

2025-2026

Rome

McMaster Fellow

Kathryn Phillips, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies - The Rome McMaster Learning Community is focused on issues facing refugees around the world. Italy is currently in the middle of a humanitarian crisis, receiving more asylum seekers than any other country in Europe. According to the International Rescue Committee, Italy received an estimated 700,000 asylum seekers and migrants from 2014-2020. Many of these were escaping war, religious persecution, and environmental issues such as famine among other crises. These McMaster scholars spend the academic year researching various issues refugees face including in areas of integration, education, and public policy. In Rome, the scholars work with our community partner, Programma Integra, to learn from experts in the field about best practices in assisting refugees in their new host countries.

McMaster Associate Fellow

Lisa Beringer, Assistant Professor of Social Sciences

McMaster Scholars

Kaylee Dickinson, Middle Childhood Education

Zadria King, Biology

Braylin Shaner, Middle Childhood Education

Kirsten Vanisacker, Business Administration