

Brussels-Lux Study Tour 2022

K-12 Teacher Unit Planning Template

Name: Jermaine A. Ellerbe, Ph.D;NBCT		Unit Plan: Weeks of 11/7/22-11/11/22
		Subject/Grade Level: American Studies-8
Unit Title:	Creating National Political System and Culture	
Unit Narrative:	<p>Culture is a shared system of beliefs, values, and traditions. Beliefs and values are the foundation of a culture. They create and influence the political, economic, and social systems which define and support the culture. Students learn how American culture is grounded in shared values that have shaped the nation over time. Students learn about the Articles of Confederation, the Constitutional Convention, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights to understand how the American political system reflects American values. All EU countries share certain core values, which form the basis of a free society. Students also learn how the European Union was strengthened and challenged by various values.</p> <p>The European Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail. The historic relationship between the EU and the U.S. is based on sharing, and promoting together, many of those same values of human dignity, freedom, the rule of law, democracy, equality, the market economy, and a strong fundamental respect for respect for human rights, including minority rights</p>	
C3 Framework Standards:	<p>D2. Civics.8.3-5. Identify core civic virtues and democratic principles that guide government, society, and communities.</p> <p>D2. Civics.7.6-8. Apply civic virtues and democratic principles in school and community settings.</p> <p>D2. Civics.14.6-8. Compare historical and contemporary means of changing societies and promoting the common good.</p>	
Objectives		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Students will be able to explain the shared values that have shaped American and EU culture. → Students will be able to evaluate the extent to which the American people and government adhere to these shared values 		
Big Ideas		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Shared values that influenced the development of the American political system are the basis of American culture. → Shared values that influenced the development of the European Union are the basis of European culture. → Culture is based on shared values and changes over time in response to inside and outside forces. 		
Essential Questions		

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<p>→ What are the values that shape American culture?</p> <p>→ What are the values that shape the shared cultures within the European Union?</p>	
<p>Learning Acquisition and Assessment</p>	
<p>Students will know... (content/concepts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Representative democracy → shared values → inclusion, tolerance, justice, and solidarity → bloc's values → common good 	<p>Students will be able to... (skills, performance tasks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → The response demonstrates substantial understanding of the compelling question. The response is insightful and completely integrates knowledge to thoroughly answer the question. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develops a comprehensive claim addressing the compelling question. ▪ Integrates evidence from appropriate sources. ▪ Uses strong reasoning to make connections between the claim and evidence. ▪ Minor misconceptions do not interfere with understanding within argumentative paragraph
<p>Formative Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Compare and Contrast each EU value to an American Value such as: Rule of Law, Freedom and Independence, Equal Opportunity, Rights and Responsibilities, Limited and Representative Government, Separation of Church and State, Market Economy. Be sure to define and give a symbol and/or example. 	<p>Summative Assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Prompt: To what extent does American values follow the shared values of the European Union? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thesis statement addresses the full prompt and states at least 2 shared values (supporting arguments) ▪ Evidence - Provides at least 2 examples from either the live sessions or independent learning ▪ Reasoning - Includes reasoning for how all the evidence supports the argument
<p>Learning Activities (1 week – 5 days): Lesson introduction, body, and closing</p>	
<p>Day 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Topic: Rule of Law → Intro: The EU is based on the rule of law. Everything the EU does is founded on treaties, voluntarily and democratically agreed by its EU countries. Law and justice are upheld by an independent judiciary. The EU countries gave final jurisdiction to the European Court of Justice which judgements have to be respected by all. → Body: Students will read to be informed about justice, standards, and threats. As they read, students will complete notes on Cornell notetaking form.

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	<p>→ Closing: Before completing the formative assessment, review the duties of the Court of Justice. Consider a recent case brought before them and how the outcome(s) impacted countries with the EU.</p>
Day 2	<p>→ Topic: Respect for Human Rights and Human Dignity</p> <p>→ Intro: One of the core shared values between the EU and the US is a fundamental commitment to the UN Declaration of Human Rights. The US is an original signatory of the UN Charter and Declaration, while the EU holds its observer membership alongside the full memberships of all its 27 member states.</p> <p>→ Body: Students will read to be informed about protecting and promoting human rights. As they read, students will complete notes on Cornell notetaking form.</p> <p>→ Closing: Before completing the formative assessment, think about what unites EU members as it relates to human rights and human dignity. Consider are there any rights that cause division and what would be the reason for it.</p>
Day 3	<p>→ Topic: Freedom</p> <p>→ Intro: Freedom of movement gives citizens the right to move and reside freely within the Union. Individual freedoms such as respect for private life, freedom of thought, religion, assembly, expression and information are protected by the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.</p> <p>→ Body: Body: Students will read to be informed about knowing European Rights by clicking on the link for each bulleted point. As they read, students will complete notes on Cornell notetaking form.</p> <p>→ Closing: Before completing the formative assessment, think about what caused the formation of the European Union. Consider the impact of Brexit on this concept of freedom.</p>
Day 4	<p>→ Topic: Democracy</p> <p>→ Intro: The European Parliament takes its role as a guardian of liberties, human rights and democracy, both in Europe and beyond very seriously. Members of the European Parliament are increasingly exerting their influence on European foreign, humanitarian and development aid policy as they maintain close links with the lawmakers around the world.</p> <p>→ Body: Students will read to be informed about democratic governance. As they read, students will complete notes on Cornell notetaking form.</p> <p>→ Closing: Before completing the formative assessment, review the role of each of the various EU Institutions such as: Parliament, Commission, and Councils. Think about how they impact the political ideals of the countries.</p>
Day 5	<p>→ Topic: Equality</p> <p>→ Intro: Equality is about equal rights for all citizens before the law. The principle of equality between women and men underpins all European policies and is the basis for European integration. It applies in all areas. The principle of equal pay for equal work became part of the Treaty of Rome in 1957. Although inequalities still exist, the EU has made significant progress.</p> <p>→ Body: Students will read to be informed about standards for equality and equality bodies. As they read, students will complete notes on Cornell notetaking form.</p>

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→ Closing: Before completing the formative assessment, locate a current news article, blog, or BBC broadcast to see how the media is portraying various equality issues such as: gender, civic, and economic.

Resources and Materials

- Video: [What are the EU Values?](#)
- Video: [The EU Explained-Values](#)
- Video: [Protecting the Common Values Within EU Member States](#)
- Document: [EU Charter of Fundamental Rights](#)
- Document: [Article 2 of the Treaty of the European Union](#)
- Website: [EU Aims and Values](#)
- Website: [European Parliament-Values and Objectives](#)

