WHII.11: The Interwar Period
WHIII.11 The student will demonstrate knowledge of political, economic, social, and cultural developments during the Interwar Period by

a) describing the League of Nations and the mandate system;

b) citing causes and assessing the impact of worldwide depression in the 1930s;

c) examining events related to the rise, aggression, and human costs of dictatorial regimes in the Soviet Union, Germany, Italy, and Japan, and identifying their major leaders, i.e., Joseph Stalin, Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Hirohito, and Hideki Tojo.
11a After World War I, international organizations and agreements were established to avoid future conflicts.

11b A period of uneven prosperity in the decade following World War I (the 1920s) was followed by worldwide depression in the 1930s. Depression weakened Western democracies, making it difficult for them to challenge the threat of totalitarianism.

11c Economic disruptions following World War I led to unstable political conditions. Worldwide depression in the 1930s provided opportunities for the rise of dictators in the Soviet Union, Germany, Italy, and Japan.

11c A communist dictatorship was established by Vladimir Lenin and continued by Joseph Stalin in the Soviet Union.

11c The Treaty of Versailles worsened economic and political conditions in Europe and led to the rise of totalitarian regimes in Italy and Germany.

11c Japan emerged as a world power after World War I and conducted aggressive imperialistic policies in Asia.
11a What was the League of Nations and why did it fail?

11a Why was the mandate system created?

11b Why did the world experience depression in the 1930s?

11b What political changes resulted from the worldwide depression?

11c Why did dictatorial governments emerge in Germany, Italy, Japan, and the U.S.S.R. after World War I?

11c How did these regimes affect the world following World War I?
1. Many social and economic programs introduced worldwide to combat the Great Depression are still operating.

2. These dictators changed the course of history, and the world is still recovering from their abuse of power.

3. Because of the aggression demonstrated by Germany, Italy, and Japan, many nations today take a more active and collective role in world affairs, as in the United Nations.
Russian Revolution
Causes

1. Russia had been defeated in 1905 by the Japanese for Korea
2. the huge gap between the **nobility and the peasants** - peasants are **landless**
3. Czar Nicholas II’s leadership in WWI = poor
   a. many civilians were going hungry and dying
   b. ¼ of all Russian troops didn’t even have a gun
   c. continual defeats of the Russian Army and major casualties
Fall of the Romanov Dynasty

1. Nicholas II moves headquarters to war front

2. His wife **Alexandria** remains in Moscow to lead the government

3. Rasputin “holy man” – influences her and is able to make important political decisions

   “If I die or you desert me, in six months, you will lose your son and your throne”
4. Rasputin is murdered by high government officials

**Rasputin** (Disney)

**Rasputin** (song w/ lyrics)

**Rasputin** (just dance II)
Death of Romanov Family

1. Czar Nicholas II **abdicated** the throne on March 15, 1917
   a. a weak provisional government took over

2. A **year** later – the family was getting ready for a family photo and they were captured in the castle
   a. They were shot and **killed**

3. Romanov Dynasty comes to an end

4. Mystery behind the death of **Anastasia**
1. civil war between the Bolsheviks (reds) – led by Vladimir Ilyich Lenin and the Mensheviks (whites)
   a. 15 million people died

2. November 1917 – Bolsheviks took over the government and set up a communist government
 Lenin’s Leadership

1. signed a treaty with Germany – Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (Russia out of the war)
   a. very popular with the Russian people

2. executed the czar and his family

3. set up the New Economic Policy (NEP) – an attempt to modernize Russia
   a. agricultural policy which allowed some farmers to continue to privately own their farms
   b. booming success
Treaty of Brest-Litovsk

- An agreement between Russia and Germany to stop fighting on the eastern front of WWI.

