

Our educational programme is free of charge for school groups and young people in vocational training. Adults are charged Euro 2.00 per person for guided tours and study days.

For further information on our educational programmes – including a comprehensive list of all the study days and workshops we offer in various languages –, for the catalogue of the Joseph Wulf Library and for information on the permanent exhibition please visit www.ghwk.de.

To book guided tours or self-guided tours, contact the office at tel.: +49 30 805 001 -0 or via email: office@ghwk.de

To discuss study days, contact our educational department at tel.: +4930 805 001 -29/ -35/ -36 or via email: bildung@ghwk.de

Due to the high number of visitors, it is advisable to book early!



Educational work in the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site

A variety of reasonably-priced lunches are available in the on-site cafeteria to groups participating in study days or workshops.

House of Wannsee Conference
Am Grossen Wannsee 56–58
14109 Berlin
Germany

How to get here by public transport:
RE 1, RE 7, S 1 or S 7 to *Wannsee*
Bus 114 to *Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz*



Educational work in the House of the Wannsee Conference Memorial and Educational Site

In this villa at the Grosser Wannsee, fifteen high-ranking representatives of the SS, Nazi Party and various Reich ministries met on 20th January 1942 to discuss their cooperation on the planned deportation and murder of the Jews of Europe. In 1966, Auschwitz survivor and historian Joseph Wulf launched an initiative to found a documentation centre on the site but it failed due to lack of support. Eventually, however, a memorial and educational site was founded in the villa in 1992. Public interest in and appreciation of our educational work has steadily grown.

Our **study days and (self-)guided tours** have inspired educational work in many other memorial sites in Germany and abroad. In recent years, an average of about 1,300 groups have visited the House annually. More than thirty freelance guides cooperate with the House to welcome and guide groups in ten different languages.

By our educational work, we at the House of the Wannsee Conference aim to convey its significance as an authentic historical site and encourage visitors to **actively engage** with history. We are constantly developing our educational programme in dialogue with our visitors and in the light of changing interests and perspectives as well as developments in research and communication methods. We aim to adapt our work to suit the needs of each group and facilitate **independent study**. For this reason, we ask groups to contact us prior to their visit to discuss the right programme for them. In this way, the itinerary and thematic focus of visits are not determined by House staff alone but are built around the groups' specific points of interest.

● **Youth groups and school classes** (Year 5 to A level / high-school diploma or vocational training) can look at the persecution and murder of the European Jews and the history of National Socialism including its pre-history and after-effects using a variety of methods. They can explore the entire permanent exhibition, or selected parts of it, led by our guides or in small groups and/or investigate their chosen topics during study days or workshops.

● **Adults and young people** in vocational training, university students and other groups interested in Holocaust studies can take part in study days and several-day seminar events tailored to their course of study or profession.

● **Trainee teachers and teaching staff** are invited to discuss our pedagogic concept with us. In addition, we offer workshops on didactic and methodological challenges that teachers of various subjects face when addressing Holocaust history.

Guided tours

Subject to prior booking, we offer groups guided tours of our permanent exhibition and talks on the Wannsee Conference in its historical context. We strive to maintain an **open dialogue** with participants and are glad to focus on specific topics if requested.

Guided tours usually last two hours.

Self-guided tours

Secondary school / high school pupils can examine selected aspects of the exhibition in small groups, supervised by a member of in-house staff, and **present their results to their fellow pupils** in self-designed tours. The concept can be modified according to the pupils' ages. Active participation and independent decision-making have been found to have a positive effect on pupils' motivation and willingness to reflect.

Self-guided tours usually last three hours.

Study days and workshops

Our experience of educational work at the House has shown there is a great deal of interest in using the unique opportunities offered by the historical site to conduct intensive, independent research into history with professional support. For this reason, we offer study modules on a **broad range of topics**, which can be varied and combined according to participants' specific points of interest. To find out more about our current programme, including the languages in which individual modules are available, please visit www.ghwk.de.

Our study days and workshops are designed as one-day events. However, modules can be combined and programmes extended over several days.

Four examples – of many ...

Study day

Food politics under National Socialism

This study day looks at day-to-day life under Nazism and considers the connection between the Nazi regime's political aims and its strategies of supplying or withholding foodstuffs. The key terms here are calories, nutritional value, shortages and black market dealing. It was soon clear to Propaganda Minister Goebbels that the German population would only accept the hardships of wartime if they had enough to eat. Public morale was believed to be directly dependent on the supply situation. But which sections of the population were prioritized for food supplies and who was excluded and with what justification? The Nazis systematically transported tons of food out of countries they invaded, especially in Eastern Europe. This strategic exploitation led to terrible shortages in countries occupied by Germany. At the same time, the sick and disabled within Germany were doomed to starve. The hunger that all concentration camp inmates, ghetto residents and forced labourers experienced was the deliberate result of low calorie rations and non-nutritious foods. A wealth of graphic sources relating to this topic provides participants with vivid examples by which they can examine the close link between food and politics.

Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Munich

Tally chart for a deportation train

Study day

The planning and organisation of the genocide of the European Jews

The protocol of the Wannsee Conference shows that the genocide of the European Jews was the result of a process that began with the exclusion of German Jews and culminated in the systematic murder of the Jews in nearly all European countries. In small groups, participants examine the steps – and various agencies – by which the Jews were gradually ousted from society and finally physically destroyed. Each group focuses on one of the following topics: how people were defined, registered and labelled as Jews; how they were deprived of rights and expropriated; how they were concentrated in assembly camps and ghettos and, in the end, how they were systematically murdered in extermination camps. Participants analyse historical photos and write reports based on sources showing various perspectives: victims' suffering, perpetrators' motivations, gestures of solidarity by regime opponents and the conduct of beneficiaries and bystanders. To conclude, they prepare and perform dramatic readings or reconstruct texts from key sentences or present their findings in one of many other forms. This study day can be modified for secondary school / high school pupils of all ages.



»Yes, that's good: dustfree and well portioned! Drink BOLLE bottled milk« – Advert from the Hitler-Youth magazine *Unsere Fahne*



Photo taken in front of the »Sonderkommissariat Ghetto« in Łódź



A photo of the November-Pogrom (Crystal Night), highlighted for analysis

Workshop

Photos as historical sources

»The eye,« noted Erich Maria Remarque (author of the famous novel *All Quiet on the Western Front*) in 1958 »is a strong seducer, stronger than the word«. The historical photos we see in schoolbooks and exhibitions shape our image of the persecution and murder of the European Jews. Viewed in isolation, however, they say nothing. Without the context, pictures remain silent. This is the point of departure for the four-hour workshop for secondary school / high school pupils analysing individual photos and photo series as historical sources, following the educational brochure *Fixiert* on photographic sources on the persecution and murder of the Jews in Europe. In addition, participants discuss how photos are (or can be) used today.