



K-12 Teacher EU Studies Bootcamp

Summer 2022

Culture, History, and Memorialization in the EU

Marie Sarnacki
South Lyon East High School, MI

AP European History, Grade 11-12



Objective:

Applying their knowledge of European history, students will justify the addition of a new cultural site to the EU's list of European Heritage Label sites.

AP European History Skills:

- Skill 6: historical argumentation
- Skill 7: appropriate use of relevant historical evidence
- Skill 9: synthesis

Note: This lesson can be used as a capstone for the end of the course, or you can adapt it to apply to different units. For example, it could be used at the end of a unit, with students focusing on cultural sites from that specific period.

Lesson Sequence:

1. Write on the board: "What is culture?"
 - a. Students go up and write examples of culture.
 - i. When they have finished, discuss with students and identify some strong examples of culture.
2. Write on the board: "What is a cultural site?"
 - a. Students go up and write examples of cultural sites.
 - i. When they have finished, discuss with students and identify some strong examples of cultural sites.
 - ii. Provide some examples of your own. For instance, can a restaurant be a cultural site? Try to get students thinking about a more expansive definition of "cultural site".
3. Give a brief overview of the EU Cultural Heritage Label sites.
4. Choose one of the cultural sites on the EU's list.
 - a. Have students do a think-pair-share about *why* this site is on the list.
 - i. What is its significance? What does it communicate about culture?
5. **Assignment:** Alone or in pairs, students identify a new cultural site to propose for the EU's list.
6. Students research cultural sites that are not yet on the EU's list and write a proposal for that site's inclusion on the list.
7. Potential extension: Have students present their suggested sites. The class can vote on which sites to include.



Assignment:

Step 1: Browse the list of current EU Cultural Heritage Sites

(<https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label>)

Step 2: Choose a region and/or time period to focus on.

Step 3: Research major historical and/or cultural events from your chosen region and time period.

Step 4: Identify a site that encapsulates some aspect of the cultural history of this location and time period.

Step 5: Create a PowerPoint presentation that accomplishes the following objectives:

- Describe the site. Where is it located? What does it look like? What has it been used for in the past? What is it used for in the present day?
- Provide a summary of the site's historical significance.
 - What is the site's history?
 - How does it connect to the history we have studied in class?
- Make an argument for the site's inclusion on the EU's list of Cultural Heritage Sites.
 - What does the site tell us about culture in Europe? Be specific and detailed.
 - Why does the site warrant inclusion on the list? Does it tell a story that is not well represented on the current list?
- Include at least five *captioned* pictures of the site.
- Include a bibliography slide with at least four reliable, properly cited sources.

Attachments:

1. Lecture Slides
2. EU Cultural Heritage Pre-Assignment
3. PowerPoint Grading Rubric



Culture, History, and Memorialization in the EU



What can we learn about history from the sites that we choose to memorialize?

Objective: Applying their knowledge of European history, students will justify the addition of a new cultural site to the EU's list of European Heritage Label sites.

Task #1

What is culture?

On the board, write examples of culture.

Task #2

What is a cultural site?

On the board, write examples of cultural sites. These can be from anywhere in the world.

EU Cultural Heritage Sites

The EU describes these sites in the following way:

“European Heritage sites bring to life the European narrative and the history behind it.

European Heritage sites focus on the promotion of the symbolic European values and the significant role these sites have played in the history and culture of Europe. They also offer valuable educational activities, especially for young people.

European Heritage sites can be enjoyed singly or as part of a network. Visitors can get a real feel for the breadth and scale of what Europe has to offer and what it has achieved.”

Example #1: Peace Palace, The Hague, the Netherlands

“The Peace Palace in The Hague traces the history of peace in Europe. Before the palace opened in 1913, The Hague was host to the First World Peace Conference in 1899 – the culmination of the nineteenth century peace movement nurtured by many European intellectuals.

The Peace Palace hosted international peace conferences in the early twentieth century from 1913 onwards, which aimed at regulating the arms race and settling international disputes by arbitration.

This work continues today as the Peace Palace is the seat of many judicial institutions (the International Court of Justice, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Hague Academy of International Law) and embodies the values of peace and justice. It is often called the seat of international law.”

