgia between 1789 and 1840.

- a. Explain reasons for the establishment of the University of Georgia, and for westward movement of Georgia's capitals.

### Key figures:

Henry Grady (SS8H7a)

Eugene Talmadge (SS8H8c)

Richard Russell (SS8H9c)

## DISCUSS

1. Discuss Abraham Baldwin's role in the establishment of the University of Georgia.
2. Even though the University of Georgia (UGA) charter was approved by Georgia's General Assembly in 1785, why did students not attend classes until 1801?
3. In the video *Breaking Racial Barriers*, Dr. F. Nash Boney, retired UGA history professor, stated that UGA failed to thrive after World War II because of its refusal to integrate. Speculate how this decision to remain segregated prevented the university from progressing.

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4. The University of Georgia was founded as a state-funded institution under its charter. The cost of tuition for most state universities is significantly less than that for private universities. Will this difference affect your decision when selecting a college or university? What other factors might impact your choice?

### EXTEND

1. The University of Georgia and the University of North Carolina both claim to be the first state-sponsored public university in the United States. With which school do you agree and why? In a persuasive paragraph, explain and justify your answer using supporting facts and specific details.
2. The University of Georgia was formed after Georgia's General Assembly approved a charter on January 27, 1785. Write a charter detailing your ideal public university. Be sure to include the name, location, mascot, and colors of your university, what undergraduate programs will be offered and the ideal number of students, who will serve on the university's board of trustees, the name and qualifications of the university's president, three laws that all students and faculty members must follow and any associated disciplinary procedures, four academic organizations, four social organizations (e.g., fraternities, sororities, religious organizations, clubs, etc.), sponsored athletic programs (remember to consider both male and female athletes), the cost of tuition per year, and any available scholarships. Once you have outlined your charter, draw a map that represents your university's campus including academic buildings, organizational meeting places, and athletic venues.