

Teaching About the Holocaust and Addressing Standards

To support educators, the Museum provides teaching resources that address skills- and content-based Social Studies and English Language Arts standards for use in a single class period or as the cornerstone of a unit.

Each primary source-based lesson integrates common instructional themes, engaging students in historical inquiry about how and why the Holocaust happened, as well as the pressures and motivations that informed the behaviors and choices made by individuals and institutions.

To ensure that educators have access to foundational support while preparing lessons, the Museum provides a variety of **getting started tools** like guidelines, instructional best practices, and FAQs.

Please contact curricularsupport@ushmm.org to discuss how the Museum's resources can support teaching and learning that meets standards in your state.

UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
MUSEUM

INSPIRE
STUDENTS
TO ASK WHY

Content-Based Standards + Museum Resources

These standards and lessons are examples. A fuller representation can be found [here](#).

Common Themes in History Instruction	World History	US History
<p>Power, Authority and Governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Path to Nazi Genocide 	<p>Origins & History of Antisemitism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Antisemitism and the Holocaust 	<p>Eugenics, Racism, and Antisemitism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Racial Science” and Law in Nazi Germany and the United States
<p>Time, Continuity and Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holocaust Timeline Activity 	<p>Social Darwinism, Eugenics, and Racism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nazi Racism 	<p>Immigration and Refugee Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration and Refugees: A Case Study on the Wagner-Rogers Bill
<p>Migration of Peoples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges of Escape, 1938-1941 	<p>War and Genocide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Path to Nazi Genocide 	<p>Isolationism and Interventionism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation or Intervention? A Case Study on the Lend-Lease Act
<p>Individuals, Groups, and Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holocaust Narrative through Historical Photographs 	<p>Migration of Peoples & Refugees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges of Escape, 1938-1941 	<p>Causes, consequences, and effects of World War II and the Holocaust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holocaust Timeline Activity
<p>Civic ideals and practices Immigration and Refugees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Case Study on the Wagner-Rogers Bill 	<p>Technology, Mass Movements, and Propaganda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically Analyzing Propaganda 	<p>Individual, Group, and Government Responses to the Holocaust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behind Every Name: Animated Series

Skills-Based Standards + Museum Resources

These standards and lessons are examples. A fuller representation can be found [here](#).

Literacy Skills in ELA and Social Studies	Historical Thinking Skills
Reading for Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Holocaust 	Chronological Thinking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holocaust Timeline Activity
Identifying Textual Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring Holocaust-era Diaries 	Historical Comprehension <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holocaust Narrative through Historical Photographs
Assessing, Creating, and Supporting Claims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Racial Science” and Law in Nazi Germany and the United States 	Historical Analysis and Interpretation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring Anne Frank’s Diary
Demonstrating Knowledge of Language and Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critically Analyzing Propaganda 	Historical Research Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation or Intervention? A Case Study on the Lend-Lease Act
Evaluation, Analysis, and Synthesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration and Refugees: A Case Study on the Wagner-Rogers Bill 	Application of Understanding of Historical Issues to Contemporary Analysis and Decision-Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Antisemitism and the Holocaust