



Gratz Insider, March 2017 - Story Continuation

[To return to the newsletter, close this page.]

### **Gratz to Introduce New Program in Jewish Professional Studies**

The Jewish Professional Studies program was created in direct response to the needs of adult students, as reflected at Gratz and in master's programs generally. With their focus on improving job performance and marketability, adult learners often seek a very specific and individualized course of study that cuts across different academic programs.

For this very reason, our enrollment managers have often encountered prospective students who struggle to select a graduate program. An education director, for example, may need financial and strategic planning from our program in nonprofit management, combined with Jewish studies classes, as well as pedagogy courses from our master's in education curriculum. A public school teacher may choose to focus on Holocaust and Jewish content, but may also need courses on topics in secular education. Given the uncertainty in the job market, other students may simply consider the versatility of a broad-based degree a wise investment.

"Students like these - and there are many - don't find their educational needs met in already existing programs, but find courses in different programs that when assembled, create an educational trajectory that best fits their professional development," says Dr. Rosalie Guzoksy, dean and vice president for academic affairs. "This was one of the strongest impetuses to create the Jewish Professional Studies program."

The master's in Jewish Professional Studies - as well as its bachelor's counterpart - allows students to choose from all of our graduate courses so that they can craft a course of study that meets their specific goals. Students in this program also benefit from highly personalized advising, more akin to professional coaching.

*For more information on Jewish Professional Studies at Gratz, contact Ann Perazzelli, director of enrollment management, at [aperazzelli@gratz.edu](mailto:aperazzelli@gratz.edu) or at 215-635-7300, x150.*