The mission of the Ackerman Center of The University of Texas at Dallas is to teach the history of the Holocaust - the annihilation of the European Jews, 1933-1945. Supported by the Ackerman Center Endowment, it focuses on the antecedents of this event: the recurring anti-Semitism over the millenia and the European historical developments during the 19th and 20th centuries, including the cultural manifestations of our post-Holocaust world. This broad interdisciplinary studies program provides the opportunity for students to explore the background and details of this particular mass murder together with the nature of prejudice and the importance of solidarity, tolerance, and compassion in the world.

The Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies

Our Mission

The University of Texas at Dallas

Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies

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ince its creation two decades ago, the Holocaust Studies Program of The University of Texas at Dallas has established an international reputation. Offering a graduate certificate in the topic, its multi-faceted program based on teaching and research is a component of the School of Arts and Humanities and is augmented by the support of the endowment for the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies, the Leah and Paul Lewis Chair in Holocaust Studies, the Hillel A. Feinberg Chair in Holocaust Studies, the Burton C. Einspruch Holocaust Lecture Series, the Selwin Belofsky Graduate Fellowship in Holocaust Studies, and the Arnold A. Jaffe Holocaust Book Collection.

The program’s interdisciplinary curriculum includes graduate and undergraduate courses on the Holocaust, as well as Jewish history and culture which explore the rich narrative of Jewish life in Europe prior to the Nazi era and the devastation wrought in its aftermath. In addition, Holocaust Studies at UT Dallas also integrates comparative analyses of the Jewish communities in both Europe and America in the 19th and 20th centuries, while exploring the immense contributions made to European culture by Jewish thinkers, artists, and civic leaders before the destruction. This structure provides students with a scholarly, fact-based comprehension of all aspects of the Holocaust together with a full grounding in the intellectual and cultural environment of European civilization which preceded this cataclysmic event.

We invite you to participate in this Teacher Institute which offers 16 hours of continuing education credit and is being provided to educators in the greater Dallas area free of charge thanks to a generous endowment to the Ackerman Center.

The Facilitators

Dr. Zsuzsanna Ozsvath  UT Dallas Leah and Paul Lewis Chair in Holocaust Studies
Dr. David Patterson  UT Dallas Hillel Feinberg Chair in Holocaust Studies
Dr. Debbie Pfister  UT Dallas History and Literature of the Holocaust
Dr. Nils Romer  UT Dallas Rabin Professor Jewish History and Culture
Steve Leonard  Plano Senior High School

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