`World War 1: Unraveled

University of Massachusetts Lowell

COMP-4620 GUI Programming II

Spring 2016

Kenneth Sanders, Aliyu Zakari, Jacob Stephens

# Google docs is messing up with spacing I am doing formatting in Word for now.-Jacob Will send a PDF of this by end of night for you guys to use on Monday meeting at library

# 

# 

# 

# 

# 

# 

# Abstract:

World War I is often neglected in modern history classes even though it led to the conditions that led to World War II and the shape of modern European nations

# 

# 

# 

# 

# 

# 

# 

# **Motivation:**

# World War 1 is arguably one of the most important events in world history, it changed war forever and would cause turmoil in Europe that would lead the next World War, but for many that is all this war is. Around the globe there is a lack of knowledge on this topic, and as the world celebrates the centenary of World War 1, it became a motivation to create a website that was able to explain the events of the war from both perspectives but also keep the user engaged. The two major motivations for this site are the lack of knowledge on the war and creating a mobile first website for this topic.

The United States has various different education standards for each of the states, and looking locally two states were selected to see what they had on World War I education, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The Massachusetts Department of Education’s standards for social studies only mentions World War 1 five times. In the topic of World History, examination of certain wars and economic events focusing on the causes and effects of these events. In American History it focuses on the factors of the United States entry to the both World Wars and the consequences of World War II for the United States but not World War 1. In New Hampshire Department of Education’s standards for social studies doesn’t mention World War I directly, but clumps it together with World War II, where it students will learn how American foreign policy changed over both World Wars. Though these standards can then vary from district to district and school from school, there does seem to be lack of in depth World War I education.

In Europe, a survey done by the British Council surveyed around 1000 British citizens, they were asked various questions about WWI. This survey was done in 2014. The questions asked got startling results, where a majority of those surveyed did not know the global extent of the war. Less than half of the people questioned were “aware that North America (38%) and the Middle East (34%) played a part in the war, and less than a quarter are aware that Africa (21%) and Asia (22%).”(British Council.) Other questions posed related to the rise of Communism in Russia, fall of the Ottoman Empire and foundation of the United Nations where all answers had less than 40% knowing that these events occurred. The same survey group also asked other countries, including France, Germany, Egypt, Turkey, Russia and India. All countries had varying results in which topics they misunderstood or didn’t know. Some events also had more regional importance, where the Sykes-Picot and Balfour Declaration where the Mesopotamia was divided up into French and British territory but also creating Israel. Egyptians knew about this a lot more compared to the surveyed Europeans. The British Council’s conclusion is relevant to where, learning the events of the war will lead to a better understanding of the world today and interactions with nations that are were also affected by the war and may have a different perspective.

Many are aware that education on World War I needs to be expanded, and have created their own sites and projects to tackle this problem. Many of these sites are designed for the desktop, where when on mobile the content is awkward to move through or fonts are too small. The second motivation for this project is creating a mobile first site. This would expand the accessibility for teens which would be the target audience of this website. PewResearch in 2015 concluded that 73% of teens have access to a smartphone, which means that most students would have access to a device, but ignoring a desktop friendly site would not be good, as there are still teens and people who don’t have access to smart devices.

This project will meet GUI standards as creating a user interface that is smooth and friendly is a priority. A website that doesn’t do that will not invite users to learn about World War 1. It is important that the user interface for mobile and desktop is both readable and presentable in a proper manner. Correct color choices and properly designed CSS will allow for ease of access and interactions on the site.

https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/remember-the-world-report-v5.pdf

http://www.pewinternet.org/2015/04/09/teens-social-media-technology-2015/pi\_2015-04-09\_teensandtech\_06/

# Related Work/Background

There are already plenty of websites that go over the war, but many are video focusesed like Khan academy, or

# Proposed Work and Methods

The website will have a timeline structure that can be navigated and interacted with. The timeline will be separated into 7 different chapters where each one will have a different focus about the war. Chapter 1 and 7 will focus on the before and afters, while chapters 2-6 will be on each respective year of the war. A brief summary is provided below on the structure.

**Chapter 1: Europe Before the War**

Section 1 Imperialism and Colonialism: Will go over how various European nations were expanding their borders and how colonialism was still in effect before the war.

Section 2: The Rise of Germany: Germany before WWI was various states and under Otto Von Bismarck, Germany would unite in 1871, and attempt to expand its borders as an Empire

Section 3: Balkan Expanse: The Baltic Wars led to the weakening of both the Ottoman Empire and Austro Hungarian Empire, and would lead to instability in the region.

Section 4: Industrialization: During the 19th century various discoveries and inventions would change society and how wars were affected by the changing technology and their impact on WWI

Section 5: The Alliances: Another cause for WWI was the alliances formed between the various European nations, and who was The Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente.

**Chapter 2: 1914 and the start of the War**

Section 1: Escalation in the Baltic: Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated, and the Austro-Hungarians declares war on Serbia, and Serbia’s ally Russia gets involved.

Section 2: The Schlieffen Plan: Prepared to take on two fronts, the miltary plan for germany required it to invade Belgium to get into France.

Section 3: Battle of the Marne and Trench Warfare: The German offensive comes to a halt and across the western front trench warfare begins.

Section 4: The Western Front and the Ottomans: The Ottoman Empire joins the war and details o the Eastern front.

