MUHLENBERG COLLEGE LESSON PLAN FORMAT		
Name	Grade	Date
Derek Rosenow	7th	02/11/2025

Unit Title	Lesson
The Byzantine Empire and Medieval Russia	Basil II/ Intro to Russia

Standards Addressed

Standard - 8.4.7.D: Explain how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations have impacted the history of the world.

Objective(s)

Students will implement historical reasoning to decide how leaders could have handled situations differently.

Main Assessment(s) and Criteria for Evaluation

Leaders Decisions in history: All three leaders—Basil II, Prince Vladimir, and Batu Khan—had to make tough decisions that affected their kingdoms. Which leader do you think made the decision that changed history the most?

Follow-up Question: **How do you think leaders today, like presidents or other world leaders, make hard choices? What could they learn from the decisions made by these historical leaders?**

This is a Formative assessment, I want to see how my students are thinking about the content while relating it to today's leaders.

Set Induction

Question: “Would you follow a leader who ruled through fear?” This will help me introduce Basil II who was known as “The Bulgar-Slayer”

Content Outline

I DO:

1. Set Induction/ Intro to class
    a. I want my students to get ready to start thinking about the lesson, and what they have to do that day.
2. Guided Notes/Presentation:
    a. Basil II
    b. The Bulgar Slayer
        i. The Bulgars were giving him a hard time. The Bulgars captured a number of Greek Soldiers and placed their heads on a wall. Basil II then captured around 15,000 Bulgarians and had 14,900 blinded. He then ordered the last 100 to have one eye blinded. He sent the 100 with an eye to lead the 14,900 back home. The Czar (ruler) died of shock shortly after he saw this.

1. **Basil II was for the people and did a lot of good things for the Byzantine people, such as reducing the power of large landowning aristocrats.**
2. **But he was not a pacifist; he was in many bloody wars, and had the most famous conflicts in Byzantine History.**
3. **The battle took place between a river and a mountain and the Bulgarians felt that they had a better position, which they did, but Basil II flanked them and captured 15 thousand men.**

c. Trade with Moscow
   i. Exchanged cultural and ideas with Russia. He referred to Moscow as the third Rome. Basil II died in 1025 and the Empire went downhill ever since.
      1. **This started with Basil II marrying his sister to a Prince.**
d. Basil II the "Bulgar-Slayer" with picture
e. Medieval Russia
f. Early Russian History
g. Kievan Rus' (879-1237)
   i. The earliest settlers in Russia were Slavic Tribes who migrated there between 600 & 700.
      1. The Slavic tribes were nomadic until they settled in Russia.
   ii. They developed trade (furs, beeswax, and honey) instead of Agriculture. Their settlements grew from towns to cities.
   iii. They depended on Scandinavian Vikings to protect them and their trade routes.
   iv. These Scandinavian Vikings became the ruling class and founded a new state called Rus'.
   v. In 879, the center of trade was established in what is today Ukraine (led by the Prince of Kiev). It was the most fertile of the land and excellent for river transportation.
      1. **This was important because it was a strategic position which connected Russia with the Byzantine Empire, and Scandinavia. Also helped with luxury items such as silks and spices.**
h. The Conversion of Rus
   i. In 988, Prince Vladimir (978-1015) was converted to Eastern Orthodox Christianity, bringing Kiev and all of Rus w/ him.
   ii. With the adoption of the Byzantine faith, came their culture (alphabet, art, architecture, customs, gov't, etc).
      1. **Prince Vladimir was baptized and remember when I was talking about how Basil II married a Prince of Russia, yeah it was this guy.**
i. Results
   i. Church was closely associated w/ the Prince
   ii. Russian people identified themselves culturally w/ Byzantine instead of Europe.

j. The Mongols attack (1237-1480)
k. In 1237, Mongols invaded Kievan Rus, led by Batu Khan (grandson of Genghis Khan).
l. The Russians called them Tartars. These nomadic Asians horsemen conquered most of Russia and ruled it for more than 200 yrs (they really wanted taxes and tolls as they let the Princes rule).
m. Results
    i. Mongol Russia cut them off from the west just as the European Renaissance was getting started.
    ii. They made them very conservative and protective of traditions/ religions (attitude is the reason that later rulers who tried reforms met w /stubborn opposition).
        1. **The Mongols invasion isolated Russia, it disrupted trade routes, hindered cultural exchange, and caused political instability, and prevented Russia from participating fully in the intellectual and artistic advancements occurring in Western Europe. They could not get ideas from young Da Vinci and Michaelangelo, Christopher Columbus, and the Printing Press.**
    iii. Transition to Character Phone Design and explain to students what I want them to do for the assignment.

THEY DO:

3. Character Phone Design
    a. They will work by themselves and create either Basil II, Prince Vladimir, or Batu Khan's cell phone if they had one today.
4. Leaders Decisions in history Discussion
    a. Think pair share activity where students are thinking about the question that I will propose on the slides

WE DO:

5. Closure: Review of what they learned.

The Lesson: Teaching Strategies and Learning Activities (with Time Approximations)

Procedure	Differentiation/Accommodation
1. Set Induction (5 mins) a. I am going to talk about Basil II, which will lead me to my set induction question to get students thinking about the lesson. 2. Guided Notes and Presentation (20 mins)	1. Visuals 2. Guided Notes

a. I am going to be lecturing students about the story of Basil II and then talk about Russia. 3. Cell Phone Activity (10 mins) a. This is a fun activity where students are creating a picture of one of the leaders students have just learned about. 4. Leaders Decisions in history Discussion a. This is where I want my students to Think, Pair, and then Share about what they think about how history has affected other civilizations. 5. Closure (5 mins) a. Review of the lesson to make sure that there is no confusion, or if students have any questions.	

Closure

A review of the lesson to ensure there is no confusion. In addition, remind students what they have to do for me and what is due for homework.

Materials and Resources

- Lesson 6: Basil II and Intro to Russia
- Charcter Phone Design activity