

Holocaust Education Methods Class: A Practical Approach to Teaching About the Holocaust

Rationale:

This course will provide an opportunity for participants to learn how to present information to students about the Holocaust. The course will use primary and secondary sources, testimonies, videos and group discussions. It is designed to introduce best practices for the teaching of the subject.

Course Goal:

Provide information and demonstrate best practices through various teaching strategies.

Course Objectives:

1. Teachers will develop confidence in their ability to teach the subject of the Holocaust
2. Teachers will learn how to prepare students for the study of traumatic events like the Holocaust
3. Teachers will be able to use the information about the topic to provide learning experiences in different modalities for students with varying learning abilities and styles
4. Teachers will learn how to evaluate and select appropriate materials for their grade levels
5. Teachers will create and develop lesson plans that will be useful in teaching about the Holocaust

Course Description:

A Practical Approach to Teaching About the Holocaust will examine best practices in the field of Holocaust Education. Various methods of delivery will be presented and evaluated. Teachers will have an opportunity to develop their own rationales and method for presenting the subject.

Topics covered will be:

- Pedagogical writings about the Holocaust
- How to determine what is age-appropriate for students
- Methods of delivery of the topic that are suitable for addressing different modalities
- Analyzing and evaluating various teaching styles

Course Outline:

- **Session I – Examination and discussion of best practices**
 - Examine and discuss of best practices
 - Essential Question: What is your rationale for teaching about the Holocaust?
- Learning Centers:
Explore different modalities for presenting the same topic within Holocaust education:
 - Center I
 - Lecture style
 - Center II
 - Interactive class discussion –Socratic Method
 - Center III
 - Cooperative Learning

- Center IV
 - Using the Arts to teach about the topic
- **Break – 15 minutes**
- Demonstration of the Lesson prepared by each Center. Include materials needed, classroom set-up and with whom this lesson would be used appropriately.
- **Brainstorming**
 - Work with a partner to list as many ways of presenting materials to students on the subject of the Holocaust
 - Discuss and evaluate the various methods
 - How have best practices been addressed in the session
- Quick Write
 - If you had only one class session what your lesson plan look like?
- Homework
 - a. Choose a theme of the Holocaust and prepare a demonstration of how you would introduce this topic in a class
 - b. Develop a rubric for evaluation a lesson on your chosen topic
- **Session II – Developing Appropriate Lessons**
 - **Class discussion:**
 - How have you used the information from the classes you have already taken?
 - **Presentation of Homework assignments**
 - Evaluation of each lesson using the prepared rubric for the individual assignment
- **Break – 15 minutes**
- **Cooperative Learning:**
 - Prepare a list of possible resources for teaching about your given topic (hint – think about using Internet sites, IWitness, Survivor testimonies, artifacts, visual aids and print material. **Be specific for each topic**)
- **Submission of a video or digital recording of a lesson on the Holocaust presented to a class of students.**
 - Discuss requirements
 - Submission date
- **Exit Ticket**