

# Undergraduate ParliaMentors

Do you want practical experience in  
politics?

Would you benefit from being mentored  
by an MP?

Can you contribute towards improving  
relations between communities?

The Three Faiths Forum is offering the chance for **second year students from Christian, Jewish and Muslim backgrounds** to be mentored by leading parliamentarians.

Students from universities across London will be matched up with contemporaries from different faith communities and will receive career and course advice and support from **MPs of the three major political parties** on a monthly basis.

Students will also have the opportunity to develop a project with **support from a national or international NGO**.

For an application pack, or to find out more about the Undergraduate ParliaMentors programme please contact [UP@threefaithsforum.org.uk](mailto:UP@threefaithsforum.org.uk), visit

[http://www.3ff.org.uk/prog\\_up.htm](http://www.3ff.org.uk/prog_up.htm) or call 0207 485 1350.

A project of the Three Faiths Forum Youth Division



Supported by:



# Undergraduate ParliaMentors

## - Details -

The Undergraduate ParliaMentors Programme (or UP) is an initiative aiming to nurture future politicians and community leaders from the three Abrahamic Faiths. Nine MPs from all three major parties each mentor a group of three students - one Christian, one Jewish and one Muslim, meeting with them on a monthly basis. With advice from their mentors, students develop projects focussing on themes such as political engagement and identity, whilst supported by key political NGOs and think tanks.

### **Undergraduate ParliaMentors aims to:**

1. Provide students from the Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities with advice and support appropriate for a career in politics.
2. Break down stereotypes and facilitate dialogue and joint working between young people of the three faith communities.
3. Provide the students with purposeful contact with the political world.
4. Give parliamentarians the chance to engage in depth with young people from faith communities.
5. Establish an alumni network of students of the three faiths studying in the political field.
6. Give future leaders the opportunity to understand their role in the political process.

Students are recruited predominantly from London universities. They are asked to complete an application form and may be invited to attend an interview. The information provided is used in order to match students with each other and with their mentors. Each participant is matched with two students from different faith communities and is assigned to a ParliaMentor, who will be an MP or MEP with interests similar to their own. They attend a monthly meeting with their mentor, who provides advice in relation to their course and career development, and the projects they develop. The students are expected to meet with each other at least twice more each month.

Throughout the programme, it is expected that mentors will offer participants further opportunities, including:

- Shadowing
- Inviting students to attend a political function with them during the year
- Inviting students to visit their constituency during the year

### **Projects:**

Participants carry out a project during the year. The nature of the projects largely depends upon the students and their mentors, but they are encouraged to focus on issues of political engagement and social responsibility. The projects can involve campaigning, research, event organisation or another format that is agreed upon. Each group is given further support for their project from a non-faith based NGO or think tank.

### **Events:**

Students are encouraged to attend events during the year for their benefit. Such events include socials, workshops and training, panel discussions and a high-profile end of year reception.

### **DocuMentors:**

Participants on the DocuMentors programme make a documentary following the students and parliamentarians taking part in the Undergraduate ParliaMentors programme. Students from the three

Abrahamic faiths are recruited through film schools and departments at London universities and are mentored by leading filmmakers.

### **Follow-up:**

At the end of the year, students join an alumni network of former participants of the UP and DocuMentors Programmes. Through networking events, the 3ff website and newsletters, former participants are able to take forward the contacts they have built up into their future careers.

In order to promote the programme, UP alumni act as ambassadors, speaking at universities about their experiences and encouraging students to take part in future years.

# Undergraduate ParliaMentors - Application Form -

Thank you for your interest in the Undergraduate ParliaMentors Programme. Please complete and return your application (to the details below) by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

## SECTION 1: Personal Details

Full Name:

Date of Birth:

Sex: F  / M  (please tick as appropriate)

University:

Degree Programme:

Year of study:

Faith background\*:

Contact Address:      Post Code:

Telephone/mobile number:

E-mail address:

## SECTION 2: Your Application

Please answer each of these questions in no more than 100 words

1. Why would you like to take part in the Undergraduate ParliaMentors Programme?

2. What personal qualities do you think you can bring to the programme?

3. What do you think the value is of working with people from different faith communities?

4. How do you see your participation in the Undergraduate ParliaMentors programme supporting your personal and career development?

5. Do you envisage any challenges arising from your participation in the Undergraduate ParliaMentors programme and how do you expect to tackle them?

6. Who is your role model and why?

7. Do you have any work or voluntary experience? If so, please outline.

8. Is there anything else you would like to add about yourself?

### **SECTION 3:**

Should your application be successful, we will use the information in this section to match you with your mentors and two other students.

#### **1. What are your political interests? Please tick as many options as applicable.**

- |                                                        |                                                |                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business and enterprise       | <input type="checkbox"/> Gender and equalities | <input type="checkbox"/> Home affairs              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community cohesion            | <input type="checkbox"/> Europe                | <input type="checkbox"/> International development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime and justice             | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Local government          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign affairs       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and rural affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Health                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport                 |

**Other (please state):**

#### **2. Are you a member of any political party or organisation? If so, please outline.**

**If not, is there a political party you most identify with?**

(This information will only be used for the purposes of matching you most appropriately with your mentor)

#### **3. What days and times are you not available?**

(Please note you will need to be available for three meetings per month, including one with your mentor)

**Once completed please email to:** [UP@threefaithsforum.org.uk](mailto:UP@threefaithsforum.org.uk)

**Or send to:**

Daniella Gabay  
Undergraduate ParliaMentors  
Three Faiths Forum  
Star House  
104 Grafton Road  
London NW5 4BA

\* Please note that in accordance with the remit of the Three Faiths Forum, the Undergraduate ParliaMentors programme seeks to develop relations between students of the three Abrahamic faiths (Christianity, Islam and Judaism). This is in keeping with Equality and Human Rights Commission guidelines, which state that "Positive action can be taken to encourage people of a particular religion or belief to take advantage of opportunities for training or work experience schemes."