

**Lernen aus der Geschichte e.V.**  
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Das mehrsprachige Webportal publiziert fortlaufend Informationen zur historisch-politischen Bildung in Schulen, Gedenkstätten und anderen Einrichtungen zur Geschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. Schwerpunkte bilden der Nationalsozialismus, der Zweite Weltkrieg sowie die Folgegeschichte in den Ländern Europas bis zu den politischen Umbrüchen 1989.

Dabei nimmt es Bildungsangebote in den Fokus, die einen Gegenwartsbezug der Geschichte herausstellen und bietet einen Erfahrungsaustausch über historisch-politische Bildung in Europa an.

## **Mennecke as case study in the "authoritarian personality" teaching unit**

The following lesson plan shows how the Mennecke case study can extend from six to twelve hours of classroom instruction (45 minutes each), depending on the extent of document analysis.

<b>Teaching stages</b>	<b>Goals, contents, methods</b>
<b>1. Introduction</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Confronting the Nazi period after 1945 <input type="checkbox"/> Why should we deal with the Nazi era today? <input type="checkbox"/> What should we learn? <input type="checkbox"/> Approaches for the "third generation"
<b>2. Study</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher lecture about the role of perpetrator biographies <input type="checkbox"/> Studying the biography of Friedrich Mennecke <input type="checkbox"/> Ernst Klee WDR radio program from 1986 <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to the Mennecke letters published by the <i>Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung</i> [Hamburg Institute for Social Research]

<b>3. In depth analysis</b>	Classroom discussion, small group and pair work to analyze "The values of the provincial Dr. Friedrich Mennecke," based on sources containing contemporary historical factors: <input type="checkbox"/> Mennecke and the "Euthanasia" program (patient report forms, selection, "Operation T4, "euthanasia" research <input type="checkbox"/> The role of Mennecke's correspondence for the research of the Nazi era <input type="checkbox"/> The language of the personal letters (based on the excerpted correspondence; see Documents) <input type="checkbox"/> Characteristics of Mennecke's "authoritarian" personality based on Adorno's typology
<b>4. Continuation and Applications</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> What does it mean today to "come to terms with the past"? (Reflecting forms of remembrance) <input type="checkbox"/> Guilt and punishment (confrontation with previous and current discussions about the prosecution of Nazi perpetrators) <input type="checkbox"/> Confronting the current discussion about the Nazi past (Historians' debate, conflict about memorials, "jokes" by youth against Jews and foreigners)