

# The 20th Century Since 1945 (1945-Today)

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Generic Course**  
Time Period: **4th Marking Period**  
Length: **7 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **The 20th Century Since 1945: Modern World Issues**

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For almost a half century after World War II, the Cold War loomed over Europe—pitting the West, led by the United States, against the Soviet Union. Despite the constant threat, Western Europeans and their North American allies enjoyed their most rapid and sustained economic growth since the Industrial Revolution. The Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites also made efforts to rebuild after the war but were held back by Stalin's repressive policies. In the 1980s, efforts at major reform unleashed forces that brought the collapse of communism and an end to the Soviet Union.

At the same time that the Cold War was unfolding, a global independence movement was reshaping the world. Colonial rulers gradually relinquished their hold over their overseas possessions. As independence celebrations ended, new countries and governments were faced with the task of nation-building.

Many areas of the world have faced regional conflicts since the end of World War II. Fighting broke out in several areas of Africa as colonies gained independence, and in some African regions internal conflicts continue today. Ethnic and political conflicts have affected many parts of the world.

Development is the process of building a stronger and more advanced economy and creating higher living standards. The nations working toward development in Africa, Asia, and Latin America are known collectively as the developing world. Each of these nations faces challenges of development as each tries to create better lives for its citizens.

Today's world is a culmination of the events and developments of the past centuries. Technological and economic changes have created new links between people around the globe. These connections worldwide have also made people and societies more aware of the challenges that face the world today and in the years to come.

## **Transfer**

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to describe how the Cold War developed, how it shaped political and economic life in individual nations and how it ended.

Students will be able to independently use their learning to analyze how former European colonies gained

independence, and the challenges they faced after independence.

Students will be able to independently use their learning to examine why deadly conflicts have plagued some parts of the world.

Students will be able to independently use their learning to illustrate the challenges faced by nations of the developing world and outline the steps they have taken to meet those challenges.

Students will be able to independently use their learning to examine and evaluate the major issues facing the world today.

## **Meaning**

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## **Understandings**

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Students will understand...

- the military and political consequences of the Cold War in the Soviet Union, Europe and the United States
- how the United States, Western Europe and Japan achieved economic prosperity and strengthened democracy during the Cold War years
- the advances communism made in East Asia
- the causes and effects of war in Southeast Asia
- the causes and effects of the end of the Cold War
- the consequences of independence in South and Southeast Asia as well as Africa for the region and the world
- the impact of natural resources along with political divisions and autocratic rule on the Middle East
- the reasons why ethnic and religious conflicts have divided some nations

- how nations of the developing world tried to build better lives for their people
- how globalization affects economies and societies around the world
- how poverty, disease, and environmental challenges affect people in the world today
- the threats to national and global security faced by nations today
- the impacts of advances in science and technology on the modern world

## **Essential Questions**

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Students will keep considering...

-How decolonization, the emergence of new independent nations, and competing ideologies changed the political landscape and national identities of those involved, and sometimes included military confrontations and violations of human rights.

-How international migration and scientific and technological improvements in the second half of the 20th century resulted in an increasingly global economy and society that are challenged by limited natural resources.

## **Application of Knowledge and Skill**

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### **Students will know...**

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Students will know...

- how the Cold War developed in the Soviet Union, Europe and the United States
- the main features of the nuclear arms race
- the ways in which life changed during the Cold War years

- the relationship between economic growth and trade in Western Europe and Japan
- the influence and impact of the Korean War
- the influence and impact of the Vietnam War
- how new Soviet policies led to the breakup of the Soviet Union
- the events marking the end of the Cold War
- how religious and ethnic diversity posed challenges for South Asian nations after independence
- the obstacles slowing progress for democracy in some African nations
- the impact of the Islamist movement on politics in the Middle East
- why ethnic/religious diversity led to conflicts in some areas
- the challenges faced by many developing nations
- the main characteristics of economic interdependence
- the benefits and costs of globalization
- the environmental challenges of the 21st century
- the growing threat of radical terrorist organizations
- the impact of medicine, science and technology on modern life

### **Students will be skilled at...**

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Students will be skilled at...

