

Inherited Memories, shared Histories

The First World War, the war of the « Others »



The First World War is a collective experience shared by many.

With the « Mission du Centenaire » we, the teachers, being on the front line of the commemoration, have wanted to participate in this large effort to commemorate the hundred-year anniversary of the First World War.

School is one of the places having the privilege to learn how History is made but also to be part

Our objectives

We want to lead the students to better understand the first world wide conflict and especially the implication of the people of the world.

We also want the students to see the different ways that this conflict is perceived in each participating country and make them realize that History is a Human science which changes as a function of time and space. We want them to think about the notion of memory.

Each student will be part of this collective adventure and will have the opportunity to exchange with others, using modern tools. They will be proud to have worked on an ambitious project.

How it works

The project will start in the school year 2016 / 2017 with the students aged 16-17 (1ère for the French school system) and will continue the next year in 2017 / 2018 (Terminale) with the high point being the participation at the Anzac Day (April 25).

We will use mostly the internet and a blog to communicate the information.

The final form will be presented on a website which will allow us to solidify the collective work between the students. We are also planning on organizing exchanges and trips.

Our partners :

- Germany
- Ireland
- Belgium
- Northern Africa
- A former French territory : Senegal
- Australia
- New Zealand
- United States of America

We will work in an interdisciplinary team which will be led by the team of History and Geography. The History teachers will work using their curriculum but also looking at the historiography of other countries and former colonies. We will also study the philosophical notions around memory and commemoration. English and German will be the principal languages used to communicate allowing students to experience other points of view about the war as well as a chance to speak about the commemorations in their original language. The French teachers will be focusing on the major works written after the First World War but also on a selection of cinematic works in preparation for the students' exam.

We have started looking for partners in Ireland, Belgium, North Africa, Senegal, Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America. We hope you will be interested in this project and we hope to hear from you soon.