

# Teaching about the Holocaust

## *Suggested Topic Areas for a Course of Study on the Holocaust*

The Museum has identified topic areas for you to consider while planning a course of study on the Holocaust. We recommend that you introduce your students to these topics even if you have limited time to teach about the Holocaust. An introduction to the topic areas is essential for providing students with a sense of the breadth of the history of the Holocaust.

### **1933–1939**

- Dictatorship under the Third Reich
- Early Stages of Persecution
- The First Concentration Camps

### **1939–1945**

- World War II in Europe
- Murder of the Disabled (“Euthanasia” Program)
- Persecution and Murder of Jews
- Ghettos
- Mobile Killing Squads (Einsatzgruppen)
- Expansion of the Concentration Camp System
- Killing Centers
- Additional Victims of Nazi Persecution
- Resistance
- Rescue
- United States/World Response
- Death Marches
- Liberation

### **POST 1945**

- Postwar Trials
- Displaced Persons Camps and Emigration

In addition to these core topic areas, we recommend that, in your courses, you provide context for the events of the Holocaust by including information about antisemitism, Jewish life in Europe before the Holocaust, the aftermath of World War I, and the Nazi rise to power.