- analyzing the roles of the United States and the Soviet Union in the Cold War
- predicting the threat posed by nuclear weapons to the global community
- outlining how Western Europe and Japan rebuilt their nations and economies after WWII
- analyzing China's communist revolution
- interpreting the changes that transformed Eastern Europe post WWII
- assessing how communism declined worldwide resulting in the US as the sole superpower
- analyzing why independence brought partition to South Asia
- interpreting the challenges faced by South and SouthEast Asia along with Africa after independence

- appraising the conflicts over resources and religion in the Middle East
- interpreting the complex causes of ethnic and religious conflicts and their impacts
- examining how development is changing patterns of life in the developing world
- characterizing social, political and economic trends in Europe after the Cold War
- determining the ways in which the global community is increasingly interdependent
- evaluating the causes and effects of global poverty, disasters and disease
- predicting the growing threat of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons
- analyzing the impact of terrorist groups and their tactics
- interpreting how advances in medicine, science and technology have shaped life today
- predicting how European exploration led to the Columbian Exchange
- deducing the impact of mercantilism on European and colonial economies

## **Academic Vocabulary**

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- Interdependence
- Multinational Corporation
- Terrorism
- Nonaligned Countries
- Welfare State
- Deficit
- Dissident
- Genocide
- Commune
- Gross Domestic Product
- Domino Theory
- Pacific Rim
- Intifada
- Apartheid

## **Learning Goal #1**

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SWBAT investigate how the Cold War developed, how did it shaped the political and economic life in individual nations, and how it ended

the USSR resulted in a cold war, the formation of new alliances (e.g., NATO, SEATO, Warsaw Pact), and periodic military clashes (e.g., Korean War, conflicts in the Middle East).

- SOC.6.2.12.A.5.b Analyze the structure and goals of the United Nations and evaluate the organization's ability to solve or mediate international conflicts.
- SOC.6.2.12.A.6.b Analyze the relationships and tensions between national sovereignty and global interest in matters such as territory, economic development, use of natural resources, and human rights.
- SOC.6.2.12.B.5.a Determine the impact of geography on decisions made by the Soviet Union and the United States to expand and protect their spheres of influence.
- SOC.6.2.12.B.5.b Analyze the reasons for the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and evaluate the impact of these events on changing national boundaries in Eastern Europe and Asia.
- SOC.6.2.12.C.5.a Explain how and why Western European countries and Japan achieved rapid economic recovery after World War II.
- SOC.6.2.12.C.5.b Compare and contrast free market capitalism, Western European democratic socialism, and Soviet communism.
- SOC.6.2.12.C.5.c Assess the impact of the international arms race, the space race, and nuclear proliferation on international politics from multiple perspectives.

## **Target 1: The Cold War**

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SWBAT understand how the two sides faced off in Europe during the Cold War; understand how the Cold War spread globally; compare & contrast the USSR and USA in the Cold War; Explain how Europe & Japan were rebuilt after WWII; Analyze China's communist revolution; Explain how war came to Korea and how the two Koreas followed different paths; describe the events in Indochina after WWII, Learn how American entered the Vietnam War and how it the war ended; Understand how the USSR declined; Analyze changes that transformed Eastern Europe, Analyze how communism declined worldwide and the USA was became the sole superpower

- SOC.6.2.12.A.5.a Explain how and why differences in ideologies and policies between the United States and the USSR resulted in a cold war, the formation of new alliances (e.g., NATO, SEATO, Warsaw Pact), and periodic military clashes (e.g., Korean War, conflicts in the Middle East).
- SOC.6.2.12.B.5.a Determine the impact of geography on decisions made by the Soviet Union and the United States to expand and protect their spheres of influence.
- SOC.6.2.12.B.5.b Analyze the reasons for the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and evaluate the impact of these events on changing national boundaries in Eastern Europe and Asia.
- SOC.6.2.12.C.5.a Explain how and why Western European countries and Japan achieved rapid economic recovery after World War II.
- SOC.6.2.12.C.5.b Compare and contrast free market capitalism, Western European democratic socialism, and Soviet communism.
- SOC.6.2.12.C.5.c Assess the impact of the international arms race, the space race, and nuclear proliferation on international politics from multiple perspectives.

