

February 8, 2012**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Contact: Darcy Maher****(732) 729-9877**

TO THE POINT: Rutgers Master Teacher Institute (MTI) in Holocaust Education Offers Free Professional Development Course on Children and the Holocaust

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – A select group of New Jersey middle and high school teachers will gather on Rutgers' New Brunswick campus today to begin the MTI's spring course "Children and the Holocaust." The course coincides with the United Nations General Assembly's International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27), which also focuses this year on the subject of children and the Holocaust.

The Rutgers course examines the challenges of teaching the Holocaust to children and young adults and will take on such topics as the wartime experiences of children who were victims of Nazi persecution, Holocaust literature for young adult readers, hidden children, and the vastly different experiences of children of survivors. 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.

The course, which includes five sessions and runs through early May, features leading scholars and experienced educators in the field of Holocaust studies who will address the complex methodological issues involved in teaching about this subject. Included among the presenters are scholars and staff of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, as well as Rutgers faculty.

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. Participating teachers must have a minimum of three years teaching experience and three years of involvement with Holocaust/genocide education. For further information about the MTI, visit <http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu> or call

732-932-2033. This educator training project has been supported by a grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany.

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.