



# ACLS Graduate Internships on the Spiritual Infrastructure of the Future 2026

<b>Project Organization</b>	Shalvi/Hyman Encyclopedia of Jewish Women Jewish Women's Archive
<b>Location</b>	Newton, MA
<b>Stipend</b>	\$15,400
<b>Duration</b>	9 weeks, Summer 2026

## ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The [Jewish Women's Archive](#) (JWA) is a national organization dedicated to collecting and promoting the extraordinary stories of Jewish women and gender-expansive people. JWA explores the past as a framework for understanding the issues important to women today; inspires young people with remarkable role models; and uses Jewish women's stories to excite people to see themselves as agents of change.

JWA is the world's largest collection of information on Jewish women. Each year, millions of people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds, from more than 230 countries, engage with and rely on JWA's resources. JWA hosts [public programs](#); trains the thought leaders of tomorrow through the [Rising Voices Fellowship](#) and [Pomegranate Writing Fellowship for Jewish Women of Color](#); sparks conversation with its [blog](#), [podcast](#), and social media presence; and is a leading voice in feminist and Jewish spheres.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The online [Shalvi/Hyman Encyclopedia of Jewish Women](#) is one of JWA's flagship projects. First published in 1997 as *Jewish Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia*, edited by pioneering historians of Jewish women Paula Hyman and Deborah Dash Moore, it was later expanded as *Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia*, edited by Paula Hyman and Dalia Ofer and published on CD-ROM in 2006. In 2009, it was made freely available on the JWA website; a new, expanded, and renamed edition was launched in 2021. The Encyclopedia, which currently includes 2283 entries, now receives nearly 2.5 million page views each year from scholars, teachers, students, genealogists, and religious leaders of all faiths and genders, from more than 200 countries around the world. It is used broadly by rabbis, cantors, Jewish educators, and members of other faith communities in preparing sermons, lesson plans, study groups, and more. Entries on Biblical women are consistently among the pages with the highest traffic.

Moving forward, JWA is updating and adding to the Encyclopedia on an ongoing basis, with a particular emphasis on communities previously underrepresented in Jewish historical narratives, including Sephardi and Mizrahi Jews, LGBTQ+ Jews, Jewish women of color, and Jewish women from Diaspora communities outside the United States and Europe.

The ACLS Graduate Intern will serve as an assistant to Encyclopedia Editor Dr. Jennifer Sartori, helping with all aspects of the Encyclopedia expansion. This project will play an important role in JWA's mission to educate lifelong learners, educators, scholars, rabbis, students, and a global public in an effort to expand and transform both the Jewish narrative and the place of Jewish women in other narratives. The Encyclopedia covers a wide range of topics and disciplines, including history, literature, the arts, religious studies, and more. Depending on their area of expertise, the ACLS Graduate Intern could focus specifically on the religious studies entries.

The internship appointment is for 9 consecutive weeks, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week. JWA staff and interns follow a hybrid work schedule, reporting to the office 2-3 days per week. In-office time helps facilitate deeper connections among teammates and with the work itself.

This position is *only* available through the ACLS Graduate Internships on the Spiritual Infrastructure of the Future program. You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.



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## Key Responsibilities:

- Helping to identify and prioritize individuals and topics to be added to the Encyclopedia.
- Determining when existing entries should be reviewed for updates.
- Identifying potential authors for Encyclopedia entries.
- Researching and writing updates to existing entries.
- Editing approximately 5 newly submitted entries.
- Depending on interests and abilities, possibly researching and writing a new Encyclopedia entry.
- Contributing to other JWA efforts, such as our “This Week in History” feature or working with JWA’s extensive oral history collection, depending on the intern’s interests and expertise.

## Qualifications:

- PhD student in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences, with a dissertation/research focus on the study of religion. Read more about eligible fields [here](#).
- At least some background in gender studies and Jewish Studies, and keen interest in the history of Jewish women and feminism.
- Excellent writing and research skills; finalists will be asked to submit writing samples.
- Detail-oriented.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively and to meet deadlines.

## *Preferred*

- Interest in public history/humanities a plus.
- Experience writing for online publications a plus.

## APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Graduate Internships on the Spiritual Infrastructure of the Future Program: <https://www.acls.org/competitions/acls-graduate-internships-on-the-spiritual-infrastructure-of-the-future/>
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System ([ofa.acls.org](https://ofa.acls.org)).
- Application deadline: **Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 9 PM EST.**