

Holocaust Education for Democratic Values

A Historical-Pedagogical Study Workshop

Dr. David Netzer

The workshop explores universal meanings of the Holocaust, in accordance with the premise that studying history within social and moral contexts integrates meaningful understanding of the past with strengthening humanistic-democratic world-view.

The active learning methodology triggers active personal engagement. Historical materials serve as a platform for interactive discussions on social and moral issues such as: How can Democracy survive profound social crisis? What can ordinary citizens do in the face of non-democratic processes? Can Democracy and Nationalism co-exist in a multicultural social setting? How can moral education avoid becoming indoctrination? What drives racism and how can we fight it? How can we educate for personal and social upstanding against wrongdoing? What are our circles of obligations? **What can we learn from the Holocaust for our life today?**

Sessions regularly include historical input; experiential learning; and pedagogical analysis.

Course exercises and the final assignment will focus on practical educational implementations of the workshop contents, partly practiced through peer-teaching.

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Publications:

The Work and Impact of the Center for Humanistic Education, UK: University of Sussex (PhD thesis), 2008.

Painful Past in the Service of Israeli Jewish-Arab Dialogue: The Work of the Center for Humanistic Education at the Ghetto Fighters House in Israel.

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<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002259/225973e.pdf>