

Steve Lewkowicz's Uniform – Lesson Plan w/ Michigan State Standards (Holocaust Memorial Center TAG – Ingham ISD)

Title	Steve Lewkowicz's Uniform - Lesson Plan w/Michigan State Standards (Holocaust Memorial Center TAG - Ingham ISD)
Content area	English Language Arts/History
Suggested grade level	10th (possibly middle school)
Suggested timeframe	1 to 2 class periods
Developed by	Abby Tanner and Emmanuel Kamm
Content standards	<p>MI ELA Standards: Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different media (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account</p> <p>Common Core Standards: RI.6-8.7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue. SL.6-8.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-directed) with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. SL.6-8.2 Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study.</p>

Historical Context

Information needed/Holocaust topics	Students should have a basic understanding of the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party in Germany. They should also understand the discrimination and persecution of the Jewish
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	People.
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Recommended contextualizing resources	<p>Recommended Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Smithsonian Magazine - video link ● USHMM (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum) ● Yad Vashem ● Facing History and Ourselves ● Echoes & Reflections
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Goals & Objectives

Upon completion of this lesson, students will understand:
the impact of discrimination and racism on the Jewish people as carried out under Nazi Germany

Upon completion of this lesson, students will understand:
the use of symbols and labels to categorize and discriminate against selected groups

Upon completion of this lesson, students will be able to:
compare and contrast the use of uniforms and other symbols in the categorizing of certain groups

Procedure

<p>1. Warm up Question - What is the purpose of a uniform? <i>Teacher notes: Uniforms are used to create conformity, which can bring someone positively or negatively into a shared group.</i></p> <p>2. Group task - Uniform observations and questions in Google Slides followed by group discussion to bring observations together.</p>

Teacher notes: The first uniform is an American WWII uniform. The second is a Nazi uniform. The third is a baseball uniform. The final uniform is that of Steve Lewkowicz, worn when he was imprisoned in Auschwitz. Uniforms can empower and intimidate, but can also create a sense of anonymity and dehumanize.

3. Auschwitz Video - students will watch the video and respond to the questions
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/videos/category/history/remembering-the-horrors-of-auschwitz/>

Teacher notes: You may want the group to review the responses to the questions in the document.

4. Steve Lewkowicz's Story - students will read the article and answer the questions
(article provided)

5. Testimony from Dennis Urstein - students will watch the video
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtGXkO8OSxk&feature=youtu.be>

6. Steve's Uniform - Students should answer reflection questions using details from Steve Lewkowicz's story and the testimony of Dennis Urstein.

Teacher notes: Students should leave the lesson as safely as they entered it. Be sure to highlight the attitude of determination, even in dire circumstances. Provide time for students to ask questions.

Materials & Resources Used (if applicable)

Materials	Steve Lewkowicz's Uniform - Lesson Plan w/ Michigan State Standards (Holocaust Memorial Center TAG - Ingham ISD) - GoogleDoc Uniform Observation Slides - GoogleSlides
Resources	https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/latest-releases/archives/2016/8/a-short-history-of-military-tattoo http://auschwitz.org/en/history/prisoner-classification/system-of-triangles