

Teaching the Human Story of the Guatemalan Genocide

Overview of Guatemalan Genocide Resources

Brief Overview

We created these resources after traveling to Guatemala in early 2025 through a partnership with the **Forensic Anthropology Foundation of Guatemala (FAFG)**. We specifically sought to create resources regarding a genocide that is often not taught in U.S. schools. Hence, we hope they are helpful!

Backgrounders

Our team has written two backgrounders regarding the conflict. The [General Backgrounder](#) provides a sweeping overview of the genocide and civil war. [La Violencia](#) goes into more detail, focusing on specific individuals and the transitional justice process, or the process of coming to terms with the violence during the Guatemalan Genocide.

Lesson Plans

We also created seven lesson plans that can be used all together or separately; four of these lesson plans pertain to the violence, and three pertain to the aftermath. If used all together, we suggest using them in the following order:

1. [Timeline Activity](#) to establish historical context.
2. [Land and Resources](#) to understand how land and resources contributed to the violence.
3. [The Guatemalan Civil War](#) to hear personal survivor testimonies.
4. [The Disappeared](#) will introduce students to the concept of desaparecidos, or the disappeared.
5. The last three lessons focus on the aftermath and should be covered in this order: [Forensic Anthropology as Transitional Justice](#), [Forensic Anthropology Foundation of Guatemala \(FAFG\)](#), and [A Visit to Comalapa Memorial](#).

Developed by Twige Project



CALIFORNIA TEACHERS COLLABORATIVE
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