

War on Terror

United States and globalization [USII.T5]



Evaluate the effectiveness of the federal government's response to international terrorism in the 21st century, including the 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon near Washington, D.C., the Homeland Security Act, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, and the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars.

Topic: The politics of difference among people: conflicts, genocide, and terrorism [WHII.T7]

Analyze the events, people and conditions that have given rise to international terrorism including the emergence of the global terror network Al-Qaeda, the Taliban in Afghanistan, and ISIS, and evaluate responses by governments and societies to international terrorist activity.

Essential Questions:

1. How has the War on Terror in the 21st century impacted global security and international relations?
2. What are the ethical implications and challenges associated with the War on Terror in the 21st century?

Overview:

The War on Terror in the 21st century refers to the global military and ideological campaign initiated by the United States and its allies following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. It aimed to combat and eradicate international terrorism, particularly focusing on groups such as Al-Qaeda and later ISIS. The war involved military interventions, intelligence operations, and diplomatic efforts in various countries, most notably Afghanistan and Iraq. It also led to the implementation of extensive counter terrorism measures and policies worldwide, including enhanced surveillance, intelligence sharing, and stricter airport security. Despite some successes in disrupting terrorist networks, the War on Terror has been highly controversial due to its prolonged nature, significant civilian casualties, human rights concerns, and the emergence of new terrorist groups. Its complex and multifaceted nature continues to shape global security and counter terrorism strategies.

Materials:

Story Boards

Reader Boards

Videos of 9/11 with Major Heather Penney (flight uniform) and M1A1 Abrams and Sgt Ulloas' story

Procedure:

Direct the students to the reader boards and video displays surrounding the 9/11 display. Ask students what comes to mind when you hear the term “War on Terror”? Discuss the answers with them and the key causes of the War on Terror, such as the rise of global terrorism, extremist ideologies and the response of world powers. Introduce the concept of “blow back” explaining how the actions taken in the War on Terror have had unintended consequences.

**Assignment:**

1. Have the students watch both videos starting with 9/11 with Maj. Heather Penney and Lt. Gen. Marc Sasseville
2. There is a minute between videos and can ask if there are any questions, also a good time to point out Maj. Penny’s flight suit from 9/11
3. After watching both videos have watched encouraging questions and class discussion to facilitate a deeper understanding.
 - a. Discuss the impact of the War on terror on global politics, civil liberties, and international relations.
 - b. Facilitate a discussion on questions such as:
 - i. What are some of the moments from either film that stood out to you?
 - ii. How did the September 11 attacks impact the United States and the world?
 - iii. What are some ethical concerns raised by the War on Terror?

Conclusion:

1. Allow students to reflect on what they have learned and how their perspectives may have evolved.
2. Summarize the main points and highlight the long-lasting impact of the War on Terror.