

## World War I

### California Content Standards:

#### 10.5 Students analyze the causes and course of the First World War.

1. Analyze the arguments for entering into war presented by leaders from all sides of the Great War and the role of political and economic rivalries, ethnic and ideological conflicts, domestic discontent and disorder, and propaganda and nationalism in mobilizing civilian population in support of “total war”.
2. Examine the principal theaters of battle, major turning points, and the importance of geographic factors in military decisions and outcomes(e.g. topography, waterways, distance, climate).
3. Explain how the Russian Revolution and the entry of the United States affected the course and outcome of the war.
4. Understand the nature of the war and its human costs(military and civilian) on all sides of the conflict, including how colonial peoples contributed to the war effort.
5. Discuss human rights violations and genocide, including the Ottoman government’s actions against Armenian citizens.

#### 10.6 Students analyze the effects of the First World War.

1. Analyze the aims and negotiating roles of world leaders, the terms and influence of the Treaty of Versailles and Woodrow Wilson’s Fourteen Points, and the causes and effects of United States’s rejection of the League of Nations on world politics.
2. Describe the effects of the war and resulting peace treaties on population movement, the international economy, and shifts in the geographic and political borders of Europe and the Middle East.
3. Understand the widespread disillusionment with prewar institutions, authorities, and values that resulted in a void that was later filled by totalitarianism
4. Discuss the influence of World War I on literature, art, intellectual life in the West(e.g. Pablo Picasso, the “lost generation” of Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway).

#### 10.7 Students analyze the rise of totalitarian governments after the First World War.

1. Understand the causes and consequences of the Russian Revolution, including Lenin’s use of totalitarian means to seize and maintain control(e.g. the Gulag)
2. Trace Stalin’s rise to power in the Soviet Union and the connection between economic policies, political policies, the absence of a free press, and systematic violations of human rights(e.g. the Terror Famine in Ukraine)

### HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE ANALYSIS SKILLS

#### Chronological and Spatial Thinking

1. Students compare the present with the past, evaluating the consequences of past events and decisions and determining the lessons that were learned.
2. Students analyze how change happens at different rates at different times; that some aspects can change while others remain the same; and understand that change is complicated and affects not only technology and politics but also values and beliefs.
3. Students use a variety of maps and documents to interpret human movement, including major patterns of domestic and international migration, changing environmental preferences and settlement patterns, the frictions that develop between population groups, and the diffusion of ideas, technological innovations, and goods.
4. Students relate current events to the physical and human characteristics of places and regions.

### **Historical Research, Evidence, and Point of View**

1. Students distinguish valid arguments from fallacious arguments in historical interpretations
2. Students identify bias and prejudice in historical interpretations.
3. Students evaluate major debates among historians concerning alternative interpretations of the past, including an analysis of authors' use of evidence and the distinctions between sound generalizations and misleading oversimplifications.
4. Students construct and test hypotheses; collect, evaluate, and employ information from multiple primary and secondary sources; and apply it in oral and written presentations.

### **Historical Interpretation**

1. Students show the connections, casual and otherwise, between particular historical events and larger social, economic, and political trends and developments.
2. Students recognize the complexity of historical causes and effects, including the limitations of determining cause and effect.
3. Students interpret past events and issues within the context in which an event unfolded rather than solely in terms of present day norms and values.
4. Students understand the meaning, implication, and impact of historical events while recognizing that events could have taken other directions.
5. Students analyze human modifications of a landscape, and examine the resulting environmental policy issues.
6. Students conduct cost/benefit analyses and apply basic economic indicators to analyze the aggregate economic behavior of the U.S. economy.

Read Spielvogel pp. 710-748

Origins of WWI

Germany v. Great Britain

arms race

Kaiser Wilhelm II seeks to build modern navy

Britain responds costing money and building tensions

economics - colonies

Germany wished to catch Britain

Purpose of having navy

militarism

belief that war is necessary and good

no major conflicts in Europe since 1871

Alliances

agreements amongst nations

offensive, defensive, economic

most are secret agreements

causes paranoia

Triple Alliance

Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy

Triple Entente

Great Britain, France, Russia

Balkans - "powder keg of Europe"

June 28, 1914 - Gavrilo Princip assassinates Austrian Archduke Ferdinand

- Austria demands Serbia pay retribution
    - justice, money, and land
  - Serbia doesn't meet all conditions
  - Russia backs Serbia
- Austria gets "blank check" from Germany
  - promises any and all help both political and military
- Austria issues ultimatum to Serbia
- Russia mobilizes for war
- Aug 1 - Germany declares war on Russia

WWI AKA "The Great War"

- Schlieffen Plan
  - designed to save Germany from two front war
    - through Belgium
    - Belgian neutrality guaranteed by Britain
- Aug 4 - Great Britain declares war on Germany
- Battle of the Marne - Fall - 1914
  - Germany almost succeeds in capturing Paris
  - British reinforcements and Russians stop Germans
  - "Race to the Sea"
    - both armies attempt to outflank each other to Atlantic
  - lines stabilize in late 1914
- Turkey and Bulgaria join Central Powers
- Italy joins Allies

Trench Warfare

- New weapons change the nature of warfare
- led to the development of trench warfare
  - machine guns
    - capable of firing up to 600 rounds/minute
  - poison gas
    - mustard gas/chlorine introduce chemical warfare
  - airplanes
    - scouting, bombing
  - submarines
    - U-boat - German submarines used to cut off Britain
    - convoys organized to protect merchant shipping
  - tanks
    - introduced at end of the war