## **Learning Goal #2**

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SWBAT examine what are major issues facing the world today, including both developed and developing

## nations

SOC.6.2.12.A.5.d	Analyze the causes and consequences of mass killings (e.g., Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Sudan), and evaluate the responsibilities of the world community in response to such events.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.a	Evaluate the role of international cooperation and multinational organizations in attempting to solve global issues.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.b	Analyze the relationships and tensions between national sovereignty and global interest in matters such as territory, economic development, use of natural resources, and human rights.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.c	Analyze why terrorist movements have proliferated, and evaluate their impact on governments, individuals, and societies.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.d	Assess the effectiveness of responses by governments and international organizations to tensions resulting from ethnic, territorial, religious, and/or nationalist differences.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.d	Analyze post-independence struggles in South Asia, including the struggle over the partitioning of the subcontinent into India and Pakistan, as well as later tensions over Kashmir.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.e	Assess the role of boundary disputes and limited natural resources as sources of conflict.
SOC.6.2.12.B.6.a	Determine the global impact of increased population growth, migration, and changes in urban-rural populations on natural resources and land use.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.d	Determine the challenges faced by developing nations in their efforts to compete in a global economy.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.e	Assess the reasons for and consequences of the growth of communism and shift toward a market economy in China.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.f	Assess the impact of the European Union on member nations and other nations.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.g	Evaluate the role of the petroleum industry in world politics, the global economy, and the environment.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.b	Compare and contrast demographic trends in industrialized and developing nations, and evaluate the potential impact of these trends on the economy, political stability, and use of resources.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.c	Assess the role government monetary policies, central banks, international investment, and exchange rates play in maintaining stable regional and global economies.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.a	Relate the lingering effects of colonialism to the efforts of Latin American, African, and Asian nations to build stable economies and national identities.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.d	Analyze how feminist movements and social conditions have affected the lives of women in different parts of the world, and evaluate women's progress toward social equality, economic equality, and political equality in various countries.

## **Target 2: Lingering Effects of Colonialism**

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SWBAT understand how independence brought new challenges to South Asia; Explain political & economic contrasts in Southeast Asia; describe how Africa's colonies gained independence; explain the regional conflicts in the Middle East over resources & religion

SOC.6.2.12.A.5.c	Explain how World War II led to aspirations for self-determination, and compare and contrast the methods used by African and Asian countries to achieve independence.
SOC.6.2.12.A.5.d	Analyze the causes and consequences of mass killings (e.g., Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia-

	Herzegovina, Somalia, Sudan), and evaluate the responsibilities of the world community in response to such events.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.c	Determine the impact of migration on the way of life (e.g., social, economic, and political structures) in countries of origin and in adopted countries.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.d	Analyze post-independence struggles in South Asia, including the struggle over the partitioning of the subcontinent into India and Pakistan, as well as later tensions over Kashmir.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.e	Assess the role of boundary disputes and limited natural resources as sources of conflict.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.a	Relate the lingering effects of colonialism to the efforts of Latin American, African, and Asian nations to build stable economies and national identities.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.b	Assess the impact of Gandhi's methods of civil disobedience and passive resistance in India, and determine how his methods were later used by people from other countries.

### **Target 3: Human and Civil Rights**

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SWBAT explain the complex causes of ethnic conflicts; describe how struggles for independence and Cold War rivalries brought decades of conflict to South Africa, Rwanda, and Sudan; Understand why Arabs & Israelis fight over land, explain why civil war ravaged Lebanon and outline Iraq's long history of conflict

SOC.6.2.12.A.5.b	Analyze the structure and goals of the United Nations and evaluate the organization's ability to solve or mediate international conflicts.
SOC.6.2.12.A.5.d	Analyze the causes and consequences of mass killings (e.g., Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Sudan), and evaluate the responsibilities of the world community in response to such events.
SOC.6.2.12.A.5.e	Assess the progress of human and civil rights around the world since the 1948 U.N. Declaration of Human Rights.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.b	Analyze the relationships and tensions between national sovereignty and global interest in matters such as territory, economic development, use of natural resources, and human rights.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.d	Assess the effectiveness of responses by governments and international organizations to tensions resulting from ethnic, territorial, religious, and/or nationalist differences.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.c	Determine the impact of migration on the way of life (e.g., social, economic, and political structures) in countries of origin and in adopted countries.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.a	Evaluate efforts of governmental, nongovernmental, and international organizations to address economic imbalances and social inequalities.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.d	Analyze how feminist movements and social conditions have affected the lives of women in different parts of the world, and evaluate women's progress toward social equality, economic equality, and political equality in various countries.

