

Unit Title: **Before the Holocaust: Jewish Life in Europe and the Rise of Nazism in Germany**

Connections with F.S. 1003.42 – Florida’s Holocaust Education Required Instruction Mandate

Required Instruction: F.S. 1003.42(g) – Holocaust

The history of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany, a watershed event in the history of humanity, to be taught in a manner that leads to

1. an investigation of human behavior,
2. an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping, and
3. an examination of what it means to be a responsible and respectful person,

for the purposes of

4. encouraging tolerance of diversity in a pluralistic society and for
5. nurturing and protecting democratic values and institutions.

In this unit, items 1 and 2 may be featured in any lesson and/or activity that focuses on how anti-Judaism and antisemitism have been embedded in European history and why these ideas became popular with many people.

Item 4 will be featured in lessons and/or activities that demonstrate how Jewish people were both members of a distinct minority group, while at the same time, they belonged and contributed to the larger society around them.

Item 5 will be featured in lessons and/or activities that explore how German democracy of the Weimar period failed to protect the rights of Jews despite constitutional guarantees, particularly with the goal of drawing lessons for modern times.

Item 3 may be featured in any lesson or activity when the issue of individual behavior in the context of history is considered. This may also connect with item 1 when considering why some people choose to defend the status and rights of neighbors in spite of certain differences, while others do not.