Key Topics To Consider - When teaching about the Holocaust

1. Anti-Semitism
   a. Protocols of the Elders of Zion (as one example)

2. Pre-War Jewish life and culture in Europe

3. Identify different roles: Perpetrators, Bystanders, Collaborators, Upstanders, Victims
   a. Define terms.
   b. Understand the different roles and that there is gray area. One person might be more than one category.

4. Rise of the Nazi party
   a. Nazi ideology
   b. Propaganda

5. Nuremberg Laws – 1935
   a. Defined Jews
   b. Anti-Jewish legislation increased over the next few years

6. Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) – Nov. 9-10, 1938
   a. Kindertransport (1938-1939)
   b. Flight – Could leave Germany, but few countries would allow Jews in

7. Germany invades Poland – WWII Begins – Sept. 1, 1939

8. Wannsee Conference – Jan. 20, 1942

9. Ghettos and Camps
   a. Purpose of ghettos
   b. Death camps vs. concentration camps (death camps: Chelmno, Sobibor, Majdanek, Belzec, Treblinka, Auschwitz-Birkenau)

10. Rescue and Resistance
    a. Resistance – individual acts, spiritual resistance, groups acts, violent vs. non-violent
    b. Rescue – non-Jews who rescued Jews (What were they up against? What did you need to help someone? What risks did that person take?)
    c. Stories of rescue online – www.jfr.org
    d. Jewish partisans – resistance – stories online: www.jpef.org

11. Victims
    a. Jews
    b. Poles, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Roma/Sinti (Gypsies), Homosexuals, Handicapped
12. World response / United States

13. Liberation

14. Nuremberg Trials and post war

15. Genocide and Human Rights – larger questions of how the Holocaust has informed our understanding of genocide and human rights
   a. What are human rights?
   b. How we define genocide
   c. Genocide today
   d. Other genocides