

# Texas Dance Halls

## Lesson Plan – High School Social Studies

### TEKS Directives:

#### §113.32. United States History Studies since Reconstruction

(10) Geography. The student understands the effects of migration and immigration on American society. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the effects of changing demographic patterns resulting from migration within the US.

(B) analyze the effects of changing demographic patterns resulting from immigration to the US.

(24) Social studies skills. The student applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology. The student is expected to:

(B) analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause-and-effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions;

#### §113.37. Sociology

(12) Culture. The student understands how cultural socialization, norms, values, motivation, and communication influence relationships among groups. The student is expected to:

(A) compare cultural norms among various U.S. subculture groups such as ethnic, national origin, age, socioeconomic strata, and gender groups;

(13) Culture. The student understands how people develop social institutions to meet basic needs in a society. The student is expected to:

(A) summarize the functions of social institutions such as the family, religion, and education; and

(B) evaluate the importance of social institutions in the United States.

### Objectives:

1. Identify immigration patterns by region.
2. Summarize the differences between the characteristics and functions of the dance halls.
3. Comprehend different expression of culture through music and gatherings.

**Description:**

This lesson will help students understand the diversity of Texas culture by exploring the different dance halls and musical gathering places found throughout the state. By looking at four different halls, representing four different ethnic communities, students will expand their knowledge and understanding of many aspects of Texas heritage.

**Materials:**

Computer with projector to show video to class

Maps of Texas to distribute to student groups

A large map of Texas for the students to use as they report their findings to the class

**Procedure for class activity:**

1. Discuss the importance of music in student's lives. Encourage students to share their group experiences of music, whether at concerts, weddings, festivals, or other cultural gatherings.
2. View the video Texas Dance Halls.
3. Break the students into four groups, and assign each group one of the dance halls featured in the video.
4. Have the students locate the hall on the map, and then discuss how, when, and who built the hall.
5. Have the group report on the current usage of the hall.

