



## Online Courses for High School Students

1-888-972-6237

### **GOVERNMENT AND GENOCIDE**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

All Around us, today's news is filled with events that threaten democracy. Are we desensitized to man's inhumanity toward man? Why should we study about tragedy and human suffering? A famous philosopher, George Santayana, put it this way "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it". History is cyclical. By analyzing the steps taken and the mistakes made in the past, perhaps we can end the cycle of violence. The lessons of history are often ignored as we push ourselves forward. Mistakes are all too often repeated. Do we want the next generation to blindly follow "charismatic leaders" who "appeal to prejudice, fear, and ignorance"? In this course students will view documentation of the Holocaust, the worst case of butchery during the twentieth century. Briefly, we will make connections to African slavery, destruction of Native American Culture, the events that led to the Armenian genocide, mass murder in Nanking, China, and more recently in Cambodia, Tibet, Rwanda and Bosnia. Over all the main emphasis is placed on the students to become aware of their situations and not to accept simple solutions to complex problems.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- 1 – Identify and analyze events that threatened democracy in one of the most murderous centuries in history.
- 2 – Examine conflicts between majority and minority groups.
- 3 – Study the process of how a nation can degenerate from a democracy into a totalitarian state.
- 4 – Examine and explain how public policy can lead to genocidal ends.
- 5 – Use the Internet to research genocidal events – accessing primary source documents for relevant historical information.
- 6 – Sift through differing and sometimes conflicting points of view and form judgements.
- 7 – Compare and contrast similarities and differences among genocidal acts – understand cause and effect, draw conclusions and predict consequences.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**COURSE LENGTH:** One semester

#### **TEXTBOOK REQUIRED:**

Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior

Author: Margot Stern Strom

Facing History and Ourselves Foundation, Inc

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## COURSE OUTLINE:

### Audio Lesson Series

- Opening Lesson – Course Description

### Unit One

- Lesson 1 - Genocide
- Lesson 2 – Shaping Identity – Prejudice
- Lesson 3 – Stereotyping, Tolerance, and the Origins of Anti-Semitism

### Unit Two

- Lesson 1 – Nationalism
- Lesson 2 – Social Darwinism
- Lesson 3 – The Armenian Massacre

### Unit Three

- Lesson 1 – The Failure of the Weimar Republic

### Unit Four

- Lesson 1 – The Rise of Fascism
- Lesson 2 - Nazism and Totalitarianism Part I
- Lesson 3 - The Nazi Party and Totalitarianism Part II

### Unit Five

- Lesson 1 – Reorganization of German Society
- Lesson 2 – Propaganda – Conformity and Obedience
- Lesson 3 – Escalating Violence

### Unit Six

- Lesson 1 – The Holocaust
- Lesson 2 – Creation of the Camps – Background to Auschwitz
- Lesson 3 – Arrival in Auschwitz
- Lesson 4 – A “Normal” Day in Auschwitz
- Lesson 5 – Jewish Resistance

### Unit Seven

- Lesson 1 – Bystanders and Rescuers

### Unit Eight

- Lesson 1 – Aftermath, Liberation and Judgement

### Unit Nine

- Lesson 1 – Historical Legacies

### Unit Ten

- Lesson 1 – Choosing to Participate