

EU LESSON PLANS

IRENE MCMAHON

K-12 TEACHER UNIT PLAN

- **Title**: Introduction to the European Union, Successes and Current Challenges
- **Standards**: Common Core CCSS ELA-Literacy RI.9-10.1
- **Objectives**: **SWBAT** (Students will be able to) place current events in Europe within the historical timeline of the European Union. **SWBAT**: Analyze political cartoons for author's intent and perspective. **SWBAT**: Summarize an author's assessment of current affairs (i.e., Migration, Brexit, Populism, Economic challenges) and present this summary creatively using both visuals and text (magazine cover assignment). **SWBAT**: Identify and link to useful primary sources related to their topic.

- **Essential Questions:** Why was the EU formed and what purpose does it serve today? What have been the major successes and challenges of the EU? How are different countries within the EU handling current political and economic challenges? What are some similarities between current affairs within the EU and the U.S.? And, how do opinions on these topics vary amongst historians, public officials, the media etc.?
-

Formative Assessments: Annotations & Small Group discussion of central ideas/questions of the Britannica article, the EU pamphlets, the assigned chapters from the text Fractured Continent.

Summative: Mixed Media presentation of Magazine Cover with linked QR code for Gallery Walk. Oral presentation (group) of findings prior to Gallery Walk.

Break down of daily plans on the following slides.



EU LESSON PLANS

- Day 1
- For homework, students will have read an overview of the European Union, including its history, purpose and current affairs.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/European-Union>

In class, we will review this orientation to the EU via a PowerPoint:

https://europa.eu/european-union/sites/europaeu/files/eu_in_slides_en.pdf

DAY 2

- For homework over the week, students are reading excerpts from the book *Fractured Continent* by William Drozdiak (2017) alongside pamphlets created by the European Commission. In groups, students will be assigned these pamphlets and excerpts, each group focusing on a different EU member country.
- In class (Day 2) students will analyze political cartoons related to issues facing the EU today such as Brexit and migration. <http://blog.cartoonmovement.com/2017/03/10-cartoons-for-europe.html>.
- Cartoon analysis sheet: After students complete the analysis sheet, we'll discuss as a whole class. Link to analysis sheet:
- <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0By8Ta-jX8O92cFJWVIVhZFZsMVk>
- Day 3&4: in groups; students will create a magazine cover addressing a challenge facing the EU today (based on the homework readings), <https://www.postermywall.com/index.php/posterbuilder>
- Europa pamphlets:
- <http://publications.europa.eu/webpub/com/factsheets/migration-crisis/en/>



DAY 5: GALLERY WALK



- Students will post their magazine covers around the classroom. Included on their magazine cover will be a QR code which other students can link to using their phones. The QR codes will link to the Europa pamphlet and to a current news article related to the topic. <https://www.qrstuff.com/>