ALPHA Education

iHMH

iHistory Meets Humanity Series

CONDUCTED BY

ALPHA Education

FOR

Students With Educators

ALPHA Education

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WHO ARE WE?

ALPHA's mission is to foster awareness of an often overlooked aspect of World War II history, in the interest of furthering the values of justice, peace and reconciliation, both for survivors of the past and for those who shape the historical narratives of the present and future.

Founded in 1997, ALPHA Education has grown into a global leader and influencer of peace, social justice, and humanity by promoting the study, research, and remembrance of the history of WWII in Asia.

WHAT IS iHMH?

iHMH - new online HMH consists of virtual workshops offered by ALPHA Education covering various topics & issues. By analyzing particular events, people, and times of WWII in Asia students will learn about untold histories, racism, violence against women, social justice activism and more. Connections to current day issues of significance will be made as we face the humanity and inhumanity of history. The workshops are about 90 minutes each which includes Q & A.

Readings and film clips for viewing will be provided to teachers for students as pre - workshop materials that help contextualize the workshops or as post-work shop follow-up.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

1. Foster student historical critical thinking and competencies
2. Increase student engagement with inquiry, multiple perspectives, empathy through history
3. Develop student capacity to make connections between World War II in Asia and current day issues
4. Empower youth and students on taking action on social justice issues

iHMH: WHAT WILL STUDENTS GAIN?

Students will
· Grasp historical complexities and perspective-taking.
· Enhance their historical and critical thinking.
· Develop global citizenship competencies through humanity studies.
· Make connections between self, others, and the world.
· Develop literacy and ways of meaning-making about historical and modern day issues.
· Understand the significance of World War II in Asia, in addition to Europe, and its connections to justice, reconciliation, humanity, and peace.

While the iHMH workshops focus on history as significant events, equal focus is given to develop critical historical thinking, perspectives-taking, and making meaning of lessons learned in the context of current day challenges that we face. To provide students with engaging experiences, the learning is a combination of group discussions in breakout rooms, videos, polls, fun quizzes and more. Virtual chat and Q & A will be available for students to ask questions, make comments and connections.

WORKSHOP STRUCTURE & DELIVERY

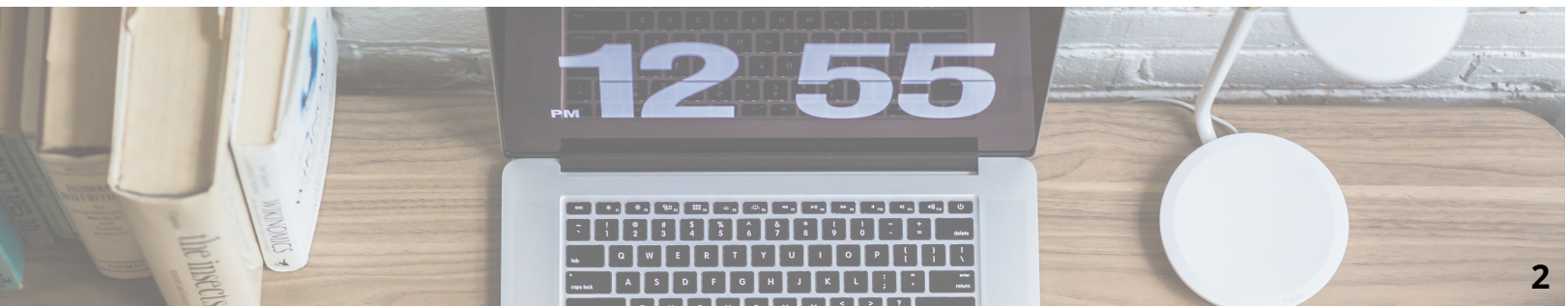
The workshops can be customized to be 60 - 120 minutes in length. Workshops will be a hybrid of presentation and activity-based learning.

Each workshop is planned for a maximum of 30 - 35 students to ensure interactivity. If more students are attending, contact Brandon Choi, Education Program Associate at brandon.choi@alphaeducation.org to discuss how we can accommodate.

ALPHA Education uses Zoom to conduct its virtual workshops but it is open to using other platforms if necessary, such as Google Meets and Microsoft Teams.

If the virtual workshop is offered to an in-school students, the classroom will need stable wifi and internet access. If the workshop is offered virtual, students will need a stable and reliable internet connection.

Once a date has been set for a workshop, the Education Program Associate will liaise with the teacher prior to the workshop on understanding the teacher's learning goals for their students and technology needs and alignment.



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WORKSHOPS OFFERED

1. APOLOGY, WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In this workshop, students will be provided an understanding of key legacy issues of the Japanese Military Sexual Slavery and its post-war impact. Through the use of testimonies and primary source documents, students will trace the empowerment process of "comfort women" from victims to social activists who not only seek apology, but also started a movement on violence against women in armed conflict. The workshop explores what constitutes an apology and redress measures in the context of WWII in Asia.

