

Unit 2: American Diversity: a Nation of Immigrants

[Unit 2 presentation \(Lecture Notes\)](#)

Key Question:

How have the three responses to diversity (exclusion, assimilation, pluralism) been reflected in the history of immigrants in America?

[Unit 2 Presentation \(notes\)](#)

[Unit 2 Exam preparation sheet](#)

Major Assessments

1. 3 quizzes - 20 points each from sections 1,2 and 3 (20 points each)
2. [Turn of the century immigrant experience project](#) (100 points) and [template](#) (25 points)
3. Essay and short answer exam (400 points)

Section 1 - Pluralism and the American tradition

Readings:

["From Diversity to Pluralism"](#)

[Madison's Federalist 10](#)

Terms:

Diversity
Pluralism
Exclusion
Assimilation
Privilege
Intersectionality
"Identity politics"
"Political correctness"
Majority faction

Question:

How do exclusion, assimilation and pluralism represent different responses to American diversity? Can you think of any modern or historical examples that demonstrate these three approaches to diversity?

Section 2 - A brief history of immigration in the United States

Readings:

[Excerpts from "Immigration Timeline" from the Ellis Island Statue of Liberty Foundation.](#)

*Excerpts from *The Americans* (our textbook) pp. 254-259 (chapter titled "The New Immigrants"), pp. 414-415 (section titled "Limiting Immigration"), pp. 543-544 (section titled "The Persecution Begins"), p. 691 (section titled "immigration")

Terms:

First human arrival in North America
Diversity in 17th century North America
Asylum
Naturalization Act of 1790
The transcontinental railroad and immigration
Irish Immigration
"No Nothings"
Ellis Island/Angel Island
Chinese Exclusion Act
Gentleman's agreement
Reasons for immigration to the US
Immigration to the US between 1880-1930 (1924)
Mexican Immigrants during the Depression
Refugees fleeing Nazi persecution
*Immigration Acts of 1921 and 1924 (in the book referred to as
**"Emergency Quota Act of 1921
Naturalization Act of 1965

Question:

Using the graphs in the ["Immigration Timeline" article](#), make a list of all the different groups lists from 1619 - 2000. What were the

most significant changes in the composition of immigrants to America during this time? Your answer should be supported by statistics from the graphs.

Section 3 - The immigrant experience c. 1900

Readings:

[Exhibits relating to the immigrant experience c. 1900](#)

[PBS's *The American Experience: The Triangle Fire* /video notes template](#)

[Excerpts from Jacob Riis, *How the Other Half Lives*](#)

Excerpts from the Americans (pp. 244-245, 256-259, 263-265)

Terms:

Tenements
Nativism
KKK
The American Protective Association
Urbanization (and its problems)
Americanization
Settlement houses/Jane Addams
Child Labor
Working Conditions in the early industrial period
Triangle fire
Labor unions

Question

Based on your completion of the immigrant experience project, which of the responses to diversity do you believe was most evident during the period from 1880-1920. Explain your answer with examples from your project.

Section 4 - Immigration today

Readings:

[Washington Post article immigration and crime statistics](#)

[Wharton Business School Brief on the impact of immigration on the economy](#)

Terms:

The immigration debate in 2016
Asylum
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
Selective bans

Question

Which of the three responses to diversity does US immigration policy in 2018 reflect? Explain your answer. What do you believe is the motivation for American immigrant policy in 2018? Support your answer with examples, if possible.

Lecture Outline

- I. E Pluribus Unum
- II. Three responses to diversity
- III. Diversity in Modern America
- IV. Immigration and American history
 - A. Pre-European immigration
 - B. The colonial period
 - C. The early republic to the Civil War
 - D. The turn of the 20th century
 - E. Between 1924 and 1965
 - F. Modern America
- V. The Immigrant experience, 1880-1920
 - A. Departure
 - B. The trip
 - C. Arrival
 - D. Working Conditions
 - E. Living conditions
 - F. The tension between becoming an American and maintaining one's culture
 - G. Nativism
- F. The modern debate over immigration