

Citation

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Abstract

US and Iranian History Since 1906

Foreign Powers including: the United States, Great Britain and Russia have competed for influence over Iran for over the last one hundred years. This unit can be used for a Current Political Issues or any course where the relationship between the US and Iran is discussed. This unit focuses on Iran from 1906 to the abdication of Reza Khan during World War II. This unit has several goals. One goal is to help students be able explain the current Nuclear crisis in with Iran. Students should be describe the development of Iranian History since 1906 and the changes on its society. They should also be able to describe the actions of foreign powers on Iran as well. The unit includes three suggested journal articles for students, three videos and four classroom activities. Teachers may use as much or as little of this unit as they wish.

US-Iran Time Line Activity 10 points

Name _____

Students will be given a decade (for example: 1950's) and will research two events during that decade related to US and Iranian relations. Students in their timeline should include: the date(s), those involved, and an explanation of the event. On the due date, the class will make a large timeline on the chalk board or walls of the classroom. Depending on the number on the size of the class, a student can be assigned more than one decade or a specific year to research.

1940's

1960's

1980's

2000's

1950's

1970's

1990's

2010's

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/>

Category	Iran	United States	Notes
GDP per Capita			
Population			
Natural Resources			
Government Type			
Climate			
Military Service			
Electricity Production			

CIA World Factbook Activity

1. Iran was originally known as
A. Kurdistan B. Persia C. Oman D. Caspia
2. Iran's official language is
A. English B. Turkish C. Persian D. Arabic
3. What is Iran's literacy rate?
A. 85% B. 30% C. 50% D. 60%
4. What is the minimum voting age in Iran?
A. 21 B. 18 C. 25 D. 30
5. Who is the current Supreme Leader of Iran?
A. Khamenei B. Ruhani C. Zariff D. Lorestan
6. Who is the current President of Iran?
A. Khamenei B. Ruhani C. Ahmedinejad D. Khatami
7. When did the United States sever diplomatic ties with Iran?
A. 1908 B. 1995 C. 1980 D. 1945
8. Which body of water is located near Iran?
A. Gulf of Tonken B. Persian Gulf C. Pacific Ocean D. Gulf of Guinea
9. Which figures best represents the amount of oil Iran produces daily?
A. 11 million B. 4 million C. 8 million D. less than 1 million
10. How much of Iran's energy comes from nuclear power?
A. 80% B. 60% C. 30% D. 1%

Video Questions: Iran: The One Hundred Year War. Films on Demand code: 53610

1. What happened in 1906?
2. What happened in 1908?
3. What did the Anglo Persian Oil Company tried to do in Iran?
4. Who did Reza Shah collaborate with in the 1930's that upset the Anglo Persian Oil Company?
5. Who was Reza Shah and what did he want to do in Iran?
6. What is the meaning behind the Martyr's day celebration in Iran?
7. Who is Mohammed Mossadeq?
8. What was Operation Ajax?
9. Who was Avril Herman?
10. What happened after the Soviet Union and British invaded Iran during World War 2?

Video Questions: Declassified: Ayatollah Khomeini History Channel video/ Films on Demand Code: 42641

1. What does Ayatollah mean?
2. Why did the US and Great Britain view Iran as important during and after WW2?
3. Why did Ayatollah Khomeini view the US and Great Britain with skepticism after WW2?
4. What was Operation Eagle Claw?
5. Why was negotiations in the Iranian Hostage Crisis so difficult for the Carter Administration?
6. Why did Saddam Hussein fear Ayatollah Khomeini?
7. What nation invaded Iran in September 1980?
8. How did the United States help Iraq in the Iran-Iraq War?
9. Which side in the Iran-Iraq war used chemical weapons?
10. What was the Iran Contra Scandal?

Video Questions: Iran Rising *PBS Frontline*

1. What was the Shia Awakening?
2. Who is the Quds force?
3. What two events caused a brief moment of US-Iranian Cooperation after 9-11-01?
4. Why did Iran not object to the US led invasion of Afghanistan?
5. What was the "Grand Bargain"?
6. Why did the US put Iran on the Axis of Evil list?
7. Who is the MEK in Iran?
8. What is the significance of the Al Askaria Shrine?
9. What overtures did the United States make to Iran at the Iraqi Stability Conference?
10. What was Iran's reaction immediately after 9-11?
11. What was controversial about the Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadienijad?

Iran Map Activity: Make sure you can locate the following places on the map.

Tehran, **Strait of Hormuz**, **Persian Gulf**, *Natanz*, **Caspian Sea**, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, *Qom*, **Tigris and Euphrates Rivers**, **Lake Urmia**. *Italicized* names are cities, **Bold Names** are bodies of water and Underlined names are countries. A map of the region may be found at the CIA World Fact Book website <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ir.html>



University of Illinois Library Resources

Books

Keddie, Nikki. "Origins of Religious Radical Alliance" in Iran: Religion, Politics and Society. Totowa NJ: Frank Cass and Company, 1980.

Ghani, Cyprus. Iran and Rise of Reza Shah: From Qajar Collapse to Pahlavi Power. New York: St. Martins Press, 1998.

Daniel, Elton. History of Iran. Westport CT: Greenwood Press.

Martin, Vanessa. Iran between Islamic Nationalism and Secularism. New York, NY: I.B. Taurus Publishing, 2013.

Marashi, Afshin. Nationalizing Iran: Culture, Power and the State 1870 to 1940.

Journal Articles- These articles are good articles for students to understand the Relationship between the U.S. and Iran.

Hudson, Michael. "To Play the Hegemon: Fifty Years of US Policy toward the Middle East." Middle East Journal. Vol.50 no.3. Summer 1996, pp. 329-343

Hennigan, W.J. "The US and Iran are Already at War Online." *Time*. July 8, 2019. p.6.

Wright, Robin. "A New Beginning in Tehran". *Time*. Vol 183 Issue 3 p.36-41.