

FASPE

FELLOWSHIPS AT
AUSCHWITZ
FOR THE STUDY OF
PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

FASPE is under the auspices of the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.

FASPE Overview

“It would be an understatement to say that FASPE was thought-provoking, innovative, and inspirational. To say the least, it was personally essential.”

FASPE Fellow, 2010

“The more I see and learn in medicine, the more I realize how the FASPE program will remain one of the most influential and important experiences I have ever had.”

FASPE Fellow, 2011

Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics (FASPE) is an innovative effort that uses a unique historical context to engage graduate students in professional schools in an intensive program about contemporary ethics. The Fellowships provide law, medical, seminary, and journalism students a structured course of study that focuses on the role of their chosen professions in Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, and uses that historic framework to explore present-day ethical issues.

Piloted initially in 2010, between twelve and fifteen Fellows from each profession are chosen to participate in FASPE each year through a competitive process that draws applicants from across the world. Following an introductory session at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in New York, the Fellows travel to Berlin, Krakow, and Oświęcim (Auschwitz). Over the course of 10 days, students attend seminars with leading scholars and visit sites such as the House of the Wannsee Conference, where plans for the “Final Solution” were established; the Deportation Memorial “Track 17,” one of the train platforms where Berlin’s Jews were forced to board trains heading to concentration camps; and Auschwitz-Birkenau where more than one million people were murdered. During the final days of the trip, the Fellows focus exclusively on some of the contemporary ethical issues facing their professions.

FASPE operates under the auspices of the Museum of Jewish Heritage, and is a non-denominational program that seeks participants of all faiths. Its various curricula were designed in collaboration with faculty and students from Yale Medical School, Yale Law School, Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism, and Georgetown University.

The program has long-reaching goals. On an individual basis, it seeks to instill participants with a sense of personal responsibility for the ethical and moral choices they make. By extension it also seeks to have an impact on these professions, improving the practices of all clergy, doctors, lawyers, and journalists.

For more information about applying or to find out how to further support this new program, please contact Thorin Tritter, Managing Director of FASPE, by email at ttritter@mjhny.org or by telephone at (646)437-4307.