

The Essential Standards for World History focus a great deal of attention on conflict and conflict resolution. The following is a list of the World History Essential Standards related to this particular curriculum unit:

WH.H.1.2: .1,.2,.3 *Use historical comprehension to reconstruct the literal meaning of a passage; differentiate between historical fact and historical interpretations; and analyze visual, literary and musical sources.* This essential standard coincides with the close reading activity described in this curriculum unit. In addition, I use this standard to coincide with the assigned readings of Les Miserables and The Three Musketeers.

WH.H.1.3: .1,.2,.3,.4,.5 *Use historical analysis and interpretation to identify issues and problems in the past; consider multiple perspectives of various people in the past; analyze cause-and-effect relationships and multiple causations; evaluate competing historical narratives and debate among historians; evaluate the influence of the past on contemporary issues.* This essential standard coincides with the focus of this curriculum unit - the impact of social movements on history.

WH.H.6.2: *Analyze political revolutions in terms of their causes and impact on independence, governing bodies and church-state relations.* This essential standard coincides with the subject of this unit - the French Revolution.

WH.H.7.3: *Analyze economic and political rivalries, ethnic and regional conflicts, and nationalism and imperialism as underlying causes of war.* This essential standard coincides with this curriculum unit's focus on the American Revolution, French Revolution, and ties to the Arab Spring.

WH.H.7.4: *Explain how social and economic conditions of colonial rule contributed to the rise of nationalistic movements.* This essential standard ties the sociological concept of the herd mentality to political revolutions around the world.

WH.H.8.1: *Evaluate global wars in terms of how they challenged political power structures and gave rise to new balances of power.* This essential standard ties the sociological concept of the herd mentality to the social movements that led to World Wars One and Two.

WH.H. 8.2: *Explain how international crisis has impacted international politics.* This essential standard allows for a connection between the French Revolution and the Arab Spring, particularly how nations around the world responded to these two incidences.

WH.H. 8.3: *Analyze how "new" balance of power and the search for peace and stability in terms of how each has influenced global interactions since the last half of the twentieth century.* This essential standard connects the sociological concepts described in this unit with the Arab Spring. This essential standard is the doorway through which I am able to connect the past to the present.

WH.H. 8.6: *Explain how liberal democracy, private enterprise and human rights movements have reshaped political, economic, and social life in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe, the Soviet Union, and the United States.* This essential standard connects Sociology to World History. Through this essential standard I am able to connect social movements to political movements.

*WH.H. 8.7: Explain why terrorist groups and movements have proliferated and the extent of their impact on politics and society in various countries.* This essential standard gives me the opportunity to connect social movements and political movements across time.<sup>i</sup>

Through this unit I have written lessons that explore herd mentality. "Herd mentality...describes how people are influenced by their peers... have been prevalent descriptors for human behavior since people began to form tribes..."<sup>ii</sup> This concept helps explain how people get swept up in the revolution fervor and do things they might not normally do. "Much of human life is spent in group contexts."<sup>iii</sup> Students are very familiar with group mentality. They may not be familiar with the lexicon 'group mentality', but they do understand various types of groups such as cliques, gangs, mobs, and teams. By approaching World History through social movements and the group mentality, students will not only have a deeper understanding of why events occurred but they will also comprehend why society accepts or dismisses social movements.

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/acre/standards/new-standards/social-studies/world.pdf>. Accessed August 2013.

<sup>ii</sup> "Herd Mentality". Wikipedia. (Accessed September 2013)

<sup>iii</sup> Raimo Tuomela. The philosophy of Sociality. 13.