

Lesson Plan

Contemporary History Pre-1900: Introduction

Length

One 45-minute period

Grade Level

High School

Learning Objectives

- Students will understand that developments in public health have had profound effects on life today.
- Students will understand how the development of modern states has led to greater peace and stability.

[Contemporary History Pre-1900: Introduction](#)[Presentation](#)[Guided Reading Handout](#)

Homework

- Complete Part 1 of the guided reading handout.

Class One

1. **(5 Minutes) Debrief Homework:** On the board, identify the eight developments discussed in the reading, and highlight the point made at the end, that these developments are distributed unevenly around the world.
2. **(20 minutes)** Have students search online for examples of these developments being distributed unevenly around the world. Collect examples using a Google Jamboard, Padlet, or similar tool. Point students to sites such as [the WHO](#), [Think Global Health](#), [Stat](#), and [KFF Health News](#).
3. **(10 minutes) Watch:** *Why Do We Live in Countries?* (5:56). Optionally have students fill out the guided reading handout.
4. **(10 Minutes) T-Chart:** As a class, create a T chart on the board comparing life before the Peace of Westphalia with our life today where we live in sovereign countries.

Vocabulary

epidemic

an increase, often sudden, in the number of cases of a disease above what is typical for a certain population in an area.

immunization

process of protecting or strengthening people's immune systems to fight off particular infectious diseases,

usually accomplished through vaccines.

infectious disease

also called communicable, a disease that spreads via people, animals, insects, or contaminated food and water —such as the flu, chickenpox, or Ebola.

noncommunicable disease

disease that cannot be transmitted via people or animals. Examples include cancer and diabetes.

pandemic

disease outbreak that has reached at least several countries, affecting a large group of people.

sovereignty

supreme or absolute authority over a territory.