

Unit 7: Global Warfare

C. 1900 - present

AP Exam Weighting: 8-10%

Topic 7.1 Shifting Power After 1900

Thematic Focus - Governance (GOV)

A variety of internal and external factors contribute to state formation, expansion, and decline. Governments maintain order through a variety of administrative institutions, policies, and procedures, and governments obtain, retain, and exercise power in different ways and for different purposes.

Learning Objective A

Explain how internal and external factors contributed to change in various states after 1900.

Historical Developments

The West dominated the global political order at the beginning of the 20th century, but both land-based and maritime empires gave way to new states by the century's end.

The older, land-based Ottoman, Russian, and Qing empires collapsed due to a combination of internal and external factors. These changes in Russia eventually led to communist revolution.

States around the world challenged the existing political and social order, including the Mexican Revolution that arose as a result of political crisis.

Topic 7.2 Causes of World War I

Thematic Focus - Governance (GOV)

A variety of internal and external factors contribute to state formation, expansion, and decline. Governments maintain order through a variety of administrative institutions, policies, and procedures, and governments obtain, retain, and exercise power in different ways and for different purposes.

Learning Objective B

Explain the causes and consequences of World War I.

Historical Developments

The causes of World War I included imperialist expansion and competition for resources. In addition, territorial and regional conflicts combined with a flawed alliance system and intense nationalism to escalate the tensions into global conflict.

Topic 7.3 Conducting World War I

Thematic Focus - Technology and Innovation (TEC)

Human adaptation and innovation have resulted in increased efficiency, comfort, and security, and technological advances have shaped human development and interactions with both intended and unintended consequences.

Learning Objective C

Explain how governments used a variety of methods to conduct war.

Historical Developments

World War I was the first **total war**. Governments used a variety of strategies, including **political propaganda**, art, media, and intensified forms of **nationalism**, to mobilize populations (both in the home countries and the colonies) for the purpose of waging war.

New military technology led to increased levels of wartime casualties.

Topic 7.4 Economy in the Interwar Period

Thematic Focus - Economics Systems (ECN)

As societies develop, they affect and are affected by the ways that they produce, exchange, and consume goods and services.

Learning Objective D

Explain how different governments responded to economic crisis after 1900.

Historical Developments

Following World War I and the onset of the **Great Depression**, governments began to take a more active role in economic life.

Government intervention in the economy:

- **The New Deal**
- The **fascist corporatist economy**
- Governments with strong popular support in Brazil and Mexico

In the Soviet Union, the government controlled the national economy through the **Five Year Plans**, often implementing repressive policies, with negative repercussions for the population.

Topic 7.5 Unresolved Tensions After World War I

Thematic Focus - Governance (GOV)

A variety of internal and external factors contribute to state formation, expansion, and decline. Governments maintain order through a variety of administrative institutions, policies, and procedures, and governments obtain, retain, and exercise power in different ways and for different purposes.

Learning Objective E

Explain the continuities and changes in territorial holdings from 1900 to the present.

Historical Developments

Between the two world wars, Western and Japanese imperial states predominantly maintained control over colonial holdings; in some cases, they gained additional territories through conquest or treaty settlement and in other cases faced anti-imperial resistance.

Territorial gains:

- Transfer of former German colonies to Great Britain and France under the system of **League of Nations mandates**
- Manchukuo/Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere

Anti-imperial resistance:

- Indian National Congress
- West African resistance (strikes/congresses) to French rule

Topic 7.6 Causes of World War II

Thematic Focus - Governance (GOV)

A variety of internal and external factors contribute to state formation, expansion, and decline. Governments maintain order through a variety of administrative institutions, policies, and procedures, and governments obtain, retain, and exercise power in different ways and for different purposes.

Learning Objective F

Explain the causes and consequences of World War II.

Historical Developments

The causes of World War II included the unsustainable peace settlement after World War I, the global economic crisis engendered by the Great Depression, continued imperialist aspirations, and especially the rise to power of **fascist** and **totalitarian** regimes that resulted in the aggressive **militarism** of Nazi Germany under **Adolf Hitler**.

Topic 7.7 Conducting World War II

Thematic Focus - Governance (GOV)

A variety of internal and external factors contribute to state formation, expansion, and decline. Governments maintain order through a variety of administrative institutions, policies, and procedures, and governments obtain, retain, and exercise power in different ways and for different purposes.

Learning Objective G

Explain similarities and differences in how governments used a variety of methods to conduct war.

Historical Developments

World War II was a **total war**. Governments used a variety of strategies, including political propaganda, art, media, and intensified forms of nationalism, to mobilize populations (both in the home countries and the colonies or former colonies) for the purpose of waging war. Governments used ideologies, including **fascism** and **communism** to mobilize all of their state's resources for war and, in the case of totalitarian states, to repress basic freedoms and dominate many aspects of daily life during the course of the conflicts and beyond.

Western democracies mobilizing for war:

- Great Britain under Winston Churchill
- United States under Franklin Roosevelt

Totalitarian states mobilizing for war:

- Germany under Adolf Hitler
- USSR under Joseph Stalin

New military technology and new tactics, including the **atomic bomb**, **fire-bombing**, and the waging of "total war" led to increased levels of wartime casualties.

Topic 7.8 Mass Atrocities After 1900

Thematic Focus: Social Interactions and Organization SIO

The process by which societies group their members and the norms that govern the interactions between these groups and between individuals influence political, economic, and cultural institutions and organization.

Learning Objective H

Explain the various causes and consequences of mass atrocities in the period from 1900 to the present.

The rise of extremist groups in power led to the attempted destruction of specific populations, notably the Nazi killing of the Jews in the **Holocaust** during World War II, and to other atrocities, acts of **genocide**, or ethnic violence.

Genocide, ethnic violence, or attempted destruction of specific populations:

- Armenians in the Ottoman Empire during and after World War I
- Cambodia during the late 1970s
- Tutsi in Rwanda in the 1990s
- Ukraine in the Soviet Union in the 1920s and 1930s

Topic 7.9 Causation in Global Conflict

The final topic in this unit focuses on the skill of argumentation and so provides an opportunity for your students to draw upon the key concepts and historical developments they have studied in this unit. Using evidence relevant to this unit's key concepts, students should practice the suggested skill for this topic.

Learning Objective I

Explain the relative significance of the causes of global conflict in the period 1900 to the present.

- Rapid advances in science and technology altered the understanding of the universe and the natural world and led to advances in communication, transportation, industry, agriculture, and medicine.
- Peoples and states around the world challenged the existing political and social order in varying ways, leading to unprecedented worldwide conflicts.
 - The West dominated the global political order at the beginning of the 20th century, but both land-based and maritime empires gave way to new states by the century's end.
 - The older, land-based Ottoman, Russian, and Qing empires collapsed due to a combination of internal and external factors. These changes in Russia eventually led to communist revolution.
 - States around the world challenged the existing political and social order, including the Mexican Revolution that arose as a result of political crisis.