

# FASPE

FELLOWSHIPS AT  
AUSCHWITZ  
FOR THE STUDY OF  
PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

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

*FASPE was a transformative experience. Following the hectic 3rd year of medical school, FASPE gave me the opportunity to take a step back and examine what type of doctor I am becoming.*  
(Danielle Bitterman, 2015 Medical Fellow)

*FASPE showed me how complicit clergy were in the atrocities of the Holocaust -- a fact that challenges me not to remain complicit in the atrocities of my own, contemporary context.* (Adeel Zeb, 2013 Seminary Fellow)

*I learned more about journalistic ethics in the 12 days that I spent in New York, Germany, and Poland than I have in the past year of journalism school.* (Samantha Pickette, 2014 Journalism Fellow)

## FASPE Overview

The Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics is a set of innovative programs for students in professional schools designed to address contemporary ethical issues through a unique historical context. Fellowships provide business, journalism, law, medical, and seminary students with a 12-day trip to Germany and Poland where the actions of professionals during the Holocaust and in Nazi Germany serve as a backdrop for an intensive course of study on the current ethical challenges in their fields. FASPE invokes the power of place – the first-hand experience of visiting Auschwitz and other historic sites – to engage Fellows in applying the lessons of history to the ethical issues they face today.

FASPE programs intersperse visits to Holocaust-related sites with seminars led by scholars and professionals that focus on contemporary issues and the formation of professional identity. Sample topics include:

- **BUSINESS:** How to make good decisions and how to put them into practice; the difference between legal compliance and ethical behavior
- **JOURNALISM:** The role of media in creating the historical narrative; balancing the costs and benefits of access; the challenges of fact-checking a victim's story
- **LAW:** The challenge of ambition in professional development; how to manage duties of candor and confidentiality; which case decisions a lawyer may control; dilemmas in day-to-day practice
- **MEDICAL:** Medical research on human subjects; euthanasia/physician-assisted suicide; the impact of resource limitations on healthcare decisions
- **SEMINARY:** the role of religious leaders as moral educators; when and how to address political issues with a congregation; the challenges of pastoral care during times of crisis

FASPE is a non-denominational program that engages participants of all faiths. Piloted in 2009, FASPE seeks to provide Fellows — future leaders in their fields — with an awareness of the ethical and moral challenges that they will face, and a sense of personal responsibility for their own actions.

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