

Spring Semester 2020:

Distance Learning Assignments: World

Each week, there will be a reading assignment from your textbook. For each assignment, you will need to read the assigned pages AND:

- 1. Write a 5+ sentence summary in your own words of the material covered in the reading.**
- 2. Include 2 vocabulary definitions from the reading. The definitions should be in your own words.**
- 3. You will need to email me at dalmasc@luhsd.net your summary and vocabulary. (both should be in the same email.) BE SURE TO INCLUDE IN YOUR EMAIL YOUR FULL NAME (First and last) AND Period AND THE TITLE OF THE READING ASSIGNMENT. (for example, US Reading Assignment Week One)**

You can email throughout each week day (Monday through Friday) 8:15 a.m. - 3:00p.m. if you have any questions.

Email: dalmasc@luhsd.net

Allied Gains in North Africa and Italy, Middle East Campaign In November 1942, Allied forces made sea landings in Morocco and Algeria. Led by American General Dwight D. Eisenhower, they swept east into Tunisia. The Germans quickly sent reinforcements across the Mediterranean. Meanwhile, British forces stopped Rommel and forced him out of Egypt. Rommel's Afrika Korps retreated west toward Tunisia, with the British in hot pursuit.

American soldiers did their first fighting of the war in a series of battles in the winter of 1942–1943 in Tunisia. They helped the combined Allied armies launch a final offensive in May 1943. Axis resistance collapsed in North Africa, leaving about 250,000 German and Italian soldiers in the hands of the Allies.

Using North Africa as a staging area, the Allies crossed the Mediterranean into Sicily, a large island in southern Italy. The massive invasion in July 1943 met little opposition at first. Its success alarmed many Italians. Mussolini's North Africa campaign and several other failures had caused them to lose faith in *Il Duce*. The Fascist Grand Council met on July 24 and voted to restore the king and parliament to power. Mussolini resigned the next day. Italy soon surrendered to the Allies. In October, it declared war on Germany.

German troops remained in Italy, however. As the Allies pushed north, the Germans battled them every step of the way. By October, the Allied army had taken about a third of the Italian peninsula, but they did not get much farther that year. A solid German defensive line completely stopped the Allies about 60 miles south of Rome, the Italian capital.

The Middle East was a key region for both the Axis and Allied powers. The British were concerned with maintaining control of the Suez Canal, and the Allies hoped to prevent the Axis powers from gaining access to the oilfields in Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the Caucasus. However, the Middle East, namely Iran, also served a critical role during the war as a route for supplying the Allies. Called the Persian Corridor, the route originated in the United States or Britain where supplies were loaded onto cargo ships, and the ships sailed around the Cape of Good Hope to the Persian Gulf. There, Soviet troops received the much-needed supplies. In order for the route to be efficient and effective, Iranian ports had to be developed and better facilities constructed. Better roads leading from the ports were also required. American and British forces executed this construction and development. After the war, the ports and roads were used for oil transport, benefiting the local population.



The Allied forces took around 250,000 German and Italian soldiers prisoner after Axis defenses collapsed during the North Africa campaign. Here, Axis prisoners are shaving and standing around in a temporary prison camp in Tunisia in May 1943.

The Allies Liberate France To meet that goal, Allies focused most of their resources in 1944 on an invasion of France. General Eisenhower directed the effort. To prepare for the invasion, he gathered more than 1.5 million troops in southern England. Also at his command were some 1,200 warships, 800 troop transport ships, 4,000 landing craft, 10,000 airplanes, and hundreds of tanks. Troops would cross the English Channel by ship to Normandy, in northern France.

D-Day—the day the invasion began—came on June 6, 1944. Allied planes overhead and warships offshore provided covering fire, while landing craft delivered some 50,000 soldiers and 1,500 tanks to five Normandy beaches. German forces with well-entrenched guns put up a fierce resistance. However, by the end of the day nearly 150,000 Allied troops had come ashore and controlled a 59-mile section of the Normandy coast. Over the next few weeks, the rest of the Allies’ huge army followed them into France.

In July, an American army under General Omar Bradley and a British army under General Bernard Montgomery began a rapid sweep across France. In August, the Allies liberated Paris. In September, the first American troops crossed the French border into Germany.

War in Europe and North Africa, 1942-1945 ▼



At the start of 1942, the Axis powers controlled much of Europe and North Africa. The Allied strategy for reversing the course of the war called for massive invasions of Axis-controlled territory. Allied troop movements ultimately converged in Germany, where the Allies captured Berlin, the capital city, in May 1945.