### **Target 4: Global Issues**

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SWBAT understand the paths that nations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America have taken in developing strong economies; Explain how development is changing patterns of life in the developing world; Describe the choices African nations had to make as they began to develop their economies; Describe the continuing challenges that China faces; Analyze how Latin America grappled with poverty & describe Latin America's difficult road to democracy; Examine the social, political, and economic trends in Europe & Asia after the Cold War, understand how international treaties and organizations make global trade possible; Explain the causes & effects of global poverty, disasters, and disease; Discuss the environmental challenges that have



resulted from industrial development; Explain why nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons threaten global security, Analyze various terrorist groups and why they are becoming more and more dangerous & how nations have responded to terrorism

SOC.6.2.12.A.5.b	Analyze the structure and goals of the United Nations and evaluate the organization's ability to solve or mediate international conflicts.
SOC.6.2.12.A.5.d	Analyze the causes and consequences of mass killings (e.g., Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, Sudan), and evaluate the responsibilities of the world community in response to such events.
SOC.6.2.12.A.6.a	Evaluate the role of international cooperation and multinational organizations in attempting to solve global issues.
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SOC.6.2.12.A.6.c	Analyze why terrorist movements have proliferated, and evaluate their impact on governments, individuals, and societies.
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SOC.6.2.12.B.5.c	Determine the impact of migration on the way of life (e.g., social, economic, and political structures) in countries of origin and in adopted countries.
SOC.6.2.12.B.5.e	Assess the role of boundary disputes and limited natural resources as sources of conflict.
SOC.6.2.12.B.6.a	Determine the global impact of increased population growth, migration, and changes in urban-rural populations on natural resources and land use.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.d	Determine the challenges faced by developing nations in their efforts to compete in a global economy.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.e	Assess the reasons for and consequences of the growth of communism and shift toward a market economy in China.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.f	Assess the impact of the European Union on member nations and other nations.
SOC.6.2.12.C.5.g	Evaluate the role of the petroleum industry in world politics, the global economy, and the environment.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.a	Evaluate efforts of governmental, nongovernmental, and international organizations to address economic imbalances and social inequalities.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.b	Compare and contrast demographic trends in industrialized and developing nations, and evaluate the potential impact of these trends on the economy, political stability, and use of resources.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.c	Assess the role government monetary policies, central banks, international investment, and exchange rates play in maintaining stable regional and global economies.
SOC.6.2.12.C.6.d	Determine how the availability of scientific, technological, and medical advances impacts the quality of life in different countries.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.b	Assess the impact of Gandhi's methods of civil disobedience and passive resistance in India, and determine how his methods were later used by people from other countries.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.c	Assess the influence of television, the Internet, and other forms of electronic communication on the creation and diffusion of cultural and political information, worldwide.
SOC.6.2.12.D.5.d	Analyze how feminist movements and social conditions have affected the lives of women in different parts of the world, and evaluate women's progress toward social equality, economic equality, and political equality in various countries.

SOC.6.2.12.D.6.a

Assess the role of increased personal and business electronic communications in creating a “global” culture, and evaluate the impact on traditional cultures and values.

## **21st Century Skills & Technology**

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WORK.9-12.9.1.12.1	The ability to recognize a problem and apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills to solve the problem is a lifelong skill that develops over time.
WORK.9-12.9.1.12.1	Collaboration and teamwork enable individuals or groups to achieve common goals with greater efficiency.
WORK.9-12.9.1.12.1	Gathering and evaluating knowledge and information from a variety of sources, including global perspectives, fosters creativity and innovative thinking.
WORK.9-12.9.1.12.A.1	Apply critical thinking and problem-solving strategies during structured learning experiences.
WORK.9-12.9.1.12.C.2	Analyze the common traits of effective state, national, or international leaders.
WORK.9-12.9.1.12.C.3	Explain why some current and/or past world leaders have had a greater impact on people and society than others, regardless of their countries of origin.
WORK.9-12.9.1.12.F.2	Demonstrate a positive work ethic in various settings, including the classroom and during structured learning experiences.

