



ECHOES & REFLECTIONS

TEACHING THE HOLOCAUST. INSPIRING THE CLASSROOM.

Echoes & Reflections professional development programs provide educators with classroom-ready content, sound pedagogy, and instructional strategies to teach about the Holocaust in a meaningful way. Led by expert staff and facilitators, our programs include fundamental, thematic and focused areas of study applicable to a range of curricular school subjects.

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

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**Foundations of
Teaching the Holocaust:
History and Pedagogy**



2

**The Holocaust &
Contemporary Connections**



3

**Literature & the
Humanities**





Foundations of Teaching the Holocaust: History and Pedagogy

These programs are designed to enhance teachers' knowledge, capacity, and confidence to teach about the Holocaust. Educators are introduced to pedagogical principles and explore classroom lessons, visual history testimonies and other resources that examine aspects of the history and its continued relevance today.

Programs can provide broad historical overview grounded in effective instructional strategies or focus on specific themes aligned with Echoes & Reflections Units below:

- **Prewar Jewish Life**
- **Antisemitism**
- **Nazi Germany**
- **The Ghettos**
- **The "Final Solution"**
- **Liberation**
- **Jewish Resistance**
- **Rescue & Righteous Among the Nations**
- **Complicity & Responsibility**
- **Justice, Life, & Memory After the Holocaust**



2

The Holocaust & Contemporary Connections

Grounded in relevant aspects of Holocaust history, the following programs connect learning to contemporary issues and concerns of today, introducing Echoes & Reflections and supplementary classroom resources to examine these topics with students.

Antisemitism: Understanding and Countering this Hatred Today

It is critical for young people to understand the dangers of antisemitism today and the threat that it poses to both Jewish and non-Jewish populations. This program helps teachers to educate about antisemitism, examining its complexities from historic and contemporary perspectives. Educators gain strategies to help students respond to and counter antisemitism and forms of hate.

Advancing Civic Participation through Holocaust Education

Studying the Holocaust imparts essential lessons of civic values, including justice, tolerance, and the importance of democratic liberties. This program examines how lessons of history can instill the importance of civic action in young people from all backgrounds. By using Echoes pedagogical approach and examining the rise of the Nazi party, participants bridge memory into action and inspire students to participate in political processes in their community.

Analyzing Propaganda and Teaching Media Literacy: The Holocaust as a Case Study

Participants explore the events of the Holocaust through the lens of media, by examining propaganda deployed by the Nazis to discriminate against Jews and other minorities. Educators gain tools to facilitate classroom discussions and support students to analyze media in today's world.

How We Remember: The Legacy of the Holocaust Today

How did the world respond when the reality of the Holocaust came to light? How can we learn from the international response to crimes against humanity in interpreting memory and history? During this program, educators examine the pursuit of justice at Nuremberg, the effect the trials had on how we understand the Holocaust, how survivors coped with the trauma to build new lives in the aftermath, and how we remember and memorialize the Holocaust today.

Teaching About Genocide

Using effective pedagogy, educators examine four specific genocides, including the Holocaust, to explore common themes such as polarization, dehumanization, and denial. Participants learn about the identities of victims of genocide before the catastrophe as well as how a society was incited and organized to attack them. Educators also ponder the effects of genocide on society as well as how memorialization and memory affect their legacies.

It Starts with Words: Teaching the Escalation of Hate

The Holocaust arose out of antisemitic hatred fueled in part by the power of words. Participants examine the escalation of words to violence, which in turn, became genocide in order to consider where such a progression might have been interrupted. Educators gain tools to apply these lessons to modern day issues faced by students to ensure human dignity for all.



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Literature & the Humanities

An important element of the Echoes & Reflections approach is the inclusion of multidisciplinary methods to ensure students learn the human story behind the Holocaust. These programs, of particular interest to ELA and Humanities educators, highlight various sources – from literature to photographs – to engage learners.

Women in the Holocaust

The Nazi regime subjected women to violence that was unique to the gender of the victims, and examining the Holocaust through this lens creates a more nuanced understanding and insight into the use of gender as a weapon. This program explores the unique experiences of women as they focused on daily survival, refused to be dehumanized, and were often at the heart of resistance, whether spiritual, cultural, or armed. This program can be tailored to focus on women as fierce resisters, as survivors of the Nazi death machine, or as rescuers awarded the title “Righteous Among the Nations.”

Creating Context for Teaching the Holocaust through Literature

In this program, educators learn instructional strategies for teaching the Holocaust through literary selections. This could include a focus on Elie Wiesel’s *Night*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and/or *Maus*, or can be adapted to include other works of literature for the classroom by request. In all cases, participants explore Echoes & Reflections resources to provide essential, larger historical framework of the Holocaust to integrate into their classroom instruction. This approach will help build historical understanding, create empathy, and provoke compassion with students.

Teaching the Holocaust Using the Humanities: Integrating Photographs, Literature, Art, and Poetry to tell the Human Story

Educators learn strategies to integrate multiple primary sources into Holocaust instruction with a focus on the human experience. Programs can examine a range of sources or be narrowed to focus on a specific type of source, such as photography, art or poetry, including specific programs on The Auschwitz Album, Photography as Resistance, etc.

Examining the Holocaust and World War II: Teaching with *The U.S. and the Holocaust*, a film by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein

What did the average American know about the Holocaust as it was occurring and what was the response? This program uses content from *The U.S. and the Holocaust*, a film by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick & Sarah Botstein, to examine how the American people and our leaders responded to one of the greatest humanitarian disasters of the twentieth century, and how this catastrophe challenged our identity as a nation of immigrants and the very ideals of our democracy.



Echoes & Reflections is always happy to collaborate to customize our programs based on the needs of a particular district/institution. Contact Program Manager, **Jennifer Goss (jgoss@adl.org)**, to learn more and schedule a program.