Total Warfare

- idea that entire societies must be mobilized to win wars
  - civilians were heavily affected
    - factories were brought under gov. regulation
    - rationing of goods was introduced
  - propaganda
    - gov. controlled access to information
- 1916 - Verdun
  - last German offensive

- five months of battle
- 300,000 dead on both sides

#### Somme

- British offensive
- one week artillery bombardment
- 3 months long
- 500,00 dead on both sides

#### Russia

- ill-equipped for the war
- little industry and poor transportation/military production
- internal strife causes problems(see later in chapter)
- Russia drops out of the war in 1917
- Treaty of Brest Litovsk

#### America enters the war

- Pres. Wilson initially declares American neutrality
- US still traded with combatants
- May 7, 1915 - U-boat sinks the HMS Lusitania
- 1100 killed including 128 Americans
- Sussex Pledge - Germany promises to stop sub attacks
- Americans end up trading primarily with Allies
- British navy blocked German ports
- 1917 - Germany resumes unrestricted submarine warfare
- American businesses pressure Wilson to enter war on Allied side
- were concerned war loans would not be paid
- Feb, 1917 - Zimmerman telegram
- Germany offered Mexico Southwest of US
- April 2, 1917 - US declares war on Germany
- Wilson must set goals for war
- “war to end all wars”
- nobody would ever fight again
- “war to make the world safe for democracy”
- est. moral superiority

#### Americans must build an army

- General John “BlackJack” Pershing
- slowly builds forces in Europe

#### August, 1918 - Amiens

- largest American and tank battle in the war

#### End of the War

- Nov 9, 1918 - Kaiser William II abdicates
- armistice signed
- temporary cease-fire

#### Wilson’s Fourteen Points

- end to secret alliances
- freedom of seas and trade
- self-determination
- League of Nations

Britain and France want revenge and refuse to cooperate

Treaty of Versailles

France regained Alsace-Lorraine, mining rights to Saar valley

Poland recreated, Balkans and Eastern Europe reorganized

colonies given to other nations as mandates

limited army, no air force, no submarines, Rhineland demilitarized

\$31 billion in reparations

US does not ratify treaty

WWI lead to the end of the Romanov's

War again rallies Russian people

lack of supply and success hurts Russians

Rasputin

faith - healer for Alexis

much influence with royal court

gives impression of royal weakness

assassinated in 1916 by royal court members

1917 - food in short supply

Feb - riots force Nicolas to abdicate

No real government

provisional government

Duma works on constitution

Soviets

elected worker councils

St. Petersburg is largest soviet

Kerensky

leader of provisional gov.

member of both Duma and St. Pete's soviet

chose to continue the war

hoping to secure loans, dooms gov. to failure

Germans sneak Lenin back into Russia

armored train from Switzerland

Bolsheviks small, but organized

Lenin begins campaigning for support

"Peace, Land, and Bread"

Gen. Kornilov tries military takeover

Kerensky arms Bolsheviks to save revolution

helped reputation dramatically

October 24, 1917, Bolsheviks seize power

Lenin overturns Nov. elections

Bolsheviks had lost

creates dictatorship of proletariat

Treaty of Brest Litovsk spreads unrest

gives away 1/4 land, 1/3 production

Civil War ensues

lasts from 1918 - 1920

"White" vs. "Red" Army

Whites

non-Bolsheviks  
helped by West

Reds

Bolsheviks  
led by Leon Trotsky  
builds large army

Lenin orders death of remaining Romanovs

Reds win when Lenin gives peasants land

Solidifying Power

Kronstadt revolt - 1920

sailors who supported revolution revolt against tyranny  
Lenin orders them brutally put down

Lenin attempted to implement Marxist economics  
disaster for the economy

New Economic Policy -1921

privatization of some businesses  
reintroduces currency

Birth of Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Lenin renames Bolsheviks Communist Party

Moscow becomes new capital

Comintern - est. to promote international communism

Lenin dies in 1924 after 3<sup>rd</sup> stroke

Struggle to replace Lenin

Leon Trotsky

early party leader  
eloquent speaker, led Red Army  
most likely replacement

Joseph Stalin

party secretary  
Stalin works behind the scenes against Trotsky  
accuses Trotsky of treason  
1929 - Trotsky exiled to Turkey  
later assassinated by Stalin's agents in Cuba

Stalin becomes dictator

sets up command economy(1928)

all decisions made from central gov.

Five Year Plans

infrastructure and military investment, no consumer production  
everything must be done for the "good of the state"

industrialization explodes

1928-1938 - 4 to 18 million tons of steel production

agriculture

Stalin est. collective farms  
peasants resist

USSR becomes totalitarian state

dictator controls all aspects of life  
Stalin kills 30 million Russians  
    Political, military enemies, peasants, workers, minorities  
Religion banned in USSR  
reorganizes education  
Most Russian people live in fear

#### Post-War

Weimar Republic created in Germany  
    no democratic tradition  
    burdened by treaty  
        people blamed gov. for problem  
        hyperinflation  
            destroys confidence in gov.  
1924 - Dawes Plan  
    US gives loans to Germany to stabilize economy  
1928 - Kellogg-Briand pact - 128 nations renounce war