2. FORGIVE, NOT FORGET

The Forgive, Not Forget workshop will explore the continual denial of the Japanese government on its Military Sexual Slavery Atrocities. By examining the different forms of denial including revisionism and absence of apology, the impact of whitewashing historical injustices are discussed and how it has ignited solidarity actions locally and globally. Connections are made to the different roles of social actors and activism.

3. NANKING MASSACRE - NAVIGATING A WAR ZONE

Students will learn about the horrific events of the Nanking Massacre, one of the many massacres in the Japanese Imperial Army occupied region of East & South East Asia. By exploring the refugee experience students will experience the events of Nanking. By using videos and primary source documents students will learn and gain an empathetic response to the Nanking Massacre. Additionally, a comparison will be made to Nanking and the contemporary issue of the refugee experience.

4. INVISIBLE POWER FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

By investigating the development and deployment of biochemical weapons as well as human experimentation at Unit 731 during WWII in Asia, this workshop introduces students to learning history, not from textbooks, but from testimonies and primary source documents. Analysis of primary source documents is a research skill that is transferable to detecting bias in texts and to media literacy. The concepts of dehumanization and invisible weapons of mass destruction are explored through film clips and activities that pose the questions: When war ends, do the atrocities end? What is the harm beyond the battlefield?

5. DO STORIES DEFINE US?

From Adichie "The danger of a single story" to stories on the history of World War II in Asia, students explore how a dominant story could contribute to stereotyping and discrimination. This workshop connects war testimonies to under-represented stories of racism. How to acknowledge differences to promote understanding and conflict prevention are discussed as positive social justice actions.

6. JAPANESE INTERNMENT

Students will have an opportunity to learn about the Japanese Canadian experience during the pre-WWII years and the WWII years. Their experience is marked by racism and mass internment of the Japanese Canadian population for the duration of WWII. The Japanese Internment lesson encompasses all aspects of the Japanese Canadian experience from the time Japanese nationals immigrated to Canada to the end of the Internment period in Canada. By using historical information, informative videos, and interactive activities this workshop tackles internment, oppression and racism.

7. TWO SOLDIERS STORIES

Students will step into the shoes of two men from different backgrounds who suffered during WWII. By discovering George MacDonell and Patrick Metallic stories students will have a greater understanding of the Battle of Hong Kong, the POW experience, and the issues veterans face upon returning home. Although both of these men fought for their country bravely and valiantly, they experienced much different outcomes in life post-war. George & Patrick are representatives of a greater group of soldiers i.e. white or Caucasian and Indigenous who served their country, Canada.

8. FORCE 136 - UNWANTED SOLDIERS

Students will have the opportunity to uncover forgotten soldiers and heroes of WWII in Asia. Before diving into information about Force 136 students will briefly learn about the context in which Force 136 operated, by looking at Canada during the pre-WWII years and Canada during the WWII years. The workshop will then move into what Force 136 actually did during their operations and how they contributed to Canada and the Chinese community in their quest for full citizenship and the right to vote. Students will have the opportunity to take part in interactive activities and games such as a fun quiz game called Code Names and finding countries on a map. During the lesson, students will watch a video of about 16 minutes in length with members of Force 136 describing their experiences.

9. THE COMPLEXITIES OF REDRESS

This workshop will equip students with an understanding of three groups of people affected by WWII in Asia: Japanese Canadians interned, Battle of Hong Kong Veterans and the Chinese Canadian Community. These groups were greatly affected at home and abroad. After a brief background on the three groups of Canadians, students will have a better understanding of their trauma and struggle. The lesson will then guide students through the complex struggle for redress & reconciliation by addressing their campaigns for justice. Finally, students will evaluate where they stand in regard to social activists' roles based on their activist impulses. By using videos, historical information, and interactive activities students will reflect on being positive social actors in an uncertain world.

10. THE PROMISE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Promise of Human Rights workshop serves as a basic introduction to the concept of human rights, as well as the key elements of human rights. The workshop encourages students to begin a reflection on how they (and we as Canadians generally) think about human rights. Apart from being introduced to foundational human rights documents and their historical contexts, this lesson will introduce students to different ways of thinking about human rights e.g. as aspirational and abstract standards of ethical behaviour, as legal norms that apply to citizens, as products of historical contests, as hard-won (and often incomplete) political entitlements, and as both individual and relational practices.

WORKSHOP BOOKING, DETAILS, & INFORMATION

- The iHMH Series will be offered from September 2021 to June 2022
- Select a workshop (s) from the attached menu of choices
- Book your virtual workshop (s) minimally three to four weeks in advance
- The Education Program Associate will confirm and set up a dialogue with the teacher to discuss details
- **All workshops will be offered free of charge**

Please fill out the booking information form and send it to **brandon.choi@alphaeducation.org**

Click here for the booking form

Click here to access iHMH Series information via our website

FOR OTHER INQUIRIES CONTACT info@alphaeducation.org

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