

Sacks Scholars Graduate Fellowships

Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish
Education

Cardozo School of Law

Ferkauf School of Psychology

Fish Center for Holocaust and Genocide
Studies

Graduate Program in Advanced Talmud
Studies (GPATS)

Katz School of Science and Health

Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies

Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological
Seminary (RIETS)

Sy Syms School of Business

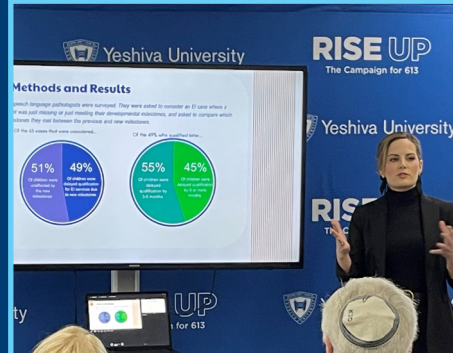
Wurzweiler School of Social Work

Sacks Research Scholars

Sacks Impact Scholars



Yeshiva University
THE RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS–HERENSTEIN
CENTER FOR VALUES AND LEADERSHIP



Sacks Research Scholars

The **Sacks Research Scholars** year-long fellowship, led by Dr. Shira Weiss and Dr. Erica Brown, is designed to strengthen the professional skills and expand the leadership platform of graduate students in **Azrieli**, **GPATS**, **Revel** and **RIETS** through the learning, researching, publishing and teaching of Jewish texts in engagement with contemporary thought. The cohort meets virtually bi-monthly to workshop ideas, drafts and revisions. In addition to their written work, Sacks Research Scholars collaboratively design a curriculum on the thought of Rabbi Sacks to be used in Jewish day schools. Scholars present their work at a culminative annual **colloquium** held at the Yeshiva University Museum, NYC.

Sacks Research Scholars receive a stipend of \$7,500.

(Paid in 2 installments, the 2nd disbursement upon completion of article, teaching and project)



We are here to make a difference, to mend the fractures of the world, a day at a time, an act at a time, for as long as it takes to make it a place of justice and compassion.

*Rabbi Jonathan Sacks
To Heal A
Fractured
World*



Student Commitments:

- Write either an academic article suitable for publication in a journal of Torah or academic scholarship (ie. *Tradition*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, etc.) or a popular essay suitable for publication in an online or print format (ie. *The Lehrhaus*, *eJewish Philanthropy*, *Times of Israel*)
- Design and teach a 3-part series with curricular resources
- Plan and execute an educational impact project to benefit a target audience within the Jewish community
- Participate in 10 (bi-monthly) virtual sessions to workshop topics/ideas, give/receive peer feedback, revise writing and teaching
- Participate in four virtual sessions on leadership training with Sacks Impact Scholars from YU graduate schools. Topics include:
 - » Leadership Strategies
 - » Conflict Resolution
 - » Project Management
 - » Storytelling
 - » Public Speaking



As part of the Sacks Research Fellowship, I was a member of a talented cohort of emerging scholars: we helped motivate each other to work on scholarly projects, collaborated to develop our burgeoning ideas, and inspired and enlightened each other through our diverse experiences and perspectives. In the framework provided by the fellowship, I wrote and eventually published an academic article which presented a philosophical analysis of forgiveness.

Neti (Linzer) Penstein
Sacks Research
Scholar '24,
MA, GPATS,
MA, Revel



1 IN 4



are 3X more likely to experience a loss
are also 43% more likely than white women to have a
are more than twice as likely to die in their first year
White newborns.

SS #BREAKTHESILENCE



For the Sacks Impact Fellowship I had the opportunity to create programs to engage with adolescent asylum seekers living in the Bronx. Through our community outreach, we helped connect families and adolescents to essential resources such as health insurance, academic support, legal services and more. The program has since grown to service asylum seekers in other boroughs.

Shira Levy
Sacks Impact
Scholar '24,
PsyD
candidate,
Ferkauf
School of
Psychology



Sacks Impact Scholars

The Sacks Impact Scholars year-long fellowship is an interdisciplinary cohort comprised of graduate students from **Cardozo** School of Law, **Ferkauf** School of Psychology, **Fish** Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, **Katz** School of Science and Health, **Sy Syms** School of Business, and **Wurzweiler** School of Social Work. This diverse cohort meets virtually for **monthly leadership training seminars**, led by Dr. Shira Weiss and Dr. Erica Brown to discuss topics including conflict resolution, decision-making, storytelling and project management. Four of these monthly sessions are in collaboration with Sacks Research Scholars. Additionally, under the guidance of faculty mentors, scholars individually contribute to **social impact projects** in their respective schools. Scholars present their work at a culminating annual **colloquium** held at the YU Museum, NYC. In the spirit of Rabbi Sacks' charge, "We are here to make a difference, to mend the fractures of the world."

Sacks Impact Scholars receive a tuition scholarship of \$7,500.

Monthly Virtual Leadership Training sessions will focus on topics including

- Leadership strategies
- Conflict resolution
- Project management
- Decision-making
- Public speaking
- Marketing ideas through storytelling

Impact Projects

Parameters of Impact Projects:

- A clearly defined objective to positively affect a social problem
- A target population to serve
- A clear methodology to accomplish goal and necessary skills to carry it out
- Project must be manageable to be designed and executed within academic year

Examples of current impact projects

- **Cardozo:** In partnership with Bet Tzedek Civil Litigation Clinic, advocacy for expanded access to Home and Community-Based Services for children with severe disabilities, as well as development of public education materials to provide technical assistance to families.
- **Ferkauf:** In partnership with Parnes Clinic, programming to provide mental health resources to address the psychological needs of asylum-seeking families in the NY area.
- **Fish:** Creation of a graphical poster series of images and quotes relating to the Holocaust to inspire students and general audiences to create space for contemplation and spark conversation through art.
- **Katz:** Development of app (LungDect) for automatic lung cancer detection with deep convolutional neural networks (CNNs) to classify the CT scans and then detect the precise location of the cancer, which will enhance the speed and accuracy of the cancer diagnosis.
- **Syms:** Expansion of Israel student job landscape for both undergraduate and MBA students by developing the Israel job network to recruit and place current students in internships and alumni in jobs in multiple industries in Israel.
- **Wurzweiler:** Programming with Care Café to address the social-emotional needs of African immigrants who experience barriers associated with assimilation.

DISTORTED

The Uncoordinated Campaign Against
Holocaust History and Memory

“

The Sacks Graduate Fellowship allowed me to pursue my interest to be part of the solution of a real ethical problem: Holocaust distortion. By writing a scholarly article and creating a podcast with classroom activities that I have presented at academic and education conferences, I have been able to reach a variety of audiences and make a substantial contribution to ensuring that Holocaust education stays accurate and objective.

*Paul Kutner
Sacks Impact
Scholar '23,
MA, Fish
Center for
Holocaust
and
Genocide
Studies*





Eligibility:

Students must be enrolled in their respective graduate program during the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 semesters.

Applications can be accessed with a YU email below and must be submitted by **March 30, 2025**.

Apply for the Sacks Research Scholars Fellowship '25-'26:
www.yu.edu/Sacks-ResearchScholars

Apply for the Sacks Impact Scholars Fellowship '25-'26:
www.yu.edu/Sacks-ImpactScholars

For questions, contact Dr. Shira Weiss, sweiss2@yu.edu

