

1  **World War I**

2  **War reaches Stalemate**

- ❖ By early 1915 trenches occupied Western Battlefront
- ❖ No Man's-Land
 - ❖ Bombed out territory between trenches, filled with barbed wire and land mines
- ❖ Trench Warfare
 - ❖ New style of war that began with heavy artillery barrages and then men "going over the top" of trenches and charging across "no mans land"
 - ❖ Very unsanitary, dead bodies lay unburied for days, disease kills just as many as fighting does

3  **New Weapons**

- ❖ Machine Guns
 - ❖ Improved design and could fire hundreds of rounds per minute
- ❖ Tanks
 - ❖ Used and introduced first by allies at Battle of Somme
- ❖ Poison Gas
 - ❖ Could be deployed as a mist or bomb, only had a few seconds to get gas mask on or suffer a slow suffocating death
- ❖ Submarines
 - ❖ Slipped below water and attacked without warning
- ❖ Airplanes
 - ❖ Did not play a vital role in the war but set the stage for further advancements of fighter aircraft

4  **US Gets Involved**

- ❖ President Wilson tries to negotiate settlement to end conflict in 1915 and 1916 to end war, no luck
- ❖ Lusitania
 - ❖ British passenger liner sunk by German U-boats, 128 Americans Die
- ❖ Sussex Pledge
 - ❖ Renewal of earlier promise by German government to not sink ships w/o warning or w/o ensuring passenger safety
 - ❖ Came about because of intense pressure put on Germany

by US

- ❖ Zimmerman Note
 - ❖ Last straw, German Foreign Secretary Arthur Zimmermans note intercepted and printed in US Paper
 - ❖ Encourages Mexico to invade US and Germany will fully support them

5 **US Army**




- ❖ Congress declares War April 4, 1917 in response to Zimmerman note and U-boat attacks
- ❖ Selective Service Act
 - ❖ Made everyone ages 21-30 register with local draft boards
 - ❖ Later changed to 18 – 45, by wars end 24 million registered and 2.8 million are drafted.
- ❖ John J. Pershing
 - ❖ Commanded all American Troops in World War I, first troops landed late June 1917, see first action in 1918

6 **War at Home**

- ❖ Conservation of resources
 - ❖ Rationed food and encouraged “meatless and wheatless” days, also encouraged people to create victory gardens
 - ❖ Rationed fuel as well
- ❖ War Industries Board
 - ❖ Central War Agency, Oversaw everything, gathered scarce resources, est. production priorities, and set prices
- ❖ Labor
 - ❖ Working conditions substantially improve during war, Women see increased role in responsibilities and job opportunities

7 **War at Home**

- ❖ Propaganda
 - ❖ Huge campaigns are run in the US to gather public support for the war and to raise money
- ❖ Espionage Act of 1917 and Sedition Act of 1918
 - ❖ Suppressed negative opinions of the war
 - ❖ Made it a crime to “utter, print, write, or publish anything disloyal or abusive” criticizing the gov, flag, or military

- 8  **Allied Victory**
- ❖ War turns towards Allies in 1918, stop heavy offensive by Germany outside of Paris, Americans make the difference
 - ❖ Counterattack and take the Argonne Forest and other Areas in Europe that Allies had not had control of since 1914
 - ❖ German Army and Navy start to mutiny, see writing on the wall
 - ❖ Germany Surrenders November 11th, 1918
 - ❖ Wilson's Fourteen Points
 - ❖ Program for World Peace
 - ❖ 9 of Points dealt with right of people to govern themselves
 - ❖ Other points focused on the causes of war, Arms Race, trade barriers, secret diplomacy
 - ❖ Final Point was League of Nations – international peace keeping organization
- 9  **Treaty of Versailles**
- ❖ Signed in Paris June 28, 1919
 - ❖ Germany's colonies and the Ottoman Empire were divided among Allied Nations
 - ❖ Created new nations of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia
 - ❖ France re-claimed Alsace-Lorraine region
 - ❖ Germany was disarmed, forced to admit full responsibility for the war, and pay billions of \$\$ in reparations
 - ❖ Germans also could not remilitarize the Rhineland (became a DMZ)
 - ❖ No German soldier or weapon allowed into DMZ
- 10  **Global Impact**
- ❖ 8.5 million died in battle
 - ❖ 21 million wounded
 - ❖ Europe lay in ruins, Northern France completely destroyed
 - ❖ Agriculture and Industrial Regions of Continental Europe were in shambles
 - ❖ Huge food shortages in Germany, supply could not meet demand
 - ❖ Inflation skyrocketed in European Countries