

Eddie Durham

Lesson Plan – High School Social Studies

TEKS directives:

§113.32. United States History Studies Since Reconstruction (One Credit).

(20) Culture. The student understands the relationship between the arts and the times during which they were created. The student is expected to:

(A) describe how the characteristics and issues of various eras in U.S. history have been reflected in works of art, music, and literature.

(B) describe the impact of significant examples of cultural movements in art, music, and literature on American society.

(C) identify examples of American art, music, and literature that transcend American culture and convey universal themes.

(E) identify the impact of popular American culture on the rest of the world.

(21) Culture. The student understands how people from various groups, including racial, ethnic, and religious groups, adapt to life in the United States and contribute to our national identity. The student is expected to:

(C) analyze how the contributions of people of various racial, ethnic, and religious groups have helped to shape the national identity.

Objectives:

1. Identify how Texans such as Eddie Durham contributed to the success of jazz music in America.

2. Understand the contributions of African-Americans to a distinctly American art form.

3. Understand the importance of the jazz and big band swing eras in US History.

Description:

Jazz is often not considered to be one of the most important parts of Texas music. In this lesson, students see how cultures develop and share their musical identities, and discover that one of the unsung heroes of this important art form is a Texan.

Procedure:

1. Play the video “Eddie Durham – Ambassador of Texas Jazz”
2. Break the students into groups and have them discuss and write down a definition of “Texas Jazz.”
3. Ask each student to write a paragraph evaluating Eddie Durham’s importance to music in general.