

Beyond the Holocaust: Studying Global Jewish History Through the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive

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Description: The VHA contains over 50,000 videotaped “life history” interviews with Holocaust survivors and witnesses. It is not generally thought of as a source for history of the pre- and post-war periods, but this session aims to highlight its potential usage for pre-war life and post-war migration and resettlement. Deborah will discuss the structure and content of VHA testimonies of the pre- and post-war periods, as well as show the still photographs which are embedded at the end of most testimonies in the VHA. She will emphasize the global nature of the VHA and demonstrate ways of searching by geography, language and time period. Deborah has worked with the VHA since 2013, leading workshops for librarians, faculty and graduate students, and teaching undergraduates from first year students in an Honors Research Seminar to upper-level history undergraduates.

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