

Immigration and the U.S. Policy Debate

Second edition. September 2018.

STUDENT READINGS

Part I: Immigration and the U.S. Experience (1630-1920)

| Selected Key Events | Selected Key People | Selected Key Terms |
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| Naturalization Act of 1790 Alien and Sedition Acts Fourteenth Amendment Chinese Exclusion Act, 1882 | Know-Nothing Party anarchists Immigrants' Protective League | assimilation Second Wave Dillingham Commission Report, 1911 |

Part II: U.S. Immigration in a Changing World (1924-2000)

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| National Origins Act, 1924 Refugee Convention, 1951 Immigration and Nationality Act, 1965 Refugee Act of 1980 | Jewish refugees Cuban refugees Southeast Asian refugees | anti-Semitism U.S. concentration camps Cold War Sanctuary movement undocumented immigration |
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Part III: Immigration in the Twenty-First Century (2001-2018)

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| September 11, 2001 Dream Act, 2010 Syrian Refugee Crisis Muslim Ban, 2017 | undocumented immigrants Barack Obama Donald Trump | deportation Islamophobia globalization DAPA, DACA |
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PRIORITIZING UNDER-REPRESENTED HISTORIES

- Shows through comparison over time that race was an important criteria for deciding who to include in U.S. society.
- Illustrates how notions of white supremacy also organized hierarchies of whiteness.
- Explains how religious prejudices have been enacted into immigration policy.
- Shows the complex relationship between immigration policy, the responses of various stakeholders, and the experiences of immigrants in the United States.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

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

Students will:

Conduct interviews about experiences of immigration, and compare and contrast accounts to understand the benefits and limitations of oral histories.

Close read the Dillingham Commission Report to examine the values that influenced anti-immigration policy in the early 1920s.

Compare early-20th century debates to today's debate.

Analyze immigration data for trends and connections to historical events.

Evaluate continuity and change over time among immigrant experiences through stories by immigrants.

Deliberate, using primary sources from across eras, the conceptual strengths and weaknesses of immigration policies today, including open, closed door, selective, and emigration reduction.

Integrate arguments and beliefs into a persuasive presentation.

Write a persuasive essay on immigration policy that includes primary source quotes.

Peer edit other students' work.

Develop problem-solving strategies by identifying challenges of refugee resettlement and crafting solutions.

LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

Videos - A free online [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions. These selected videos highlight under-represented voices:

- [What is the historical relationship between race and U.S. citizenship policy?](#)
- [How did immigration throughout the twentieth century shape U.S. policy?](#)
- [What challenges do immigrant students face?](#)

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](#).