

Almaha Aldosari

COM 2416-1 The Holocaust

Dr. Zimmerman

WebQuest 1

COM 2416-01 The Holocaust Dr. Zimmerman, Instr. Fall 2018

WEBQUEST 1

OVERVIEW OF THE HOLOCAUST

Due: Email to instructor, Miriam@ndnu.edu, by midnight, **Fri., Sept. 7, 2018.**

Purpose: To introduce students to internationally recognized authoritative websites on the Holocaust, to develop familiarity with them, and to stimulate students about a variety of Holocaust topics. By exploring these websites, students will have a jump start on their bibliographies for their research papers.

Grade: Questions are worth from 10 to 20 points as noted; total, 100 points. **Use Microsoft's spell check and grammar check to avoid making mechanical errors in spelling and punctuation.** **Five points or more deducted** for obvious failure to proofread or use spell/grammar check.

Mechanical directions: Save this file in the following format: [WQ1 your last name

]. Thus, my file would be as follows: **WQ1 Zimmerman**

Include a heading: your name, name of this course, my name, and WebQuest 1. Do not justify your text (it makes it very difficult to insert comments); leave all text left-justified.

Use black font for your answers so that I can easily distinguish your work from my questions. Insert your answers after each question. Your final submission should include the WebQuest questions followed by your answers embedded in the paper. Be sure the numbering system remains true—1a., 1b., etc. Each answer should follow the question it answers.

Content directions: Answer the following questions in your own words. Use the websites given in the questions to help you. Feel free to explore the various pages on any specific website. **Please let me know immediately if any of the links do not work.**

Avoid copying and pasting a lot of information from the Internet. I want to read **answers in your own words** as an example of your **individual learning** (as opposed to what you think the instructor wants) as you explore a variety of Holocaust-related websites. **Brief answers** are best.

I always appreciate students who express what is of interest to them, why the material has captured their attention, and **any additional questions** they may have about the information. Having curiosity about a topic ensures that students approach the research assignment with genuine interest and not as another academic exercise.

When you have completed the assignment, email to the instructor as an attached Microsoft Word file, Miriam@ndnu.edu by midnight, **September 7, 2018**. Please **do not send as a .pdf or as a Google doc**.

Note: “Shoah” is the Hebrew word for “Holocaust”; the two words, “Holocaust” and “Shoah” are used interchangeably in this assignment and throughout the semester.

1. **15 points.** Watch the video, “Introduction to the Holocaust” on the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum website:

https://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/media_nm.php?ModuleId=10005143&MediaId=7827 (Spanish link available).

Summarize what you learned that was new to you. What three to five questions do you have that you would like to explore further?

Q1. Summary

The Holocaust has its origin from the First World War which saw the death of thousands of young French and German soldiers by 1918. The Germans were humiliated by the defeat according to the narrator of the film and this would later motivate the rise of Nazism. At this point, Adolf Hitler was an army Corporal and he felt like the country had been betrayed by the peace treaty that was signed near Paris. The imprisonment of Adolf Hitler as he tried to overthrow the weak German government brought him fame and he used the chance to come up with ideologies of expanding the German territory as well as eliminating the Jews from Europe. It is clear that the government provoked the rise of the Nazis. Many people supported the Nazis

for security purposes and because they finally felt there was some hope. After the death of President Hindenburg, Adolf Hitler was helped by the Army to do away with the constitution.

Research Questions

1. What happened to the loyal leaders that were beside President Hindenburg?
2. Did the laws allow for treason to happen?
3. If so, why did the German government lift Hitler's jail sentence? **The judge on his case was favorably disposed to Nazi ideals and thus released Hitler early.**

2. **15 points.** Peruse the Simon Wiesenthal Center's 36 Questions (and answers) about the Holocaust.

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Holocaust/36qs.html>

Select **two** questions (include their numbers in your answer) that interested you, about which you did not know the answers. After reading the answers, summarize the two answers in your own words. Why were these questions of interest to you? If you already know all of these answers, select two that are of the most interest to you. **5 points for each question.**

Q2.

The questions that interest me are question 9 and 10. Question 9 seeks to answer how the Nazis used to identify Jewish people. According to the answer given in the Simon Wiesenthal Center, on November 14, 1935, there was a definition of who was Jewish and it was as follows; If someone was found to have two or three Jewish grandparents or was associated with the Jewish community through marriage, then that person was said to be a Jewish. Again, if a person was as a result of the marriage or had an extramarital liaison with a person of the Jewish community, that person was said to be a Jew too.

Question 10 seeks to answer the criteria used to categorize the rest of the Jewish community who were not identified as Jews by blood. These were known as Mischlinge and were divided into two; first degree and second-degree Mischlinge. First degree entailed Jews with two grandparents while second-degree Jews had one Jewish Parent. The Mischlinge were not allowed to attain any ranks in the army.

These questions are of interest to me because they are linked. Nevertheless, regardless of the divisions, during WW II, the Mischlinge were deported to death camps. **Excellent answer: clear, succinct, and thorough.**

3. **15 points.** <https://sfi.usc.edu/video-topics> The USC Shoah Foundation enables you to browse short clips of survivor testimony on many different topics of the Holocaust. **Select a topic of interest to you.** Then, **select a testimony from this topic.** Each testimony is about two minutes long. Note that there are three pages of survivor testimony on the page. Scroll through all the topics before making your decision.

