

Hiring: Research Fellow

The Orthodox Union's Center for Communal Research, with Yeshiva University's Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration

The Orthodox Union's Center for Communal Research, in collaboration with Yeshiva University's Azrieli Graduate School of Education, invite applications for a two-year, doctoral or postdoctoral research fellowship to begin September 1, 2020.

About: The Center for Communal Research

The Center for Communal Research advances the OU's obligation to better understand and serve the Jewish community by developing a high-quality base of knowledge and insights from a rigorous, responsive, and responsible mixed-methods research and evaluation agenda.

The Center's work falls into three major categories that address significant needs for the Orthodox community:

1. Conducting research on American Jewry generally with an emphasis on Orthodox Jews' lives and institutions.
2. Performing internal evaluations that assists in the strategic development and enhancement of OU departmental programs, our partner organizations, and the larger Jewish ecosystem in which we operate.
3. Facilitating structured conversations and convenings that use our research and evaluation findings to generate and enhance our programs and institutions.

About: The Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration

The Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration (AGS) is the premier institution in North America for the preparation of Jewish educators and Jewish educational leaders. It offers both a Doctorate in Jewish Educational Leadership and Innovation (EdD) and a Doctorate in Jewish Education (PhD). The faculty at AGS are scholars and practitioners with broad research interests and extensive experience in mentorship.

Position Summary

The Research Fellowship is for an outstanding emerging scholar who is completing or has recently completed a dissertation in Education, Jewish Studies, or the social sciences; whose scholarly interests align with the focus of the Center and Azrieli on the Jewish community and its institutions, especially its educational ecosystem; and who is prepared to commit two years to the Fellowship. The Research Fellow will:

- Undertake their own research and writing projects.
- Support all aspects of the Center's research agenda, with major responsibilities to include managing data collection, quantitative and qualitative analysis, facilitating discussions with various stakeholders and audiences, and helping to write and review reports and presentations.
- Teach three 3-credit courses in the Azrieli Graduate School of Education over a period of two years, with courses to be determined by Azrieli.

This is a two-year, work remote position.

Major Responsibilities

The Research Fellow will report to the Assistant Director of the Center for Communal Research. Teaching will be supervised by the Dean of the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration.

The specific responsibilities include:

- Provide support for all aspects of the research process, including study design, data collection, and dissemination
- Conduct literature searches and reviews
- Assist in developing and programming survey instruments
- Perform data analysis using statistical software packages
- Conduct in-depth interviews
- Code and interpret qualitative data
- Assist in developing and preparing reports and presentations for a variety of audiences. Opportunities for co-authorship will be provided.

Competencies and Skills:

- PhD in Psychology, Sociology, Education, Public Policy, Economics, Jewish Studies, or another relevant discipline. Graduate students in their dissertation phase will be considered for the position
- A proven ability to work with *qualitative* data. Experience with qualitative data analysis software (e.g., NVivo, ATLAS.ti) a plus
- A proven ability to work with *quantitative* data, and experience with at least one major statistical software package (e.g., SPSS, SAS, Stata, R). Experience with survey tools (e.g., Qualtrics, LimeSurvey) a plus

- Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- A clear and effective writing and communication style, and ideally a record of publications
- Demonstrated time and project management skills, including an ability to meet multiple deadlines
- Ability to work as part of a team and independently, and to collaborate with multiple partners
- A commitment to ongoing learning and professional development
- Sensitivity to and curiosity about a wide range of people and phenomena

Compensation Package:

- Competitive postdoc salary
- Live anywhere in North America (within 40 miles of an international airport). Boston–Washington corridor or Greater Los Angeles preferred.
- Travel opportunities to conduct research
- Research and teaching guidance from Yeshiva University faculty, and access to the Yeshiva University Libraries and other resources
- Opportunity to help execute an exciting research agenda that will inform communal program and policy choices

Please submit a cover letter, CV, and two letters of reference to:

Rebecca Esses, Managing Director, OU Center for Communal Research
essesr@ou.org

Your cover letter should include your dissertation title and a 50-word summary of your primary research question and central argument.