



StandWithUs

Holocaust Education Center

School Core Seminars for 2025–2026

HEC core seminars are customizable and
can be delivered on Zoom or in-person.

Please email us at **MatthewL@StandWithUs.org** or
NiliA@StandWithUs.org.



2 How a Mass Movement Led to the Holocaust

This presentation uses sociologist Eric Hoffer's book, *The True Believer*, as a starting point to examine how mass movements evolve, and how societies can be poisoned to hate "the other," even to the point of standing idly by while mass murder is committed.



4 Understanding Kristallnacht as a Tipping Point to Genocide

Germany's Kristallnacht pogrom will be put into historical perspective in order to understand its impact on the Nazi psyche and the Holocaust.

1 An Introduction to the Holocaust

This introductory presentation gives a basic overview of the Holocaust, including the context and impact of European antisemitism throughout the centuries.



How could the Holocaust have happened?

3 How Propaganda Fueled the Holocaust

This presentation examines antisemitic Nazi propaganda during the 1930s and 40s and how it prepared society for mass murder.



5 Windows into the Holocaust

This lesson explores the Holocaust through photos that feature windows and mirrors to help students empathize with the victims of the Nazi genocide.



7 Righteous Among the Nations Who Rescued Jews

This lesson looks at how “upstanders” across Europe helped save the lives of Jews. Case studies include Denmark’s “rescue by sea” of nearly all Danish Jews, the heroism of Irena Sendler in Warsaw, the diplomatic efforts of leaders like Chiune Sugihara, etc.

The presentation ends with a virtual visit to the Garden of the Righteous at Yad Vashem.

6 Jewish Resistance

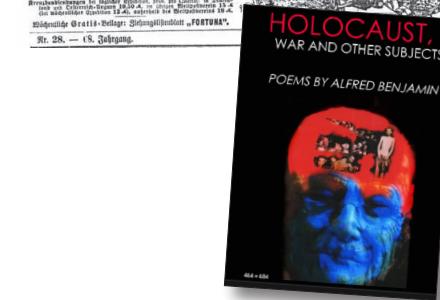
This presentation is an overview of the many ways in which Jews resisted during the genocide. These include spiritual and major resistance events of the genocide, such as the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, the death camp revolts, etc. We will also look at the thousands of young Jews who joined partisans in forests across Eastern Europe, both to fight Germany and rescue other Jews from the ghettos.



8 Women in the Holocaust—The Story of Ravensbrück

Historian and sociologist Judith Buber Agassi (1924–2018) researched the women’s concentration camp Ravensbrück for over 10 years. Her book includes first-hand testimonies of survivors and uncovers the names and stories of many who did not survive. This presentation will address the main question of Buber Agassi’s research: What helped women survive during the Holocaust?

Hamburger Fremden-Blatt.



9 Living Photography and Poetry of the Holocaust—The Art of Alfred Benjamin

In the spring of 1934, 17-year-old Alfred Benjamin, a Jewish photographer for the daily *Hamburger Fremdenblatt*, set out to take photos of Hitler addressing the residents of Hamburg. Years later, Benjamin escaped through London to Los Angeles and recalled, “I suddenly realized that . . . he wanted to kill Jews.” This presentation will discuss the photography and artwork of this unique witness to Hitler’s rise to power.

10 Behind the Swastika: Where Hatreds Meet

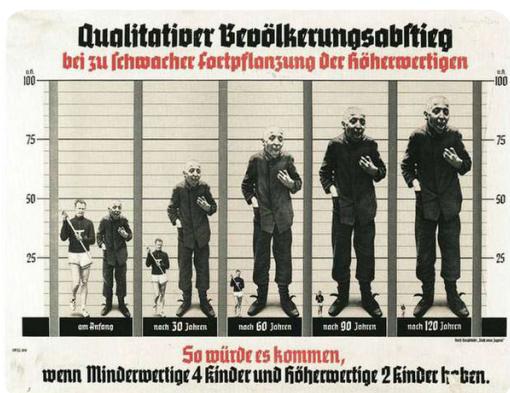
Opening with the genocide committed by Germany in Namibia, the lesson traces how the genocidal worldview of Nazism led to the Holocaust. Hitler's admiration for U.S. Jim Crow laws and "Manifest Destiny" are also discussed, as is how the Nazis dehumanized and demonized Jews and Blacks alike.



Credit: Wikimedia Commons

11 The Aktion T4: Prelude to the Holocaust

Beginning with the Nazis' genocidal worldview involving "negative" eugenics, we will explore how Germany dehumanized people with physical and mental disabilities as "useless eaters." We will examine the Aktion T4, sometimes called a prelude to the Holocaust, in which 100,000 people with disabilities were murdered in gas chambers.



12 Holocaust Denial

Holocaust denial is an attempt to negate the established facts of the Nazi genocide of European Jews. Holocaust denial and distortion are forms of antisemitism, prejudice against, or hatred of Jews. This presentation will discuss the scope and consequences of Holocaust denial in the larger framework of Break the Hate, combating ignorance-based hate by learning the truth about our past.



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