In your answer, be sure to identify clearly your topic and the name of the survivor you listened to. Reflect on the significance of the survivor's experience. What was your response to the survivor's testimony?

Q3.

The topic of interest is voting. The survivor, Peter Wagner talks about the elections that took place in the year 1932. During this year, the Nazis took power in a manner that was not democratic. Peter narrates that, he recalls his classmates saying that most of their parents did not vote for Adolf Hitler and yet he won the elections.

The significance of Peter's survival is **to show us tell us** the unlawful methods that were used by Hitler to attain power over the German army.

The response that I have to this topic is that the Nazis were determined to take over the country and the European region. The citizens exercised their rights by voting in a different leader but Adolf Hitler took power. Whatever followed was not because of the poor choice made by the citizens.

4.10 points. Explore the Israeli memorial to the Holocaust, Yad Vashem. <http://www.yadvashem.org/>

What is Yad Vashem? What do the Hebrew words, “Yad Vashem” mean? What are some of the ways Yad Vashem fulfills its mission?

Q4.

*Meaning of **Yed Veshen** Yad Vashem*

Yad Vashem is an Israeli word that means a place for remembering Holocaust Martyrs. **Not quite, but OK.**

How the museum fulfills its mission

The Museum fulfills its mission by offering access to Holocaust-era documentations that provide in-depth knowledge regarding the period of the Holocaust has the names of the survivors and notes down the events that took place during the period hence creating the awareness of the dreadful period.

But how? Need some of the following: The Yad Vashem campus includes a museum, an archive, a school for research, a school for teacher training, a memorial to the “Righteous among the Nations,” an auditorium, a memorial to the 6 million, a children’s memorial, and an art museum.

5.10 points. Three popes have visited Yad Vashem.

<http://www.yadvashem.org/pope-visits>

Choose one of the pope’s visits to discuss. Describe the pope’s visit. Reflect on the significance of a pope’s visit to Yad Vashem.

Q5.

Summary

Pope Francis was the latest Pope to visit Yad Vashem in 2014. He was able to perform a ceremony and greet six Holocaust survivors. After his visit, the Pope was offered a painting that dates back to the Holocaust-era as thanks for visiting the place.

Significance of the visit

The visit is significant in that, the Pope rekindled eternal hope and helped in creating a worldwide awareness of the Holocaust. **Need your reflection. What does his visit say about the relationship between Christian and Jews? -2**

6.10 points. What was "The Final Solution of the Jewish Problem?" How is the "Final Solution" connected to the Wannsee Conference of 1942?

<https://www.ushmm.org/outreach/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007712>

Q6.

Meaning of "Final Solution"

The "final solution of the Jewish problem" was a code that the German leaders and Nazi party elect used to term their secretly planned execution or mass murder of all the Jews across Europe. **Avoid copying and pasting information from the Internet for your answer. -2**

Connection of the Wannsee Conference to "final solution"

The Wannsee Conference of 1942 is connected to the "Final Solution" in that, the conference was held to finalize the policy in Berlin by the Wannsee lake. The Conference had the SS deputy, Nazi and German government leaders in attendance.

7.10 points. After completing the above questions, what is a topic that you would like to research further? Why does it interest you?

Q7.

Topic of Interest from the above questions

The topic that interests me the most is the topic regarding the "final solution". The Germans and the Nazi party were in a situation that required them to eliminate all the Jews in Europe to a point where they had to come up with a policy. It interests me that most of the Nazi party leaders were able to cooperate with the policy given that they were elected by the people.

8.15 points. Explore the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum website:

<https://www.ushmm.org/>

Search on your topic from question #7 at this website. Summarize what you learned. What three additional questions do you have about this topic?

Q8.

After researching on the "Final Solution", The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is of the notion that the Nazi policy was implemented in stages. This is not something shocking because the killing mobile squad is said to have been slaughtering people in the Soviet Union in 1941- which is a year before the policy was known. The policy was made under the leadership of Adolf Hitler and the SS was given the mandate to transport people all across Europe to the Polish Ghettos where they were executed. Again, after the Nazis took power, the state forced the implementation of anti-Jewish legislation which by the beginning of the World War II developed into a policy of exterminating all the Jewish communities from Europe.

The questions that remain unanswered are; why did the Nazis plan to exterminate the Jews? Were there people who were against the extermination policy in the Nazi government? If so, what happened to them or what measures did their take? **Excellent questions.**

9.Feedback. No points, but points deducted for not answering authentically.

- a. Which questions furthered your knowledge about the Holocaust the most?
- b. Which one question would you omit? Why?

Q9.

- a. The question questions that furthered my knowledge include question 6 and 2.

b. However, I would eliminate question five because it only seeks to answer the visitations of the Popes to the Yad Vashem. The visitations are significant to the awareness of the Holocaust but they do not offer much insight regarding the topic as the rest of the questions.

Almaha,

Generally, excellent work. A few of your answers seem lifted from the Internet; I wanted answers in your own words. Grade: 96% = A

Also, thank you for including your first name in your filename, so I could easily distinguish your work from that of you brother.