

Evaluation of Yad Vashem Teacher Training Seminars

The International School for Holocaust Studies

Yad Vashem

www.yadvashem.org



Framework of This Presentation

The Henrietta Szold Institute
The National Institute for Research in the Behavioral Sciences

מכון הנרייטה סאלד
המכון הלאומי למחקר במדעי ההתנהגות

כתב העת "מגמות" • פיתוח גישול אכותי • בית ספר לעיסנות פירע • מרכז פירע במדעי ההברת • מחנכים מנירה והערכה • עיון וחקר



Evaluation of the Long Term Impact of Seminar Participation in the International School for Holocaust Studies on Overseas and Israeli Educators

Presented to the Adelson Family Foundation

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- This presentation is based on an evaluation of the Szold Institute, Israel's National Institute for Research in the Behavioral Sciences
- Published in August 2012
- This presentation concentrates on overseas educators



Research Framework

Aim:

Measuring the long-term effects of Yad Vashem seminars on educators

Time period:

Overseas teachers were contacted following their seminar at Yad Vashem in 2007, 2008 and 2010.

Method:

Online questionnaires



Target Audience and Responses

Target audience:

- **23 countries: Europe, Former Soviet Union, USA, Canada and Australia**
- **662 responded out of 2116 (31.2% response rate)**
- **67% -- Classroom teachers**
- **33% -- Supervisors and advisors, museum personnel, lecturers in higher education, clergymen/women etc.**



Effects on Pedagogy

Based on the sample of those who were surveyed, percentage who answered that “Since I attended the seminar I have...”:

- **94.1% transmitted the educational principles of Yad Vashem to other educators**
- **85.6% focused on personal stories while teaching**
- **77.2 % visited the the Yad Vashem website to look for ideas, pictures or information**
- **82.1% focused on Jewish life before, during and after the Holocaust**



Effects on Pedagogy

- **73.0%** prepared a learning unit based on the pedagogical principles of Yad Vashem
- **70.5%** helped other educators to prepare projects
- **66.5%** carried out a Holocaust-related project with their students
- **66.2%** adapted Yad Vashem's age-appropriate approach
- **60.5 %** initiated a course or workshop about the

Holocaust



Effects on Personal Interest

Based on the sample of those who were surveyed, percentage who answered that “Since I attended the seminar I have...”:

- **75.3% talked about the Holocaust with their colleagues, friends or family members**
- **64.8% explored the internet for information about the Holocaust**
- **58.4% read articles about the Holocaust**
- **50.9% read books about the Holocaust**



Challenges in Teaching the Holocaust

Based on the sample of those surveyed, the following challenges when teaching about the Holocaust were noted:

- **28.0% lack of educational policy / subject not in teaching curriculum / lack of time**
- **10.9% public atmosphere: antisemitism, prejudice, ignorance of topic**
- **7.7% resistance by students or parents**
- **12.7% no difficulty**



Interest in Future Cooperation with Yad

	Not at all	2	3	4	Very much so	Total		
	Count	Count	Count	Count	Count	Valid N	Mean	Standard Deviation
Online academic courses about the Holocaust in your language	45	79	140	143	159	566	3.52	1.25
Graduate seminar with ISHS teachers in your country	39	53	75	161	244	572	3.91	1.24
Annual graduate conferences in your country	41	69	87	160	205	562	3.75	1.27
Periodical video-conferences focusing on pedagogical/didactic issues concerning Holocaust teaching in your language	60	108	133	124	139	564	3.31	1.32
Working together with ISHS staff developing learning materials in your language	46	87	100	129	208	570	3.64	1.32



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