



Grade Level: 10-12

Content: World Wars

Year: 2022-23

Course Description/Rationale

This course is an in-depth study of the time period 1914-1945, with a focus on World War 1, the interwar period, and World War 2. This class is a blend of American and World History. Topics studied will include: causes of World War 1, the Treaty of Versailles, the rise of Totalitarianism following World War I, the Munich Conference, the Battle of Britain, Pearl Harbor, D-Day, the Holocaust, and many other topics. Major battles of World War 2 will be studied, although military strategy is not the primary focus of this course. The class will finish with an analysis on the end of the war, and how the post World War 2 order changed the global balance of power. (1 HS credit)

Name of Unit	Time Frame	Essential Learning Target	Standard(s)
Pre-1914 Europe	1 Week	Describe the balance of power in pre-WWI Europe.	SS-WH.9-12.13. SS-WH.9-12.14. SS-WH.9-12.18.
Causes of World War I	1 Week	Identify the main causes of World War I.	SS-WH.9-12.16. SS-WH.9-12.17. SS-WH.9-12.18. SS-WH.9-12.20. SS-WH.9-12.21. SS-WH.9-12.25.
World War I Tactics and Strategies	1 Week	Describe the nature of fighting and weapons used in World War I.	SS-WH.9-12.23. SS-WH.9-12.26.
Treaty of Versailles	1 Week	Identify the main components of the Treaty of Versailles (1919) and explain how the treaty would create problems in the future.	SS-WH.9-12.18. SS-WH.9-12.20. SS-WH.9-12.23.
Rise of Dictators	2 Weeks	Explain the conditions that led to the rise of dictatorial governments in Europe in the years after World War I.	SS-WH.9-12.13. SS-WH.9-12.14. SS-WH.9-12.15. SS-WH.9-12.16. SS-WH.9-12.17. SS-WH.9-12.18. SS-WH.9-12.20. SS-WH.9-12.23. SS-WH.9-12.24. SS-WH.9-12.25.

Early Years of World War II	3 Weeks	Identify the major events of World War II from 1939-1941.	SS-WH.9-12.21.
The United States in World War II	2 Weeks	Explain how Americans responded to Pearl Harbor and how American society was transformed to fight World War II.	SS-WH.9-12.18. SS-WH.9-12.19. SS-WH.9-12.22. SS-WH.9-12.24.
Major Battles of World War II	2 Weeks	Discuss the importance of major battles of World War II.	SS-WH.9-12.25. SS-WH.9-12.26.
The Holocaust	2 Weeks	Understand the evil and horror of the Holocaust.	SS-WH.9-12.17. SS-WH.9-12.19.
Origins of the Cold War	3 Weeks	Explain how the end of World War II set the stage for the emerging Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union.	SS-WH.9-12.14. SS-WH.9-12.15. SS-WH.9-12.18. SS-WH.9-12.20. SS-WH.9-12.23.