

LESSON PLAN

Rules of Engagement

MODULE ONE. FOUNDATION: *UNIT IV. International Humanitarian Law*

Created by: Angela Nichols, Omaha South High School

| LENGTH     | NEBRASKA SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS   | McREL NATIONAL STANDARDS   |
|------------|---|--|
| 3 - 4 days | US History: 12.1.4<br>World History: 12.2.4, 12.2.9, 12.2.10,<br>12.2.7, 12.2.5 | World History: 12.1.8, 12.1.9, 12.2.10<br>US: Era 7 (24&25), Era 9 (28&29) |

| OBJECTIVES  | TERMS   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Students will discuss the need for “rules of engagement” during times of war.</li><li>2. Students will analyze examples of the rules and compare those that are followed and those that are consistently broken.</li></ol> | Rules of Engagement<br>Double Standards<br>War Crimes |

| MATERIALS   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Example list of historical wars and crimes and Sample Articles (attached)</li><li>• Rules of Engagement Worksheet (attached)</li><li>• List rules of war required by International law to be followed by each country<br/>Hague Law<br/><a href="http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/law/hague-iv-1907.txt">http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcgate/law/hague-iv-1907.txt</a><br/>Customary International Humanitarian Law: Questions and Answers<br/><a href="http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/iwpList133/E02D32D1A4976030C1256FEB005007A1">http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/iwpList133/E02D32D1A4976030C1256FEB005007A1</a></li></ul> |

**Day One**

- I. Create a class definition of **war crime**. Ask and discuss:  
“How can war have crimes? Why do we need a list of rules?”
- II. Look at the examples from the list of wars and war crimes. How was the world (or specific countries) involved?
- III. Read the specific Hague articles of war (on website above) mentioned in the attached table. Try to match examples of war to actual Rules of Engagement from the International Humanitarian Laws.
  - a. Compare rules followed to rules broken. End the class with a discussion about what should be done to those who break the rules.
  - b. Set up a chart to compare actual events and rules of engagement (see attached).

**Day Two**

- III. **Assessment:** What should we do about those who break the Rules?
  - a. Debate if there is a paradox and why there are such laws governing war.
  - b. When are rules of war to be applied and who should make that decision?

**SAMPLE WAR DATES**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| English Civil Wars<br>1625—1649                    | US Revolutionary War<br>1775—1783           | French Revolution<br>1789—1799                                      |
| US/Britain War of 1812<br>1812—1815                | US/Mexican War<br>1846—1848                 | China Taiping Revolution<br>1850—1864                               |
| US Civil War<br>1861—1865                          | Spanish-American War<br>1898                | Boer War<br>1899—1902   |
| World War I<br>1914—1918                           | US/Mexican Border War<br>1916—1917          | World War II<br>Nazi War Crimes<br>Japanese War Crimes<br>1939—1945 |
| Korean War<br>1950—1955                            | Vietnam War<br>My Lai Massacre<br>1955—1976 | Lebanese Peacekeeping Force<br>1982                                 |
| Liberia/Sierra Leone<br>Regional Conflict<br>1990— | Yugoslavian Ethnic Cleansing<br>1991-1999   | Persian Gulf War<br>1990—1991                                       |
| Khmer Rouge<br>Reign of Terror<br>1975—1991        | Rwandan Genocide<br>1994                    | Guantánamo Bay<br>Prisoner Abuse<br>2001—2004                       |
|  | US/Iraq War<br>2003—                        | Abu Ghraib Prisoner Abuse<br>2003—2004                              |

**SAMPLE TOPICS CONCERNING LAWS OF WAR**

| HAGUE ARTICLE | TOPICS                                 |
|---------------|--|
| 1             | Responsibility of capturing government |
| 4             | Treatment                              |
| 6             | Confinement                            |
| 7             | Employment of Labor                    |
| 10            | Payment of Labor                       |
| 13            | Religious liberty                      |
| 16            | Capture of sick and wounded            |
| 18            | Spies                                  |
| 23            | Reparations                            |
| 25            | Repatriotism                           |

| <b>War Example</b> | <b>Rule(s) of Engagement</b> | <b>How Rule Was Broken</b> |
|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
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