

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach

Lesson Plan: Wannsee Conference: Towards the Final Solution

Time	Objectives & Activities	Standards / -Benchmarks
It is estimated that this lesson should take 30 minutes.	<p>Objectives: Grades 9-12</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Students will understand the importance of the Wannsee Conference and how it fits into the larger pattern of persecution of the Jews in Europe. Students will be able to analyze the purpose and nature of the decisions made at the Wannsee Conference. Students will know the amount of territory controlled or occupied by the Nazis by 1942 and understand the significance of this in the execution of the "Final Solution." Students will identify the Population Document and recognize its unprecedented nature in history as part of the Wannsee Conference 	<p>LAFS.910.L LAFS.1112.L <i>Language Standards</i></p> <p>LAFS.910.L.3 LAFS.1112.L.3 <i>Vocabulary Acquisition & Use</i></p> <p>LAFS.910.L.3.4 LAFS.1112.L.3.4</p>
	<p>Materials:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> whiteboard &/or tablet and markers Writing material HMM Panel #16 or picture of the Wannsee Conference Jewish population document. Nazi chart of the Jewish population of Europe Photos from the web sites on the Wannsee Conference http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/holocaust/about/04/wannsee_conference.asp 	<p>-Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-measuring words and phrases</p> <p>SS.912.W <i>World History</i></p> <p>SS.912.W.1 <i>Utilize historical inquiry skills and analytical processes</i></p>
	<p>Procedures/Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Place vocabulary words on board or tablet – review words with students (Final Solution, Wannsee Germany, <i>Judenfrei</i>) Facilitator: This is a different photograph from all the ones we saw at the Memorial. So far, we have seen photographs of the players in the Holocaust (Germans, Jews, collaborators, victims, bystanders, people who saved Jews as well as perpetrators.) We have learned about the Nazi propaganda, the creation of ghettos, but this is not a picture, it's a table with numbers of the Wannsee Conference. Now take your phones/iPads and find two facts about the Wannsee conference. Students will inquire and then share the information found. Discussion questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the language used? What information does the table give? What do the numbers represent? What do you notice about the countries' grouping? Where did most Jews live in Europe? Looking at the word <i>Judenfrei</i> and breaking it up into two elements, what do you think it means? How did presenting this chart at the meeting further the Nazi plan in regards to the Jewish people in Europe? Facilitator: In the Wannsee Conference plans for the Final Solution were drawn to end Jewish life in Europe. The Nazis planned to kill 11 million Jews. They succeeded in killing 6 million. Before the Nazi takeover of power in 1933, Europe had a vibrant and mature Jewish culture. By 1945, most European Jews—two out of every three—had been killed. Most of 	<p>SS.912.W.1.4 -Explain how historians use historical inquiry and other sciences to understand the past</p> <p>SS.912.W.1.3 -Interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources</p> <p>SS.912.W.7.8 -Explain the causes, events and effects of the Holocaust (1933-1945) including its roots in the long tradition of anti-Semitism, 19th century ideas about race and nation and Nazi dehumanization of the Jews and other victims.</p> <p>SS.912.W.7.11 -Describe the effects of WWII</p>

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	<p>the surviving remnant of European Jewry decided to leave Europe. Hundreds of thousands established new lives in Israel (British Mandate Palestine), the United States, Canada, Australia, Great Britain, South America, and South Africa.</p> <p>6. Once they have identified the population of Jews in each of the countries, what would be the next steps in implementing the Final Solution?</p>	
	<p><u>Assessment:</u> Have students break up into groups of 3 and prepare a list that would articulate the steps necessary to implement this plan based on a designated country on the list. Have students identify the steps they've articulated to the class on tablet paper and have the class compare each of the lists. (bureaucratic planning, establishing systemic organizations to take the plan forward, propaganda being established to reinforce the need for "extermination", identifying leaders to implement the orders, etc.)</p>	
	<p><u>Follow Up (Homework, Reports, Etc as needed)</u> [To be Determined by the teacher]</p>	

NOTES:

The lesson plan corresponds to Holocaust Memorial panel #16 in the Arbor of History. It can be used as a pre or post visit classroom lesson and is also can be adapted to be used independent of a site visit.

***Support for Reading/Strategic Imperatives:**

This lesson plan supports "Areas of Focus" Number 1 – Strengthen Foundation Skills, of the Florida's Next Generation PreK-20 Education Strategic Plan. Two of its objectives are "to increase rigor of standards to improve student achievement in VPK-12" and "to utilize assessment to direct instruction effect and student outcome."

Link to PDF about Education Strategic Plan:

<http://fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7568/urlt/0073746-strategic.pdf>

Notes:

On January 20, 1942, 15 high-ranking Nazi party and German government leaders met under the leadership of SS Lieutenant General Reinhard Heydrich at a lakeside villa in the wealthy Wannsee district of Berlin. Heydrich called the meeting on the basis of an order instructing him to coordinate logistics for carrying out "*the final solution of the Jewish question.*"

Heydrich indicated that approximately 11,000,000 Jews in Europe would fall under the provisions of the "Final Solution." In this figure, he included not only Jews residing in

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Axis-controlled Europe, but also the Jewish populations of the United Kingdom, and the neutral nations (Switzerland, Ireland, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, and European Turkey). Notice Estland (Estonia) shows no Jews (*judenfrei*). Does it mean that there were no Jews in that area? The answer is NO. By the time of the Wannsee Conference, the Jews of Estonia has already been murdered.

In the table, the A countries were countries already invaded. B countries were not yet conquered by Germany by the time of the conference.

Lithuania had 90,000 Jews but at the time of the conference, the Nazis had killed many of them.

The numbers in France include Jews from Algeria and Morocco, and Italy's number includes the Jews of Libya.

Albania saved their Jews because the Muslims of Albania had an honor code: If someone comes to you for help, you have the obligation to help them. Their Jewish community was only of 200 people, By the end of the war, they were 600.

http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/holocaust/about/04/wannsee_conference.asp

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L a n d	Zahl
A. Altreich	131.800
Ostmark	43.700
Ostgebiete	420.000
Generalgouvernement	2.284.000
Bialystok	400.000
Protectorat Böhmen und Mähren	74.200
Estland - judenfrei -	
Lettland	3.500
Litauen	34.000
Belgien	43.000
Dänemark	5.600
Frankreich / Besetztes Gebiet	165.000
Unbesetztes Gebiet	700.000
Griechenland	69.600
Niederlande	160.800
Norwegen	1.300
B. Bulgarien	48.000
England	330.000
Finnland	2.300
Irland	4.000
Italien einschl. Sardinien	58.000
Albanien	200
Kroatien	40.000
Portugal	3.000
Rumänien einschl. Bessarabien	342.000
Schweden	8.000
Schweiz	18.000
Serbien	10.000
Slowakei	88.000
Spanien	6.000
Türkei (europ. Teil)	55.500
Ungarn	742.800
UdSSR	5.000.000
Ukraine	2.994.684
Weißrußland aus- schl. Bialystok	446.484
Zusammen: über	11.000.000