

## **Subject: Minnesota History**

**Grade Level:** 12<sup>th</sup>

**Number of Students:** 25-30

**Week:** 13

**Unit:** The Warring 40s

This week will focus on Minnesota and Minnesotans during the 1940s. Specifically this will entitle a focus on World War II. The First day of the week will be on the Armistice Day Blizzard of November 11, 1940. This is a good way to contrast old technology and new I believe. After that we will focus on Minnesotans contributions abroad, but then the last three days of the week will all be focused on issues back in Minnesota.

### **Day One:**

All Hell Broke Loose (50min)

#### **Objectives:**

1. Students will learn the significance of the Armistice Day Blizzard and compare it to modern Blizzards.

**Lesson:** Students will be split up into pairs. Each Pair will be given a different individual account from the Armistice Day Blizzard. They will read it and come up with a summery on what it is saying and why they think I chose it to be assigned. Once everyone is done with that they will both stand up and tell what their account had to say. At the end of class I will give my own personal account of the Halloween Blizzard of 1991 and compare what was different about the two.

**Homework:** None

### **Day Two:**

Minnesotans in Europe....Again (50min)

#### **Objectives:**

1. Students will learn the contribution of many famous Minnesotans during the Second World War.

**Lesson:** Students will be split into groups of three and sent to the library for the first half of class. Each group will be assigned a Minnesotan who served in the war. Some of the people I give them will have significant careers after the war but I want them to focus on what they did during the war. The groups will need to write some notes about their person and what they did. At the end of class a representative from each group will talk briefly about their person. Special Emphasis as well will be on the division of the Minnesota based 34<sup>th</sup> infantry in the Philipines.

**Homework:** None

### **Day Three:**

Wartime Industry (50min)

**Objectives:**

1. Student will learn the contribution of Minnesota Industries in the production of war materials.
2. Students will know what the industries did before the war and how it changed into a war economy.

**Lesson:** Today I will lecture about the different Minnesota industries that pitched in to produce war materials during World War II. Primary focuses for the lecture will be the Iron Ore Industry and the production of steel. The building of Liberty Ships in Duluth, and then show the contributions of companies like Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M), as well as Honeywell.

**Homework:** P.O.W Camp Reading

**Day Four:**

Germans immigrate to Minnesota as POWs (50min)

**Objectives:**

1. Students will learn how German Prisoners Of War contributed to Minnesota's war economy during World War II.
2. Students will know what conditions were like for German POWs in Minnesota POW camps.

**Lesson:** The lesson will start with a lecture. I will focus my lecture on how and why German POWs were transported all the way to Minnesota. The main focus of the lecture will be on how German POWs were able to take over specific jobs to replace Minnesotans so they could go and fight. The rest of the class will be a class discussion where students will use what they learned in the lecture and the reading to answer questions.

**Homework:** None

**Day Five:**

The Home front (Part 2) (50min)

**Objectives:**

1. Students will learn the contributions of those who did not go and fight.
2. Students will know what conditions were like in Minnesota during the war economy.

**Lesson:** Students will be split into groups of 4. Each group will be working on the same stuff as every other group. In each group someone will be responsible for either "Women in the Work Place", "The Fort Snelling Language School", "Rationing and Victory Gardens", or "Conscientious objectors/4F". Each student will need to research their topic using classroom resources or the internet. During the second half of class they will get back together as a group and teach one another about their subject.

**Homework:** Start "Minnesota History Paper". Choose a topic in Minnesota History and write a 3-4 page paper on it. Due next Friday.