

Internet Resources for Teaching the Holocaust

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

- Online Exhibitions – <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/index.php?content=online/>
The museum features many of its temporary exhibits in an online format complete with historical summations, photos of relevant artifacts, and details related to the artifacts. These can be particularly helpful because they provide detail and nuance to an overview of the Holocaust. Highlights of the exhibitions include [Kristallnacht](#), [Life Reborn](#), and [Anne Frank](#). Look for ways to introduce these and other exhibition topics in unusual ways: for example incorporate a study of the [1936 Nazi Olympics](#) during a current Olympic year. Look at the life of women in the Holocaust during Women's History Month.
- Photo Archives – <http://www.ushmm.org/research/collections/photo/>
This provides a searchable database of photos for use in your class. Photos range from prewar Jewish life to liberation and Nuremberg Trial photos. They are valuable for illustrating points without resorting to disturbing images of bodies and crematoria. I highly recommend using a photo analysis lesson to begin your unit on the Holocaust. We emphasize personalizing and individualizing this history and a simple search of prewar photos offers students a chance to see the lives and culture that were destroyed by the Nazis.
- Holocaust Encyclopedia – <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/>
This site provides short, easily read articles on the primary subjects of the Holocaust. Links within articles allow for further exploration of a topic. Maps and photographs supplement the text. These articles are ideal for classroom use because they are short and they do not assume extensive prior knowledge of the Holocaust.
- Library - <http://www.ushmm.org/research/library/>
 - Ask a Question: Resource specialists at the museum will conduct research to answer questions about resources and historical content. Questions involving controversial claims or extensive research that are beyond the expertise of the library staff are forwarded to historians in the museum. Be as direct and succinct as possible in addressing your question and conduct your own research first in order to ask a more informed and effective question to minimize your wait time.
 - Search Engine for Holocaust books/articles: This is the most specialized search engine available for Holocaust resources. Advanced searches allow for multiple search categories and by setting limits you are able to filter date and language requirements. The search provides Library of Congress call numbers for these resources which you can then retrieve from most university libraries or interlibrary loan through your community or school library.
 - FAQ: Addresses questions about Anne Frank, Holocaust related quotations featured in the museum, facts about victims and camps, and basic history about the museum.
 - Bibliographies: These are separated into topics such as victims groups, Nazi terminology, children, and the 1933 Nazi book burnings. If you need help with a specialized bibliography, submit a request to the library detailing what your project is and what resources you have already located - they will be happy to assist you. Don't forget to use the search feature on this page to help you.

- Mapping the Holocaust – <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/focus/maps/>
Clearly illustrated maps of populations, ghettos, camps, military movements, and resistance activities among others. Maps are tied to suggested Holocaust Learning Center articles and can be used in conjunction with the articles or independently.
- For Teachers - <http://www.ushmm.org/education/foreducators/>
Offers online tutorials, the USHMM guidelines, and sample lessons from museum staff and teachers, as well as information about student contests.
- Committee on Conscience - <http://www.ushmm.org/conscience/>
Excellent tool for discussing the contemporary implications of the Holocaust. This also offers the teacher an opportunity to discuss genocide in general, current events, and geography. Students could be encouraged to look for current news items in magazines, in newspapers and on the evening news related to the events in countries currently under genocide watches.

Simon Wiesenthal Center

- Multimedia Learning Center – <http://motlc.wiesenthal.com/>
Offers online exhibitions, short definitions and synopses of Holocaust topics, and teacher resources including timelines, glossaries, FAQ's and the poster exhibition *The Courage To Remember* which explores the Holocaust through pictures.
- Children of the Holocaust – <http://www.museumoftolerance.com/site/pp.asp?c=arLPK7PILqF&b=249655>
Offers brief biographies of children caught up in the Holocaust. Another excellent tool for personalizing this history. What makes it particularly valuable is that the student will be able to relate to the ages of these victims.

Yad Vashem

- Auschwitz Album – http://www1.yadvashem.org/exhibitions/album_auschwitz/home_auschwitz_album.html
This collection of photographs shows the “processing” of a transport of Hungarian Jews in 1944. While we do not know why the photographs were taken, they offer an excellent illustration of the system employed at the Birkenau ramp and offer the teacher a non-graphic way to teach the system of the death camp.
- Documents of the Holocaust – http://www1.yadvashem.org/about_holocaust/index_about_holocaust.html
Collection of over 200 primary source documents broken down by country (Germany/Austria, Poland, Soviet Union). Within the categories they are arranged chronologically to demonstrate the progression of Nazi policy toward the Jews and the formulation of the Final Solution. Sources included have been rigorously authenticated and as such provide an excellent tool for teaching with primary sources. These documents are primarily perpetrator documents, so for primary source victim perspectives you should consult diaries written between 1933-1945.

Aktion Reinhard Camps – www.deathcamps.org

This site offers the most complete collection of information and photographs about the Operation Reinhard Death camps available on the internet. Detailing the operations of Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka and Majdanek, this site offers teachers and students the opportunity to gain new information as well as free use of their materials with credit.

German Propaganda Archive - <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/>

This site has an excellent segment on antisemitism and its use in Nazi propaganda. A highlight of this collection is *Der Giftpilz* (*The Toadstool* a.k.a. *The Poisonous Mushroom*) which was used to teach antisemitism to elementary schoolchildren in the Nazi public school system.

Beyond the Pale - <http://www.friends-partners.org/partners/beyond-the-pale/english/20.html>

Excellent resource for teachers to learn about the history of modern antisemitism. This site is rich with images from religious anti-Judaism as well as political and cultural images demonizing Jews.

Anti-Defamation League

- Dimensions Online – http://www.adl.org/education/dimensions_18_2/default.asp
This journal, recently moved to an online format, gives teachers access to many articles in the print version free of charge. It can also be used to supplement high school lessons on the Holocaust.
- Holocaust – http://www.adl.org/main_Holocaust/default.htm
This site has an excellent segment on Holocaust denial. We do not advocate teaching about denial to children, but this can be a valuable resource for you to be aware of so that you are prepared for comments and questions.

Jewish Foundation for the Righteous – <http://www.jfr.org>

This website offers links to stories of Gentile rescuers during the Holocaust. In addition to famous rescuers like Irena Sendler, students can learn about rescuers they may otherwise never hear of and how these individuals risked their own lives to save Jews in occupied Europe.

Shoah Visual History Foundation – <http://www.vhf.org>

Additional Classroom Resources offers links to a free download of a teaching guide to *Last Days*, tips for how to enhance the use of survivor testimony in your classroom, and *Children Speak*, an online exhibit featuring survivor testimony from child survivors. In March 2004 clips of survivor testimony will be available online.

Midwest Center for Holocaust Education – www.mchekc.org

- Annotated Videography, Webography, Bibliography
- Timelines, Glossaries, Primary Source Documents
- Teaching units
- Links to other reputable sites
- Watch for upcoming seminar announcements

Notes on using Internet Sources

1. Carefully evaluate the material you see on a web site. We recommend linking to reputable sites through MCHE, USHMM, or other organizations you know you can trust.
2. Do not allow your students to search for Holocaust information through a service like Google or Yahoo. Denier web sites are carefully worded such that they appear alongside reputable sites and your students may not be able to determine which is which. We recommend having them link to reputable sites through MCHE, USHMM, or other organizations you know you can trust.
3. Internet sources lacking editorial control, such as Wikipedia, are not considered reliable sources and should be avoided in Holocaust studies.
4. No Internet resource should ever be used as a stand-alone. We recommend using these sites as supplements only.