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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TO THE POINT:** Master Teacher Institute in Holocaust Education at Rutgers offers free professional development courses for New Jersey middle and high school teachers

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – New Jersey middle and high school teachers are invited to apply to the Master Teacher Institute (MTI) in Holocaust Education, which is based on Rutgers' New Brunswick campus. New courses begin in September 2011. An advanced training program, the MTI is designed to develop expert teachers in Holocaust studies who will serve as resource providers in their schools, districts, and communities. The MTI is sponsored by the Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center of Rutgers' Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life.

Leading scholars and experienced educators in the field of Holocaust studies will engage participants and address the complex methodological issues involved in teaching about this subject. Each course is organized around either a topic in Holocaust history or Holocaust remembrance and representation. Courses meet five times over the semester.

Teachers receive numerous benefits from the program, including: resource materials; access to leading scholars in Holocaust studies, including access to Rutgers faculty and resources; and professional development credit. To be eligible, teachers must have a minimum of three years teaching experience and three years of involvement with Holocaust/genocide education. For further information or to download an application, visit <http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu> or call 732-932-2033. There is no fee to participate in this program.

The mission of the Herbert and Leonard Littman Families Holocaust Resource Center 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 at Rutgers is committed to the pursuit of academic excellence, fostering faculty research, and sponsoring a variety of community outreach programs.