Call for Applications

Mid-Career Research Grant for Humanities Faculty
The Humanities Institute in the College of Arts and Sciences
Fairfield University

The Humanities Institute in the College of Arts and Sciences is proud to announce a grant opportunity for associate professors in the Humanities: The Mid-Career Research Grant for Humanities Faculty.

In order to expand and diversify the Humanities Institute’s support of the scholarship and/or creative projects of Humanities faculty, we now offer a competitive grant for one course-release for an associate professor in the Humanities. The intent of this grant is to provide support for associate professors working toward promotion. One grant per academic year will be awarded.

Application Deadline: February 10, 2021, to be awarded for the 2021-22 academic year.

Eligibility: Rank of associate professor at the time of application. While priority will be given to humanities faculty and projects, all faculty with a research project in a humanities area are encouraged to apply for the course-release grant, including those whose project has a substantive humanities component but who do not teach in a humanities department. Projects with an evident path to completion are most competitive, but they may currently be at any stage of the process. Preference is given to faculty not participating in the Humanities Institute Seminar during the same award year as this Mid-Career Research Grant.

Application
1. Narrative (not to exceed 3 single-spaced pages)
The narrative should address a) the contribution of your project to humanities scholarship and creative endeavor; b) methods and work plan; c) your competencies for the proposed project; and d) final product and dissemination.

The narrative should not assume specialized knowledge and should be free of technical terms and jargon. Applicants should format single-spaced pages with one-inch margins and with a font size no smaller than eleven point. As with other formal grants, applications exceeding the page limit or violating this format will not be reviewed.

a. Research and contribution
Provide an overview of the project, explaining the basic ideas, problems, or questions examined by the study. Describe the intellectual significance of the proposed project, including its value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Explain how the project will complement, challenge, or expand relevant studies in the field.

b. Methods and Work Plan
Describe your method(s) and clarify the part or stage of the project that will be supported by the fellowship. Provide a work plan describing what will be accomplished during the award period. If you do not anticipate finishing the entire project during the award period, discuss your plan for doing so. For book projects, explain how the final project will be organized. If possible, provide a brief chapter outline. For digital projects, describe the technologies that will be used and developed, and explain how the scholarship will be presented to benefit audiences in the humanities.

c. Competencies and Skills
Explain your competence in the area of your project. If the area of inquiry is new to you, explain your reasons for working in it and your qualifications to do so. Specify the level of competence in any language or digital technology needed for the study.

d. Final Product and Dissemination
Describe the intended audience and the intended results of the project. Explain how the results will be disseminated and why these means are appropriate to the subject matter and audience. If the project has a website, provide the URL.

2. Bibliography (not to exceed 1 single--spaced page)
The bibliography should consist of primary and secondary sources that relate directly to the project. Include works that pertain to the project’s substance and its theoretical or methodological approaches. Evaluators will use the bibliography to assess your knowledge of the subject area. Any standard format is acceptable.

3. Abridged CV (not to exceed 3 single--spaced pages)
The CV should provide the following:
• Current and Past Positions.
• Education: List degrees, dates awarded, and titles of theses or dissertations
• Awards and Honors (include dates)
• Publications: Include full citations for publications and presentations
• Other Relevant Professional Activities and Accomplishments

4. Chair Letter – The chair of your department will have to approve the proposal showing how the department would deliver their curriculum if you were to receive this course release.

After selection by the Humanities Institute, the successful applicant will earn a recommendation to the dean for a course-release in the following year.

For more information, please contact either Ryan Drake (rdrake@fairfield.edu) or Nels Pearson (npearson@fairfield.edu).