Section 5: Total War: Germany escalated the war, and started to bomb civilians including air raids, will discuss the definition and how it changed the war.

**Chapter 3: 1915 and Central Power Victories**

Section 1: U-boats and Blockades: Germany used its submarines to attack Allied and neutral ships, while the stronger British navy blockaded German ports.

Section 2: The War in Poland: The Austro-Hungarians fail to take Poland initially but with German assistance in taking over Russian Poland.

Section 3: The horrors of war: Germany launches the first gas attack in 1915, and how the use of artillery and trenches led to a new kind of war.

Section 4: The Gallipoli offensive: The British would take on the Dardanelles an essential sea route for the Ottomans, and would last from April-December with defeat for the Allies.

Section 5: Italy and the Balkans: Italy once part of the Triple Alliance would swap sides and attack the Hungarians, while the Serbians would be pushed out of their lands.

**Chapter 4: 1916 and Stalemate**

Section 1: The Battle of Verdun: The longest battle in WW1 between the French and Germans, where over 250,000 soldiers would die and many more injured or missing.

Section 2: The Battle of the Somme: The British launch their campaign on the River Somme, where they would use a new technology, tanks.

Section 3: The Battle of Jutland: The largest naval battle of the war between the Germans and the British, where both claimed victory for different reasons

Section 4: Ottoman Genocides: The Ottomans persecuted and killed various minorities in their territory that were christian including Greeks, Assyrians, and the Armenians.

Section 5: Other Military Campaigns in 1916: Victories in Mesopotamia for the Allies, while central power victories in the Caucasus, and Russian victories against the Austro-Hungarians.

**Chapter 5: 1917 Russia Leaves, America Enters**

Section 1: The United States enters WWI: After a telegram to Mexico and more u-boat attacks, the United States join the war.

Section 2: Russian Revolutions: A revolution in March removed the Royal rule from Russia, while later that year Lenin would lead a revolution in favor of the Bolsheviks.

Section 3: Arabia Campaign: The Ottoman Empire continue to fall due as Arabians joined the fight with Britain, and by the end of the year Jerusalem would be under Allied Control.

Section 4: Passchendaele and other Western Fronts: The war continued on the West, with British offensives and Italian defeat at Caporetto.

**Chapter 6: 1918 and the End of the War**

Section 1: Spring Offensive: Germany launched multiple pushes this year, but in the end would not be successful in victory.

Section 2: Lawrence of Arabia: A famous British officer, would lead arabian with success in Palestine and Arabia.

Section 3: 11/11/11: Peace was declared after the three central powers had made armistices with the allied forces, the actual peace talks would last into 1919.

Section 4: Wilson’s 14 Points: President Wilson wanted various things to be done to make sure peace could occur in Europe, but also ensure that new nations could exist.

**Chapter 7: Peace and the Future**

Section 1: New Nations Born: Various borders changed after WWI, the foundation of Israel would be settled, Poland became a country alongside many other new European nations.

Section 2: Rise of Communism: After the Bolsheviks, a new Russia was born and for many nations the idea of communism started its spread across the globe a lot more due to their success.

Section 3: Rise of Fascism and Nazism: As new ideas spread, two men would take over their countries and slowly cause the eventual second World War.

Section 4: Post War America: A nation that once followed the Monroe Doctrine started to rapidly change and start its rise to a super power as Europe recovered from its devastating war.

Section 5: Repeating History: Wraps up the website’s content and aims that the with a greater understanding people will understand the consequences of war and imperialism.

Site Outline:

Home Page

Summary

Chapter 1

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Section 5

Chapter 2

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Section 5

Chapter 3

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Section 5

Chapter 4

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Section 5

Chapter 5

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Chapter 6

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Chapter 7

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3

Section 4

Section 5

# Resources

# Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project member** | **Role** |
| **Jacob** | **Project Manager, Content Creator** |
| **Kenny** | **Programmer** |
| **Aliyu** | **Programmer, Quality Assurance** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week and Due Work** | **Kenny** | **Aliyu** | **Jacob** |
| **2/2** | **Work on proposal** | **Proposal Review** | **Outline Content** |
| **2/9 HW2: Proposal** | **Begin html outline** | **Html Assisting** | **Finish Chapter 1** |
| **2/16** | **Finish html outline** | **Progress Review** | **Finish Chapter 2** |
| **2/23 HW3: Prototype** | **Add basic css** | **Presentation Review** | **Finish Chapter 3** |
| **3/2** | **Image maps** | **Css Assisting** | **Finish Chapter 4** |
| **3/9** | **Work on js features** | **Progress Review** | **Finish Chapter 5** |
| **3/16 HW4: alpha (Due 3/21)** | **Finish js features** | **Testing JS** | **Finish Chapter 6**  **And 7** |
| **3/23** | **Finalize css** | **Testing Css** | **Find images and videos that support content** |
| **3/30** | **Document** | **Document** | **Create Final Quizzes** |
| **4/6** | **Revise and optimize** | **Testing** | **Create secondary Sources Page** |
| **4/13 HW5: beta** | **Final touches** | **Final Reviewing** | **Final Error Check and QA** |
| **4/20** | **Work on report** | **Work on Report** | **Work on Report** |
| **4/27 HW6: final report** | **Finish report** | **Final Report** | **Final Report** |