Master Teacher Institute in Holocaust Education

Program Description

The Master Teacher Institute in Holocaust Education (MTI) is a two-year advanced training program to develop expert teachers in Holocaust studies who will serve as resource providers in their schools, districts, and communities. The MTI engages teachers in a wide-ranging study of the history of the Holocaust and its remembrance and addresses the complex methodological issues involved in teaching about this subject, including how to:

- Teach the Holocaust with primary documents
- Utilize survivor testimony in the classroom
- Teach Holocaust literature
- Teach the Holocaust with film, photography, art, and other media
- Prepare students for visits to Holocaust museums and other forms of public commemoration
- Teach about the Holocaust within the broader framework of other genocides, prejudice, and intolerance

Program Details

Teachers meet approximately once a month during the course of the school year. A maximum of three meetings take place during the school day; the remaining sessions are scheduled in the late afternoon and evening. Each session includes presentations by leading scholars in the field of Holocaust studies, supplemented by discussions with experienced educators in order to facilitate group discussions on pedagogical approaches to this difficult subject.

In order to enhance the commitment and support of the teachers chosen for this project, a tiered-team approach is utilized, involving top school administrators and supervisory staff. School administrators are invited to join the teachers in the opening and closing programs and receive updates throughout the course of the institute.

During the two-year program, teachers create educational programs for their schools and districts based on their learning experiences. Past projects include: Adopt-a-Survivor program, district-wide Tolerance Day, and professional development courses.

Participants have ongoing support from, and access to, faculty and resources at Rutgers University.

Benefits for Teachers

Participating teachers receive:

- Resource materials for classroom use and professional enrichment
- Access to leading scholars of the Holocaust
- Assistance in curriculum development from experts in Holocaust pedagogy
- Access to supportive teacher network
- Educational materials, including videos and curriculum guides
- Staff-led tours of Holocaust exhibits
- Professional development credits; Academic credit available (requires research paper and Rutgers tuition)

Requirements

New Jersey middle and high school teachers are invited to apply. Applicants must have a minimum of three years teaching experience and three years of involvement with Holocaust/Genocide education. Teachers and their schools must make a two-year commitment to participate in the MTI.

For further information about the program or to receive an application, please visit our website http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu or call 732-932-2033.

There is no fee to participate in this program.



What Past Participants Say about the MTI:

"The teaching of tolerance must be made a priority if our learning community's cultural diversity is to remain one of our strengths."

— Zhanna Pikman Rilof
Hopewell Valley Central High School

"It was an honor to participate in the program. [It] was intellectually stimulating and rich in resources…the project enabled me to put into practice theories and curricular ideas I have been developing for a number of years."

— Perri Geller-Clark
Moorestown High School

"The invited scholars who lectured in the Rutgers MTI have impacted me significantly: by enhancing my knowledge of the history of the Holocaust and inspiring me to think more broadly about pedagogy and more deeply about student acquisition of knowledge."

— Christopher Gwin
Haddonfield Memorial High School

"Having had the opportunity to meet and work with people who already have curricula and professional development programs in place has helped me immensely. The MTI has been a wonderful experience."

— Frances Flannery
South Plainfield High School

The mission of **The Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center (HRC)** at Rutgers University is to teach future generations about the Holocaust by training educators and providing educational materials to teachers, students, and scholars. Its programs are designed to enhance public awareness of the Holocaust and promote discussion of racism, genocide, discrimination, and the importance of protecting human rights. The HRC is an important part of the Bildner Center's overall mission of prejudice reduction and outreach to the broader community.

The Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life is committed to academic excellence, fostering scholarly exchange and faculty research, and providing educational programs for the community at large. The Center sponsors visiting scholars who teach and contribute to the intellectual life of the Rutgers community. Working closely with the Department of Jewish Studies, it offers a wide range of programs for students and seminars for faculty. The Center connects the university with the community through its public lectures and symposia, Jewish communal initiatives, cultural events, and teacher training.

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The Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center

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