

KnightLab Timeline

[Click to schedule a meeting with the DITI Team](#)

KnightLab Timeline is a user-friendly web browser tool that allows people to create interactive timelines. Each marker on the timeline can present text, images, videos, and soundbites. The goal is to tell a story with these markers, guiding your audience through a temporal narrative.

KnightLab Timeline: Click the Embedded Links

- [KnightLab Timeline site](#)
- [KnightLab support forum](#)
- [Tutorial video](#)
- [Copy of the template spreadsheet for Timeline](#): (Follow the prompt to make a copy)
- [Example spreadsheet](#): (from the Timeline website)
- [Example spreadsheet that utilizes various features](#)

Components of an effective Timeline:

- Strong, **coherent content**.
- A **clear series of events and periods** (pick stories with an overt chronological narrative!)
- An overarching **theme** relating the events to one other.
- **Media elements** that help illustrate and support the narrative.

Questions to Consider

- What **story** am I trying to tell? What is the **message** I want to convey?
- What are the **main events, processes, points, and periods** in time that I want to highlight?
- Who is my **audience**?
 - How can I most effectively write for this audience?
 - What kinds of information does that audience need?
- How can I best **tell this story**?
 - What kinds of **media** will I need? (photographs, text, maps, videos, etc.)

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- Which items will require additional detail or **context**?
- How can I integrate a **balance** of text, images, and other media forms?

Timeline Examples

- Explore the life of Whitney Houston through key dates and events: [Whitney Houston 1963-2012](#)
- Follow the relationship between the IRS and other political and economic entities (the timeline is embedded in the website; scroll down to find it): [The decline of IRS Nonprofit regulation](#)
- Trace the development of computers and their increased accessibility, showing the influences of various people and agencies: [Revolutionary User Interfaces](#)

Design customization

- You can override the existing Timeline theme (font size, font-style etc.) by following the instructions here: [Overriding Timeline Style](#).
- You can pick codes for HTML colors [here](#) (copy-paste the number and the pound sign).