# **Early American Immigration**

#### **Lesson Overview**

# **Essential Questions**

- What was the economic, cultural, and political effects of early American immigration?
- How can we use primary sources to see beyond numbers and statistics to find the humanity in immigration?
- How can studying immigration history reframe the way we view immigration today?

## Missouri Learning Standards: Social Studies

Theme 1: Tools of Social Science Inquiry

Theme 2: Re-Emerging America

HS American History II: Strand 1 History: Continuity and Change		
Theme 1: Tools of Social Science Inquiry		
9-12.AH.1.CC.A	Create and use tools to analyze a chronological sequence of related events in United States' history.	
9-12.AH.1.CC.B	Explain connections among historical context and peoples' perspectives at the time in United States' history.	
9-12.AH.1.CC.D	Using an inquiry lens, develop compelling questions about United States history post c. 1870 to determine helpful resources and consider multiple points of views represented in the resources.	

Theme 2: RE-Emerging America		
9-12.AH.2.CC.B	Describe the purpose, challenges, and economic incentives that impacted expansion and Westward movement.	
9-12.AH.2.CC.C	Trace the contributions of individuals and institutions on social, political, artistic and economic development.	
HS American His	story II: Strand 2 Government systems and Principles	
Theme 1: Tools of Social Science Inquiry		
9-12.AH.1.GS.A	Analyze laws, policies, and processes to determine how governmental systems affect individuals and groups in society in United States history c. 1870-2010.	
HS American History II: Strand 3 History: Geographical Study		
Theme 1: Tools of Social Science Inquiry		
9-12.AH.1.G.B.	Analyze how the physical and human characteristics of regions in the United States post c. 1870 are connected to changing identity and culture.	
Theme 2: Re-Emerging America		
9-12.AH.2.G.A	Evaluate the causes, patterns, and outcomes of internal migrations and urbanization.	
9-12.AH.2.G.B	Evaluate the effects of Westward expansion on the production, distribution, and allocation of resources and on the environment.	
HS American History II: Strand 4 History: Economic Concepts		
Theme 2: Re-Emerging America		
9-12.AH.2.EC.B	Explain how the expansion of industrialization, transportation and technological developments influenced different regions and the relationships between those regions.	
HS American History II: Strand 5 People, Groups, and Cultures		

Theme 1: Tools of Social Science Inquiry		
9-12.AH.1.PC.A	Using a United States' historical lens, describe how peoples' perspectives shaped the sources/artifacts they created.	
9-12.AH.1.PC.B	Using a United States' historical lens, examine the origins and impact of social structures and stratification on societies and relationships between peoples.	
9-12.AH.2.PC.A	Analyze patterns of immigration to determine their effects on economic, cultural, and political development.	
Theme 2: Re-Emerging America		
9-12.AH.2.PC.E	Trace the changing motivations for, nationalities of, and responses to immigration and to immigrants coming to the United States.	

## Vocabulary

- Immigration: The process of traveling into a country for the purpose of permanent residence there.
- Forced displacement: The involuntary or coerced movement of a person or people away from their home or home region.
- Immigration Act of 1891: Federal legislation that centralized immigration enforcement under the authority of the federal government, extended immigration inspection to land borders, and expanded the list of excludable and deportable immigrants.
- **Urbanization**: The process by which large numbers of people become permanently concentrated in relatively small areas, forming cities.
- Industrialization: The process by which an economy is transformed from a primarily agricultural one to one based on the manufacturing of goods. Individual manual labor is often replaced by mechanized mass production, and craftsmen are replaced by assembly lines.

- Irish Potato Famine: A period of mass starvation and disease in Ireland from 1845 to 1852 caused by successive years of crop failure.
- 1848 German Revolution: A series of loosely coordinated protests and rebellions in the states of the German Confederation, including the Austrian Empire, between 1848-1849.
- Free Soil Democrats: Minor but influential political party in the pre-Civil War period of American history that opposed the extension of slavery into the western territories.
- Transcontinental Railroad: A 1,912-mile continuous railroad line constructed between 1863 and 1869 that connected the existing eastern U.S. rail network with the Pacific coast.
- 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act: Federal legislation that suspended Chinese immigration for ten years and declared Chinese immigrants ineligible for naturalization.
- Lithography: The process of printing from a flat surface treated to repel the ink except where it is required for printing.
- Port of embarkation: The port in which a passenger started a journey.
- Berth: A fixed bed or bunk on a ship, train, or other means of transport.
- **1819 Steerage Act**: The first law in the United States regulating trans-Atlantic travel conditions.
- Coffin Ships: Ships known for their high death rates that carried immigrants escaping the Irish Potato Famine.
- Flatboat: A cargo boat with a flat bottom for use in shallow water.
- Railroad land grant: Gifts of federal lands used to incentivize settlement and the expansion of railroads.
- Broadside: A large sheet of paper printed on only one side. Often advertisements, but they've also been used to announce government proclamations, support social causes, and entertain.

• Inflation: The rate at which prices for goods and services rise and results in a decrease in the purchasing power of a country's currency.



