

Legacy of Colonialism

Standard V: Geography

Substandard C – Spatial Organization

Standard Topic: The student will explain how the regionalization of space into political units affects human behavior.

Benchmark 3: Students will understand the patterns of colonialism and how its legacy affects emergence of independent states in Africa, Asia, and Latin America as well as the tensions that arise when boundaries of political units do not correspond to nationalities of people living within them.

Grade level: 9-12

Overview: This lesson was designed to help students understand the extent of colonialism from the early periods in the 1500's to the later years in the mid 1900's. In addition, students will understand the lasting effects on the colonized countries today.

Time: Four to five (4-5) 45-minute class periods (extension activity extra)

Subjects: Geography

Required Materials: Internet access

[Info about Colonial Period](#) (Day 1)

[Colonialism Compare Chart](#) (Day 2/3)

[Additional Colony Information](#) (Day 2/3)

[Countries Today](#) (Day 4)

Optional Technologies: If extended computer time is not available the statistics can be obtained from current almanacs.

Objectives: After completing this lesson students will be able to:

- * explain how the period of colonization was affected by the Industrial Revolution
- * explain how colonization differed in regions around the world
- * explain the effects of colonization then and now

Day 1: Introduction to colonialism (Students should use their own paper)

Using the suggested sites or ones found with a Google search define the following terms and get an understanding of how they relate to each other.

Voyages of Discovery <http://histclo.hispeed.com/eco/vod/eco-vod.html>

Industrial Revolution <http://www.histclo.hispeed.com/eco/eco-mod.html>

colonialism <http://www.histclo.hispeed.com/eco/eco-imp.html>

imperialism <http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/themes/imperialism/index.cfm>

http://thirdworldtraveler.com/New_World_Order/RethinkingColonialism_TF.html

The following site gives students an idea of the extent of colonial power by European country in 1939. By that time the colonial power of Spain and Portugal was weak.
<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/pol116/colonies.htm>

Day 2/3: Colonial Empires

Divide the class into small groups. Assign one of the following world regions to each group. Using the suggested links, the [Colonialism Compare Chart](#), and [Additional Colony Information](#) have students research the colonial empires, independence of, and effects of the following world regions

1) Africa – understand the:

Berlin Conference and how it relates to the “Scramble for Africa”,
<http://www.saburchill.com/history/chapters/empires/0048.html>
<http://www.channelafrica.org/english/2000/> (also has a great map)
<http://web.jjay.cuny.edu/~jobrien/reference/ob45.html>
<http://geography.about.com/cs/politicalgeog/a/berlinconferenc.htm>
<http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/themes/imperialism/africa.cfm>

map of Africa: <http://www.saburchill.com/history/chapters/empires/0053.html>

read about the differences in how the colonies were ruled by the different European countries.

Colonization of South Africa

<http://histclo.hispeed.com/essay/war/imp/imp-afr.html>
<http://historyteacher.net/GlobalStudies/GlobalStudiesMainPage.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/south-africa/11.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/south-africa/17.htm>

South Africa and apartheid - <http://countrystudies.us/south-africa/25.htm>

2) S Asia – understand the how the British ruled their colony in India colony

Use http://www.khyber.demon.co.uk/history/naval_crusades/india2.htm
http://members.tripod.com/~INDIA_RESOURCE/colonial.html
<http://countrystudies.us/india/15.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/india/16.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/india/22.htm>

Latin America- Spain and Portugal led the way in Latin America.

Make sure the students understand the competition between the countries and the importance of the Treaty of Tordesilla.

<http://www.histclo.hispeed.com/eco/vod/eco-vod.html>
<http://www.fsmitha.com/h3/h26-am.html>

3) Spanish in Argentina: <http://www.surdelsur.com/historia/his100ing.html>
<http://www.geographia.com/argentina/argen01.htm>
http://www.lonelyplanet.com/destinations/south_america/argentina/history.htm
<http://www.abacci.com/atlas/history.asp?countryID=130>

4) Portuguese in Brazil: <http://countrystudies.us/brazil/5.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/brazil/56.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/brazil/6.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/brazil/59.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/brazil/60.htm>
<http://countrystudies.us/brazil/10.htm>

5) SE Asia: notice the number of different European colonies in a small area
<http://www.seasite.niu.edu/crossroads/wilson/colonialism.htm>
<http://www.harpercollege.edu/~mhealy/g101ilec/seasia/seh/sehcol/sehcolotx.htm>
<http://www.harpercollege.edu/~mhealy/g101ilec/seasia/seh/sehcol/sehcoltx.htm>

map of colonies in SE Asia:
<http://harpercollege.edu/~mhealy/g101ilec/seasia/seh/sehcol/sehcolmp.htm>

Day 2/3: Cooperative Share

Re-divide students into groups with a representative from each of the regions included. Have students share what they learned about the type of colonies established, how the colonies were administered, and the lasting effects of colonialism in each of the regions.

Day 4: Post Colonialism Effects

Using [Countries Today](#) chart and <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/> compile the statistics of the countries today and address some of the current issues. (readings)

Day 5: Wrap up discussion questions:

Some discussion questions could include:

1. Did the amount of control given by the European country have any impact on conditions in the country after the Europeans left?
2. Did the timing of the establishment of the colony and the independence of the country have any impact on economic or social conditions today?
3. What effects did the establishment of transportation systems built by the Europeans have on conditions today?
4. How did the Industrial Revolution affect the colonial period?

RESOURCE BAR

Terms: See Day 1

National Geography Standards:

Standard 12 The process, patterns, and functions of human settlement

Standard 13 How forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence and control of the Earth's surface

Supplement Web Links for Teachers and Students:

Discussion Questions: See day 5

Extension Activities:

http://geogserver1.fullerton.edu/webmaps/empiresjava_2/empires.html - this site is a great map/question activity. The maps are interactive and the questions correspond to them. This can be used as an extended activity or an assessment.

Other countries within the regions can be compared. Try and get a variety of European colonial powers and regions when comparing.

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