

The Syrian Civil War

First edition. February 2020.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- Begins with Ottoman rule.
- Includes the early nationalist revolution, World War I, the French Mandate period, Great Syrian Revolt, negotiated independence, creation of the state of Israel, Ba'th Party, United Arab Republic, June 1967 War, Assad regimes, Arab Spring, and the civil war.
- Concludes with the current refugee crisis.

STUDENT TEXT

- Details the 20th-century history of Syria.
- Explains how the Cold War politics, colonialism, Arab nationalism, sectarianism, and authoritarianism contribute to understanding Syria today.
- Discusses the Assad family's central role in Syrian history.
- Describes the Syrian Civil War and the continuing refugee crisis.

PERSPECTIVES ACTIVITY

Question: What motivated Syrian protesters in 2011-2012?

Setting: A meeting of historians

SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

A short description of each lesson can be found on the unit webpage [here](#).

Students will:

- **Compare maps** of the Ottoman period, French Mandate period, and current day Syria.
- **Analyze historical images** of Syria to identify inquiry themes.
- **Compare and contrast** various primary sources about the Great Syrian Revolt.
- **Close read** a *Vogue* article and consider its value as propaganda for the Assad regime.
- **Analyze** a religious Islamic argument against ISIS.
- **Use maps, data sets, comics, and first-person accounts** to understand the plight of Syrian refugees, and use data to map the refugee crisis.
- **Examine primary sources** which illuminate a range of perspectives held by Syrian protesters in 2011 and 2012.

LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

Videos - A free online [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions.

Print Format - This unit [preview](#) includes the table of contents, a reading excerpt, and a sample lesson plan.

Digital Editions Format - Interested in what the Digital Editions format looks like? Check out our web-based curriculum [here](#).