

# The Holocaust in Literature and Film



Mrs. Tucker  
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Room 113

Class Website: [classroom.google.com](https://classroom.google.com)  
Class Code: kuvxhpq  
Remind: Text @8b4724 to 81010

## Course Description:

The Holocaust is one of the most disputed events in modern history. Through close discussion of literature and film we will explore the origins and the development of persecution and mass murder of the European Jewry during World War II. During the course we will address major questions as: Why did people participate in persecution? Could people resist? Who did help the Jews? Could the Holocaust have been prevented? These questions are still valuable today. Key themes we will explore include: the personalities of the perpetrators, the lives of the victims, the role of the bystanders, and the motives of the rescuers. We will use close discussion of movies by famous filmmakers such as Chaplin, Polanski and Spielberg, as well as documentaries, novels, poetry, and diaries.

## Course Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the political, cultural, and social implications of the Holocaust as a significant event in world history.
- Articulate ideas concerning oppression, evil, violence, and righteousness and apply these perspectives in the contemporary world.
- Critically evaluate ideas from diverse literary genres such as the short story, poetry, novel, drama, and film that deal with various aspects of the Holocaust experience.
- Produce papers and other written assignments that focus on (1) the use of literary devices-- such as symbolism, metaphor, and tone-- and the specific scholarly concerns related to different genres and writing styles, such as memoir, drama, and fiction, among others, (2) the ways in which literature highlights and comments on the individual choices that led to the Holocaust, and (3) the effectiveness and appropriateness of literature and film when retelling the varying experiences of those who experienced the Holocaust.

## Texts We Will be Exploring (Among Many Others):

*Survival in Auschwitz*-- Primo Levi  
*The Shawl*-- Cynthia Ozick  
*Maus I and Maus II*-- Art Spiegelman  
*The Sunflower*-- Simon Weisenthal  
*I Never Saw Another Butterfly* (Collection)  
Neighbors-- Jan Gross  
*This Way For The Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen*-- Tadeusz Borowski  
*We Are Witnesses*-- Jacob Boas  
*Nicholas Winton's Lottery of Life*-- Matej Minac  
*Eichmann in Jerusalem*-- Hannah Arendt

## Films We Will be Exploring (Among Many Others):

*Life is Beautiful*  
*Heil Hitler: Confessions of a Hitler Youth*  
*Hitler's Children*  
*Forgiving Dr. Mengele*  
*The Pianist*  
*Defiance*  
*Korczak*  
*Selling Murder*  
*Schindler's List*

## What should I bring?

1. A chromebook and a charger

## How does class begin and end?

- Sanitize your hands upon entry
- Sit down, get out your chromebook, and log on to google classroom
- Before leaving, wipe your seat clean and sanitize your hands as you walk out.

## How should I behave in the room?

In your assigned seat, I expect you to:

- sit upright in your seat, please no heads on desks
- refrain from cell phone use (which if seen out will be confiscated)
- please keep your feet off of the desks for other student use
- wear your mask when not socially distanced

## What are the consequences for misbehavior?

When you distract others from learning I take offense. As a result, the following consequences can be expected:

1. First offense: verbal warning and the behavior is corrected
2. Second offense: verbal warning, telephone call home, and a referral
3. Third offense: immediate referral to the office

*If the behavior is a major violation of school policy – an immediate referral to the office*

## What if I choose to cheat?

Cheating includes: copying another's work, looking onto another's test, or offering someone your work to copy. Cheating earns you a **zero**. This applies to online work as well.

## How will I be graded?

Every assignment, quiz, writing piece, and test you complete and turn in will be graded on a point system. Your grade will be based on the percentage of points you have accumulated out of the total possible points. See below:

### Infinite Campus Grading Categories:

- (1) Assessments
- (2) Classwork
- (3) Participation

### ACHS Grading Policy:

100-90	A
89- 80	B
79- 70	C
69- 65	D
64 – 0	F

## What if I am absent?

In google classroom, access the work from the day you were absent and work through that content and assignments.

**\*It is your responsibility to obtain missed materials and turn them in after a school absence. Absent work becomes a zero after three days, and you must email the teacher when you have submitted an absent assignment.**

## What if I turn in an assignment late?

Late work will be worth 50% of the full credit score for two weeks after the original due date. After two weeks, the grade becomes a zero. Also, please email the teacher when you submit a late assignment.

## NTI Virtual Expectations:

### Weekly NTI Virtual Class Schedule:

**-Teacher Office Hours:** 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (to respond to emails, update grades, meet with in-person school small groups, and hold daily virtual class meetings)

**-Virtual Meetings Daily:** 1st period (12:30-1:00), 2nd period (1:00-1:30), 3rd period (1:30-2:00), 4th period (2:00-2:30), 5th period (2:30-3:00), 6th period (3:00-3:30)

### **-Individual Learning Center Hours at ACHS:**

Open from 12:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday for students to come and access the internet. Students will have designated spaces in the media center and other areas that are socially distanced. All those who enter the building will have temperature checks and be required to wear a mask when social distancing is not possible. Parents may come or students may come independently.

**-----PERMISSION FROM PARENTS-----**

Dear Parents,

I am sending this note home to parents of my Holocaust in Literature and Film students. Due to the content of this class there are clips we will view from several movies that contain an “R” rating due to the nature of the things that we are studying in the class. While I will do my best to protect the sensitivities of my students and make the classroom a safe learning environment, these movies are very graphic and contain sensitive material. I am asking that you allow your child to watch these films so that we can discuss various interpretations of the Holocaust and get reactions to them. I hope that you allow your child to participate in viewing these films because they are an integral part of the class. Please email or call me only if you DON'T feel comfortable allowing your student to watch these films. By not emailing the teacher, you are giving your permission for your child to watch these films and participate in the class discussion, as well as acknowledging you and your student read and understand the rules, procedures, and grading measures for this class.

Thanks,

Samantha Tucker