

Topic 3 History of Germany

Lesson 3 Why have some Germans immigrated to the United States?

Lesson Objective

The student will identify prominent German Americans who immigrated to the United States

Materials and Resources

- Teacher Resource 7 “German Immigrants in the United States”
- Worksheet 13A-E “German Immigrants in the United States: Case Studies”
- Worksheet 14 “Anthony’s Family Tree”
- Worksheet 15 “My Family Tree”

Strategies

Use **Teacher Resource 7 “German Immigrants in the United States”** to get an overview of the history of popular German immigrants in the U.S. To provide a better understanding of the contributions of German-Americans to the United States, distribute **Worksheets 13 A-E “German Immigrants in the United States: Case Studies”** to students. The lesson examines the lives and stories of Levi Strauss, Wernher von Braun, Marlene Dietrich, “Old Shatterhand” and Dirk Nowitzki. Separate your class into groups and let each group give a brief lecture about “their” immigrant (time of immigration, intention to leave Germany, consequence of immigration...) using their personal notes.

By taking **Worksheet 14, “Anthony’s Family Tree”** as an example, students can identify their own national heritage. Have them fill out **Worksheet 15 “My Family Tree”** by interviewing their parents. The results of the survey can be graphed, e.g. number of students with ancestors from various countries or continents, or mapped, e.g. create a bulletin board with a string leading from the students’ picture to the country or their ancestors’ origins on a map.