- Russia gives up land to Germany and a truce is called.
1. Lenin had established a **communist** government
   a. communism – the **government** controls all economic resources and decisions

2. 1922 – renamed Russia to the **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) or Soviet Union**

3. Lenin had a stroke in 1922 that left him bedridden until his death on Jan. 21, **1924**
   a. Stalin was third in the Communist party (Leon Trotsky was second), but managed to take over
   b. Trotsky was exiled and was later executed on orders from Stalin
Lenin
USSR and Josef Stalin
Stalin - The Five Year Plans

1. set **economic** goals for a five-year period
2. concentrated on building up the **industry**
3. it was a **success** in spurring industrial growth
Collective Farms (Collectivization)

1. system of farming in which the government owns the land and peasants farm it
2. many of the wealthier peasants resisted
3. thousands were killed by starvation
4. the farms were often not able to produce enough to feed the population
The Great Purge

1. Stalin used his secret police to spy on all members of society
2. those accused of being disloyal were shot or sent to camps in Siberia
   a. over 700,000 executed and 3.3 million were exiled to Siberia
3. many of Trotsky’s supporters were put on trial and imprisoned
4. Atheism – no religion and the elimination of church leadership
The Comintern (OOPS)

1. encouraged **Communist parties** in other countries to overthrow their governments
Joseph Stalin and the Red Terror
Italy and Benito Mussolini
Fascism

1. fascism – advocates the glorification of the **state, nationalism and a strong ruler**
   a. Fascist Party formed in 1919
2. like communism, it gave the state **absolute authority**
3. unlike communism, it defends **private** property
1. Italy was poor
2. people feared **communism**, so they turned to fascism
3. 1922 – the Fascists (**Black Shirts**) began a bloody coup and took over Italy
4. to improve the economy, Mussolini built up the **military**
5. wanted to restore the glory of Rome  
   a. invaded **Ethiopia** in 1935 and annexed it by 1936

**Mussolini’s Rise**

el Duce
The Roman Empire of IMPERIVM
under Emperor Domitius, A.D. 63

Note, this is a fictitious map! It represents an alternate Roman history that never happened.
Germany and the Interwar Period – Adolf Hitler
The Weimar Republic

1. **democratic** government that ruled from 1919 – 1933
2. faced constant coups because many people felt they were betrayed because the government had accepted the **Treaty of Versailles**
3. could not pay the $35 billion in reparations so **France** seized the eastern industrialized area of Germany
4. faced huge **inflation** during the depression
Weimar Republic
In 1923, a German housewife burned mark notes in her kitchen stove, since it was cheaper to burn marks than to use them to buy firewood.

usagold.com
Adolf Hitler and the Rise of the Nazis

1. veteran of WWI who joined the National Socialist Workers’ (Nazi) Party
   a. Nazi party was the main opposition of the Weimar Republic
2. formed the Brownshirts (a.k.a. Storm troopers or the SA) – a private army (street thugs) for the Nazi party
3. was arrested in a coup attempt in 1923
   a. wrote Mein Kampf while in jail
   b. in Mein Kampf he blamed the Jews and Communists for Germany’s problems
4. Reasons for the rise of the Nazi Party
   a. increased Anti-Semitism in Germany
   b. a weak economy
   c. weak democratic government
5. 1933 – Hitler was elected chancellor
   a. Nazis took over through entirely legal means
Swastikas

German

Peaceful (Indian)
1. used his power to crush his opponents and strengthen his rule – established a **fascist** state
2. June 1934 – Hitler became suspicious of some of his closes allies
   a. used the Schutz-Staffel (a.k.a. the **SS**) to **execute** hundreds of leaders within the German government and the leaders of the Brownshirts
   b. the **SS** began as a paramilitary group loyal only to Hitler, then to the Nazi regime
3. in 1935 – passed laws taking away citizenship from **Jews**
   a. not allowed to attend **schools** or hold government positions
4. in 1938 – the Nazis vandalized Jewish businesses and homes in the **Kristallnacht** – the night of **Broken Glass**
April 1, 1933 – “German, protect yourself. Do not buy from Jews.”

Kristallnacht
The Third Reich

1. Hitler called his government the **Third Reich** – the Third Empire
   a) 1\(^{\text{st}}\) Reich- Holy Roman Empire
   b) 2\(^{\text{nd}}\) Reich – Unification of Germany -1870, Otto von Bismarck

2. began ignoring the Treaty of Versailles and building up the German **military**

3. had the radio, TV and newspaper industries praise the Nazi Party
   a. promoted **extreme nationalism**- political right

4. many of Germany artists and scientists fled Germany because they would not follow Hitler’s policies
German Expansion 1935-1939

- International boundaries, 1936
- Germany in 1933
- Remilitarized in 1936
- Annexed in 1938
- Satellite states, March 1939
- Conquered by Germany in September 1939
- Annexed by Soviet Union in September 1939

Legend:
- Germany in 1933
- Remilitarized in 1936
- Annexed in 1938
- Satellite states, March 1939
- Conquered by Germany in September 1939
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Map showing the territorial changes in Europe from 1935 to 1939.
Resentment

1. Japan was **not treated as an equal** in the League of Nations
   a. emerged as a world power after WWI

2. US **banned Japanese** immigration in 1924

3. **Europe** wanted to retain the Open Door policy with China, **Japan**
   wanted to rule China
Industrialization

1. focused on trade and industry to promote jobs

2. during the 1920’s and 30’s, Japan’s industry grew rapidly and created a need for new raw materials
   a. further increased Japanese expansion into Southeast Asia
1. Emperor **Hirohito** was the ruler of Japan
   a. powerful symbol of traditional authority, but chief general (eventually prime minister) **Hideki Tojo** held the real power

2. people dressed in traditional military dress

3. children even carried out military drills in schools
1. First Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895) – Japan attacked China for Korea and Manchuria
   a. Japan won all of Korea and parts of Manchuria (northeastern province of China)
   b. Japan was an island nation and needed raw materials
Sino-Japanese War
2. Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905) – Russia attacked Japan for Manchuria and Korea, but was soundly defeated.
3. September 1931 – Japan had invaded and reestablished control of Manchuria, renamed it **Manchuko**

4. faced international criticism
   a. Japan withdrew from the League of Nations
   b. Japanese people rallied behind their military

5. began looking East to invade and unite all of Asia, and the rest of China under the Empire of Japan
The Great Depression

### Causes

- German Reparations
- US dominance in global economy
- High Tariffs
- Expansion of Credit
- Stock Market Crash

### Impacts

- high unemployment
- bank failures and collapse of credit
- collapse of prices
- growth of Nazis in Germany
- rise of dictatorships
## Rise of the Dictatorships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adolf Hitler</td>
<td>Benito Mussolini</td>
<td>Josef Stalin</td>
<td>Emperor Hirohito Hideki Tojo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>Japan</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Third Reich</td>
<td>Fascist</td>
<td>Communism</td>
<td>Militaristic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Kristallnacht</td>
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<td>1. Five Year Plans</td>
<td>1. Industrialized!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2. invaded Ethiopia</td>
<td>2. Collective Farms</td>
<td>2. Invaded Manchuria (China)</td>
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<td>3. Great Purges</td>
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<td>4. Comintern</td>
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The Great Depression
Causes of Worldwide Depression

1. **German reparations** – Germany was forced to pay the Allies a total of $64 billion ($785 billion today)
2. expansion of production capacities and dominance of the **US** in the global economy
3. high protective **tariffs**  *(Ferris Bueller’s Day Off)*
4. excessive expansion of **credit**
5. **Stock Market Crash** of 1929
Impact of Worldwide Depression

1. **high unemployment** in industrial countries
2. **bank failures and collapse of credit** *(It’s a Wonderful Life) (Simpsons)*
3. collapse of **prices** in world trade
4. **Nazi Party’s** growing importance in Germany; Nazi Party’s blame of European **Jews** for economic collapse
5. contributed to the rise
6. of **dictatorships** in Europe
Causes and Effects of the Great Depression