

World War II: The Pacific

Grade Level: Post Secondary, College

Objectives	Students will <ul style="list-style-type: none">• research in depth the key events of World War II in the Pacific; and• debate whether dropping the nuclear bomb was the best way to end the war using a web2.0 application, 99Chats
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paper and pencils• Computer with Internet access• Print resources about World War II in the Pacific (helpful, but not required)
Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find out what research the students had done at home about World War II in the Pacific (the homework assignment for this class was to print out information the students can find online about WWII in the Pacific from credible sources). Ask if they have any relatives who fought in the Pacific. If so, ask them to recount any relevant stories they may have heard. After a brief discussion, tell students that the fighting in the Pacific was very brutal and difficult for the United States and its Allies.• Ask students if they know how the war in the Pacific ended. Then tell them that the United States dropped a nuclear bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Explain to students that they are going to debate whether the bombing was necessary and the best way to end the war.• However the debate will not be discussed in a regular classroom setting. It will occur online. Tell the students they will have to create an account in 99Chats, and

	<p>create a room for our classroom. The debate will happen during the class period for about 20 minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the debate, discuss with students their thoughts about the event. Did most students think that dropping the bomb was the best solution? If so, why? How do they feel about the fallout the Japanese suffered? Do they believe that there are times when the ends justify the means? Conclude by telling students that these are important questions they will have to consider as they assume leadership roles as adults.
Evaluation	<p>Use the following three-point rubric to evaluate students' work during this lesson.</p> <p>40 Points: Students completed their research carefully and thoroughly, created an account on 99Chats, actively participated in the debate, and actively engaged in a meaningful discussion about the moral implications of this issue.</p> <p>30 Points: Students completed their research, created an account on 99 Chats, participated somewhat in the debate, and engaged in a meaningful discussion about the moral implications of this issue.</p> <p>20 Points or lower: Students did not complete their research, created an account on 99 Chats, participated minimally in the debate, and did not engage in a meaningful discussion about the moral implications of this issue.</p>
Standards	<p>This lesson plan addresses the following standards from the National Council for the Social Studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VI. Power, Authority, and Governance • IX. Global Connections • X. Civic Ideals and Practices

This lesson plan was adopted from:

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/teachers/free-lesson-plans/world-war-ii-the-pacific.cfm>