

July 11, 2019

**Institute for Research in the Humanities
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Solmsen Fellowship
Call for Applications 2020-2021**

DEADLINE: Thursday, October 31, 2019

Online applications only. Access application information and digital form at the Institute website in late July 2019: <https://www.irh.wisc.edu/irh-fellowships/>

The Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is pleased to offer four Solmsen Fellowships for the 2020-2021 academic year. These fellowships will be awarded to a scholar from outside the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Through a generous bequest from Friedrich and Lieselotte Solmsen, the Solmsen Fellowships sponsor scholars working in the humanities on European history, literature, philosophy, politics, religion, art and culture in the classical, medieval, and/or early modern periods (before 1700). Projects on the relationship of pre-1700 Europe to other parts of the world are also welcome. The Solmsen Fellowship does not typically support editions or translations.

Solmsen Fellows are expected to be in residence throughout the academic year (except for short research trips, lectures, conferences, etc.) and may extend their residency through the following summer on a non-stipendary basis. However, the fellowship may not be deferred for any reason. The award provides a stipend of \$57,000, office space, support services, and access to all university facilities. Solmsen Fellows are also expected to participate in the intellectual life of the Institute by attending the weekly Monday afternoon seminars (3:30-5:00 PM) and presenting their work at one of these meetings. Monday seminars are followed by informal Tuesday lunch discussions (Noon-1:00 PM) for those who are interested in further discussion of the Monday presentation. Fellows are also encouraged to attend other Institute events, as time and interest permit. Please consult the Institute's website (irh.wisc.edu) for more information about other Institute fellowships and activities.

Eligibility

- The Institute encourages applications from senior scholars as well as junior scholars with research projects that are well advanced.
- Faculty members of the University of Wisconsin-Madison are not eligible for the fellowship.
- Independent scholars are eligible to apply.
- **Applicants must be in possession of the doctorate at the time of application (10/31/2019 at the latest); we will not accept applications from graduate students**

expecting to have the doctorate by the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year.

Projects to revise doctoral dissertations should involve substantial expansion, new research, and/or new conceptual frameworks; the proposal should clearly explain how the project relates to the dissertation.

- Former Solmsen Fellows are eligible to apply after ten years from the end date of their prior Solmsen fellowship.
- Applicants whose projects are in religious studies are also eligible to apply to the Institute's Kingdon Fellowship program, However, **separate** applications for the Solmsen and Kingdon Fellowship competitions are required.

Application Materials

- Project/Book Proposal, up to 1,500 words (about 5 double-spaced pages of 12-point font). The proposal should address the significance of the project, how it will be accomplished, and the specific work plan for the period of the grant. Clearly state the intended product of your research. For book projects, an outline of chapters is highly recommended. For revisions of dissertations, substantive change is expected; explain how the book will differ from the dissertation.
- Bibliography, publications (not your own) relevant to the project, up to 2 pages.
- *Curriculum Vitae*, including work forthcoming and in progress.
- Solmsen Application Form (available only online via Interfolio in late July 2019: includes questions about project title and a required 100-word abstract of project).
- Three letters of recommendation that address the significance and feasibility of the proposed research, quality of the proposal, qualifications for the project, and past work. (Must be submitted online via Interfolio. See below for more details.)

Application Submission

- Applicants may access the Interfolio application here: <http://apply.interfolio.com/65660>. The application process will be open by August 1, 2019.
- You *can* submit your application while letters of recommendation are still pending, but letters of recommendation must be uploaded to Interfolio by the deadline.
- You must complete your online application and upload all required materials to Interfolio by 11:59 PM ET on the deadline: **Thursday, October 31, 2019** (this includes recommendation letters uploaded by your recommenders.
- You do not need to complete your application in a single session. You may start it, save changes, log out, and return to it later. (To see your saved applications, go to the Interfolio dashboard and click the "Deliveries" button; un-submitted applications will appear as "in-progress.")
- You are welcome to submit early. Even after submission, you may return to an application to make edits and changes until the October 31st application deadline. (To see an application you have already submitted, go to the Interfolio dashboard and click the "Deliveries" button; submitted applications will appear as "sent deliveries.") **The selection committee will not view submitted applications until after the deadline.**

Letters of Recommendation

- Applications require **three** letters of recommendation.
- To identify your recommenders and request letters of recommendation from them within the Interfolio application: Open the application page. Find the category “Confidential Letter of Recommendation or Evaluation,” click the “Add File” button on the far right. At the next screen, select the tab labeled “Request a Recommendation,” then click the “Request” button. On the following screen, enter the first and last name of the recommenders along with their email addresses. Click the “Send Request” button to complete the process.
- **Interfolio will contact the three recommenders directly. Letters must be submitted through Interfolio; letters emailed directly to the Institute will not be accepted.**
- The deadline for letter writers to submit letters is also 11:59 PM ET on **Thursday, October 31, 2019.**

Deadlines

- Application Materials Submitted through Interfolio: **Thursday, October 31, 2019**
- Letters of recommendation uploaded to Interfolio: **Thursday, October 31, 2019**
- Final Notification of awards from IRH: **March 2020***
- *(Please note: Every application will get full consideration. But due to the exceptionally large number of applications received each year, review is completed in multiple stages (preliminary review, semi-finalist group, and finalist group). The selection committee makes every effort to notify individuals no longer being considered at each stage of the competition. Only awardees and alternates will need to wait until mid-March for notification.)

Inquiries

- For substantive questions about projects and proposals, contact Steven Nadler, IRH Director (smnadler@wisc.edu; 608-262-8151)
- For all other questions about this fellowship, contact Ann Harris, Assistant to the Director (awharris2@wisc.edu; 608-262-3855)
- For help using Interfolio, please contact Interfolio’s help desk (help@interfolio.com; 877-997-8807)