

Course Syllabus

Course Name: Holocaust Studies

Description: Students will survey the broad history of antisemitism going back to antiquity and then look closely at the circumstances of Germany following World War I that enabled the Nazi Party to take power and dehumanize the Jewish people and others. Students will also study the details of the Holocaust era, asking questions of what it means to be a perpetrator, collaborator, bystander, or hero. Finally, students will consider the broad mandate of "Never Again" and its challenges in the seven decades and counting since the Holocaust.

Estimated Completion Time: 1 Segment 16–18 weeks

Major Topics and Concepts:

- Analyzing the origins and forms of antisemitism
- Explaining the challenges of Weimar Germany and politics of the Nazi Party's rise
- Analyzing how emergency powers were used to end the Weimar Republic
- Examining Nazi ideology, propaganda, and education
- Understanding the Nazi state's process of dehumanizing Jews with the Nuremberg Laws
- Describing Kristallnacht and the German path to World War II
- Identifying other victims of Nazi terror
- Analyzing the process of forced removal to ghettos and life within them
- Analyzing the path from mobile killing squads to the Wannsee Conference
- Studying the concentration camp system and life in the camps
- Considering questions of perpetrators, collaborators, bystanders, and corporate complicity
- Describing partisans and resistance movements
- Describing the death marches at the end of the war
- Comparing the liberation of different camps and early survivor experiences
- Analyzing the Nuremberg and Eichmann Trials
- Analyzing the formation of Israel and its subsequent history
- Studying Holocaust denial and forms of modern antisemitism
- Considering the responsibilities of "Never Again"



Course Assessment and Participation Requirements:

To achieve success, students are expected to submit work in each course weekly. Students can learn at their own pace; however, "any pace" still means that students must make progress in the course every week. To measure learning, students complete self-checks, practice lessons, multiple choice questions, projects, discussion-based assessments, and discussions. Students are expected to maintain regular contact with teachers; the minimum requirement is monthly. When teachers, students, and parents work together, students are successful.