## **Formative Assessment and Performance Opportunities**

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- Homework
- Projects
- \*Teachers may select from the above list
- Analyze Primary Sources
- Cooperative Team Study
- Data Analysis
- DBQ/FRQ
- Direct Instruction/Lecture
- Field Trip
- Multimedia Analysis
- Oral Presentations
- Other (Explain)
- Participation/Discussion
- Peer Evaluations
- Persuasive Writing
- Problem Based Learning
- Text Analysis

## **Accommodations/Modifications**

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**Enrichment Opportunities: World: College Prep B, College Prep A, Honors, AP**

**Differentiation: 504 accommodations and IEP modifications are met as required**

All assessments are differentiated and aligned to the Social Studies standards and curriculum. Differentiation can include, but is not limited to:

- Graphic Organizers
- Chunked Readings
- RAFT Activities (Role, Audience, Format, Topic)
- Layered Curriculum/Tiered Assignments
- Academic Games to practice skills and deepen understanding of topics
- Think-Pair-Share Activities
- Stations and Learning Centers
- Utilizing Pre-tests to reteach complex content before summative assessment
- Providing additional resources for independent study (videos, study guides, teacher notes, web-based resources)

Alternate assessments may include, but are not limited to Project Based Learning, projects or presentations, or a common paper/pencil assessment or combination of any of these. Some example alternative assessment can include:

- Modern World Issues Project
- Social Issue studies
- Modern World Webquests
- Model UN
- Apartheid - *Cry Freedom*; CNN Freedom Project - connect to modern Arab-Israeli Conflict
- Modern Day Access to Resources
- Population Issues in the Modern World

Online Resources:

Text to Speech: Natural Readers - <https://www.naturalreaders.com/>

Content Vocabulary: Academic Word Finder - <http://achievethecore.org/academic-word-finder/>

Flocabulary: Vocabulary Enrichment & Differentiation - <https://www.flocabulary.com/?signup=login>

Newslea: Differentiated Readings/Text to Speech - <https://newsela.com/>

Social Studies Enrichment/Modifications Resources for **ELL Students**-  
<https://www.colorincolorado.org/resource-topic/content-resources-social-studies> - "Connect Students' Background Knowledge to Content in the ELL Classroom"

Social Studies Enrichment/Modifications Resources for **ELL Students**-  
<https://www.colorincolorado.org/resource-topic/content-resources-social-studies> - "Social studies Instruction to ELLs"

Social Studies Enrichment/Modifications Resources for **ELL Students**-  
<https://www.colorincolorado.org/resource-topic/content-resources-social-studies> - "Using Graphic Organizers with ELLs"

- guided notes
- modified assessments
- modified assignments
- student choice learning activities
- student generated research tasks
- task-based assessments
- test corrections

## **Summative Assessment**

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4th MP Benchmark: Chart/Graph Analysis

All assessments are differentiated and aligned to the social studies standards and curriculum.

## **Unit Resources**

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May include, but not be limited to:

Online websites and resources:

1. Digital Public Library of America: Primary Source Sets - <https://dp.la/primary-source-sets>
2. NJ Amistad Commission Curricular Units - <http://www.njamistadcurriculum.net/history/units>

3. Digital History - <http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>
4. Stanford History Education Group: Reading Like a Historian - <https://sheg.stanford.edu/rlh>
5. Stanford History Education Group: Beyond the Bubble - <https://beyondthebubble.stanford.edu/>
6. National Archives: Docs Teach - <https://www.docsteach.org/>
7. NJ Commission on Holocaust Education - <http://www.nj.gov/education/holocaust/curriculum/>
8. AP Central - World History: [http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers\\_corner/228636.html](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/228636.html)

#### Social Studies Databases

1. ABC-CLIO Database

#### Student Response Systems

#### Primary Source Documents

1. The DBQ Project Binders

#### Online Portfolios

#### Teacher Resource Kit

1. Text Resources - 2004/2007/2011 Prentice Hall: New Jersey, World History, The Modern Era;

#### Prentice Hall Video/Audio/Text Files

#### Choices:

1. The Challenge of Nuclear Weapons
2. Confronting Genocide: Never Again?
3. The Iranian Revolution
4. International Trade in a Globalized World
5. Nigeria, History, Identity and Change
6. Responding to Terrorism: Challenges for Democracy
7. The United States in Afghanistan