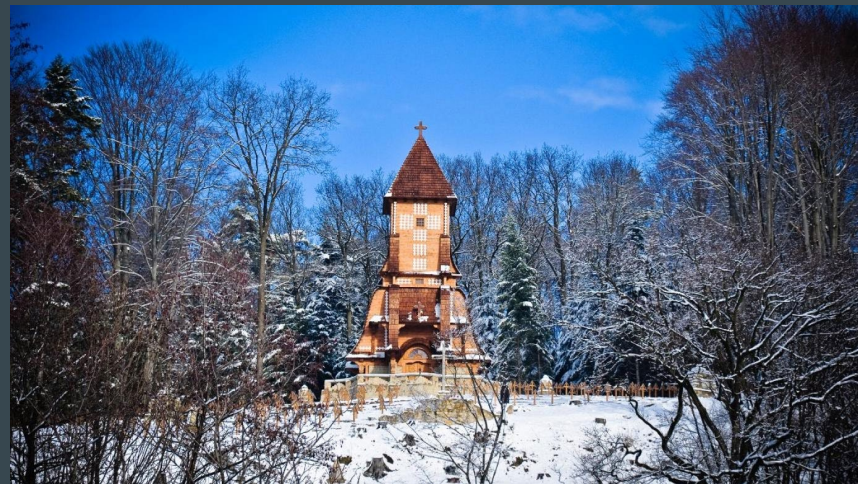


Source: <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label/european-heritage-label-sites/peace-palace-the-hague-the-netherlands>

Example #2: World War I Eastern Front Cemetery No. 123 (Łuzna – Pustki, Poland)

“Wartime cemetery No 123, established in 1918 on the Pustki hill is the scene of one of the largest battles of World War I on the Eastern front between the Austro-Hungarian and German armies and the Russian Army: the battle of Gorlice, also called the Verdun of the East. The cemetery is the final resting place for soldiers from these three armed forces, coming from territories that are part of today’s Austria, Hungary, Germany, Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Slovenia,.. and from different religious and linguistic backgrounds.

The World War I Eastern Front Cemetery No 123 is a place of remembrance embodying the idea of ecumenism, with its identical treatment of the fallen, regardless of their military, ethnic or religious affiliation.”



Source: <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label/european-heritage-label-sites/world-war-i-eastern-front-cemetery-no-123-luzna-pustki-poland>

Example #3: Archaeological Site of Nemea (Greece)

“The archaeological site of Nemea is emblematic due to the organisation of the Nemean Games in antiquity. The site includes the sport roots of Europe and the ideals of classical sports as an element for the comprehensive education of young people. The first Panhellenic Nemean games took place in 573 BC on a two years basis. In mythology, Hercules’s victory against the lion of Nemea, often found in ancient Greek art and literature, inextricably connects the hero with the site. The Archaeological Site of Nemea is a complex of well-preserved and exhibited archaeological remains, emblematic due to Nemean Sports Games.”



Source: <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label/european-heritage-label-sites/archaeological-site-of-nemea>

Example #4: Medieval wall painting in the Gemer and Malohont regions (Slovakia)

“RIMAVSKÉ BREZOVO (SLOVAK REPUBLIC), 14TH -15TH CENTURY

The Medieval wall painting in the Gemer and Malohont regions is a national thematic site of twelve medieval churches decorated with figural paintings. They represent the international character of European art and lively cultural contacts across Europe in the Gothic period.

The Medieval wall painting in Gemer and Malohont Regions bear witness to economic, cultural and artistic exchanges across Medieval Europe. They represent a shared artistic language understood by members of different ethnicities and degrees of literacy.”



Source: <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-label/european-heritage-label-sites/medieval-wall-painting-in-gemer-and-malohont-regions-slovakia>

Task #3

Choose one of the cultural sites on the EU's list. Please do not pick one we have already examined.

With a partner, discuss why this site is on the list.

What is its significance? What does it communicate about culture?

Please be prepared to share with the class.

Task #4

Look at the sheet titled “EU Cultural Heritage Sites Assignment Instructions”.

Follow the instructions and begin working on the assignment.

Note: There is a rubric on the back of the instruction sheet.

EU Cultural Heritage Sites Pre-Assignment

Step 1:

What traits do many of these sites have in common? What types of cultural heritage are *not* well represented on this list? Answer in a short paragraph. (4 points)

Step 4:

Which site did you choose? (1 point)

Notes Space:



PowerPoint Rubric

Category	Requirements	Points out of 4
Site description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least one paragraph (6 sentences) ● Grammatically correct; no spelling errors ● Detailed, specific description ● Description of the site's use in the past and present day 	____ / 4
Historical significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least one paragraph (6 sentences) ● Grammatically correct; no spelling errors ● Detailed, specific overview of the site's history ● Clear and well-explained connection to history we have learned in class 	____ / 4
Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least one paragraph (6 sentences) ● Grammatically correct; no spelling errors ● Clear and specific explanation of the site's relation to culture in Europe ● Clear and convincing argument for the site's inclusion on the list 	____ / 4
Photos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least five accurate and appropriate photos included ● Each photo has an accurate and specific caption of at least one sentence 	____ / 4
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At least four sources included ● Sources are reliable and appropriate for academic work ● Sources are properly cited 	____ / 4

Total Points: ____ / 20

Comments:

