

Author

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Davis School District

Name of Unit

Japanese American Experience: Constitutional Issues
and Connections to Today

Suggested Grade Level(s)

12

Suggested Subject Area(s)

U.S. Government and Citizenship

President Ronald Reagan signs H.R. 422. Wash-
ington, D.C., 10 August 1988.

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Unit Map

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Number of Class Periods Required

4 class periods (90 minutes per period)

Enduring Understanding

- Diversity in the United States helps democracy to function.

Essential Question(s)

- Who is the “We” in “We, the People”?
- Is it more important to have safety or liberty?
- What is the process of social justice?

Teacher Overview

This unit considers the constitutional issues surrounding the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans and the redress and reparations granted by the United States government four decades later. Examining the Fourteenth Amendment, Executive Order 9066, Supreme Court cases, and presidential documents encourages students to compare the World War II experiences of Japanese Americans with those of Arab Americans following September 11, 2001.

Key Words

Executive Order
Powers of the President
Fourteenth Amendment

Ties to Utah Core Curriculum

United States Government and Citizenship

- Standard 1: Students will understand the significance and impact of the Constitution on everyday life.
- Standard 2: Students will understand the protections and privileges of individuals and groups in the United States.

Group Size

- Large group

Life Skills

- Complex thinking
- Responsible citizenship

Career Connections

- Social/humanitarian