

# Unit 3: World War II Part One

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Generic Course**  
Time Period: **Semester 1**  
Length: **10 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Introduction

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## Standards

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Ref's	Standard ID	Description
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.11	The United States participated in World War II as an Allied force to prevent military conquests by Germany, Italy, and Japan. Domestic and military policies during World War II continued to deny equal rights to African Americans, Asian Americans, and women.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.A.11.c	Determine if American policies regarding Japanese internment and actions against other minority groups were a denial of civil rights.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.A.11.d	Analyze the decision to use the atomic bomb and the consequences of doing so.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.A.11.e	Assess the responses of the United States and other nations to the violation of human rights that occurred during the Holocaust and other genocides.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.B.11.a	Explain the role that geography played in the development of military strategies and weaponry in World War II.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.C.11.a	Apply opportunity cost and trade-offs to evaluate the shift in economic resources from the production of domestic to military goods during World War II, and analyze the impact of the post-war shift back to domestic production.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.D.11.a	Analyze the roles of various alliances among nations and their leaders in the conduct and outcomes of the World War II.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.D.11.b	Evaluate the role of New Jersey (i.e., defense industries, Seabrook Farms, military installations, and Battleship New Jersey) and prominent New Jersey citizens (i.e., Albert Einstein) in World War II.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.D.11.e	Explain how World War II and the Holocaust led to the creation of international organizations (i.e., the United Nations) to protect human rights, and describe the subsequent impact of these organizations.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.B.12.a	Evaluate the effectiveness of the Marshall Plan and regional alliances in the rebuilding of European nations in the post World War II period.

0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.C.13.b	Evaluate the effectiveness of economic policies that sought to combat post-World War II inflation.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.1.12.C.13.d	Relate American economic expansion after World War II to increased consumer demand.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.2.12.B.4.d	Explain the intended and unintended consequences of new national boundaries established by the treaties that ended World War II.
0x	SOC.9-12.6.2.12.C.5.a	Explain how and why Western European countries and Japan achieved rapid economic recovery after World War II.
0x	FL.12.7.1.AL.A	Interpretive Mode

## Essential Questions

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- Assess the efficacy of island-hopping in the PTO and peripheral offense in the Med in the ETO.
- Compare America's preparedness efforts during the lead-up to its entrance into World War II with its efforts leading up to entrance into World War I.
- How did the tide of world events during the period 1939-1941 impact America's desire for neutrality?
- How would you evaluate the progress of America's military efforts in the PTO by January 1943?
- To what degree were the Axis Powers a threat to the vital interests of the USA by January, 1941?
- What problems did the requirement for the US to conduct a two-ocean war present for the formulation of a proper US macro-strategy?
- What was the main argument of those favoring and opposing preparedness by 1940?
- Why do some believe that the USA was at fault during the lead up to war with Japan in 1941?
- Why was the conflict between England and America regarding the initial insertion point of the US war effort in the ETO in 1942 significant for the long-term military and diplomatic progress of the war?
- Why was the debate over the future of the tank and the airplane in combat so central to a successful military effort in World War II?

## Goals/Objectives

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Ref's	Description
0x	• Analyze historical events relative to the modern world
0x	• Analyze social, political, and cultural change
0x	• Apply problem-solving to develop solutions
0x	• Evaluate communication of information for soundness of evidence and potential bias
0x	• Evaluate concepts and themes through historical periods
0x	• Examine source data to test credibility and evaluate bias
0x	• Formulate questions from multiple perspectives, using multiple sources
0x	• Reconcile primary and secondary source information

## Content

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- Demonstrate a factual understanding of the major military, political, and diplomatic events in American history from 1939 through March of 1943.
- Explain in detail the chain of events leading to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.
- Explain the lessons that might be drawn from an evaluation of the presidential election campaign of 1940 with regard to America's evolving attitude on the war
- Identify and explain the differing public attitudes in the US regarding the role the nation ought to play in the unfolding war
- List and explain Axis aggressions during the period 1939-1940
- Provide a competent narrative of the military events in the PTO from 7 DEC 1941 through the conclusion of the Guadalcanal Campaign in 1943.
- Provide a thorough narrative of the principal US military events in the ETO from 8 DEC 1941 until about March of 1943.

## **Skills**

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Ref's	Description
0x	• Analyze charts, tables, and political cartoons
0x	• Compare and contrast
0x	• Critical Thinking
0x	• Data Analysis
0x	• Distinguish facts from opinions
0x	• Identify main ideas and details
0x	• Media literacy
0x	• Reading for content mastery
0x	• Supporting positions
0x	• Understand political, economic, and physical maps