

**Institute for Research in the Humanities  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Summer Humanities Research Fellowship (SHRF)  
Call for Applications 2020**

**Deadline: Monday, April 13, 2020**

The Summer Humanities Research Fellowship program and workshop support tenured humanities faculty in pursuing "the next big project." The workshop seeks to inspire participants to think programmatically about their research as well as how effectively to pursue external funding to support their scholarship and advance their career.

The immediate goal of this program is simply to get Summer Humanities Research Fellows (SHRFs) and workshop participants writing, and writing well, on a newly conceived research project. Each Fellow will be expected to have, by the end of the summer, a draft of a chapter of their book in-progress or of an essay or article they intend to submit. They should also have the commitment and momentum for continued writing on the project, a better sense of where the project is going and how to finish it, along with a greater awareness of the virtues and pitfalls of their own writing styles. They will also have explored possible sources of external funding and completed a draft of a proposal for external funding which will be both peer-reviewed and vetted by the group.

Funded by the College of Letters & Science and the OVCRGE, these fellowships and accompanying workshop provide a cohort of scholars with support for their scholarly writing that helps move them along in the early stages of new book projects or articles. Over the course of the summer (from June 1 to July 24) this support will take the following form:

1. Mentorship for scholarly writing in the form of regular feedback on work in-progress, including writing style, organization, clarity of expression, and conceptualization. The IRH Director, as workshop director, will assist each Fellow in connecting with a senior scholar (most likely in their field) who will read and comment on work in-progress over the course of the summer. The mentor will receive flexible research funds (if a UW-Madison faculty member) or an honorarium as compensation for this work.
2. Weekly meetings with other Fellows to discuss the general and specific challenges of writing books and articles, as well as the particular challenges each Fellow may be facing in their work (e.g., conceptualization of project, knowing what to include and what not to include, basic organization of the book and its chapters, time management, etc.).
3. Fellows will have the opportunity to workshop book and grant proposals with the goal of having these proposals ready by the fall to submit to publishers and for fellowship and grant competitions. The process of preparing proposals will be a topic of discussion in the weekly seminar, with participation of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Arts and

Humanities in the OVCRGE. The AVC will also arrange for outside peer-reviews of book and grant proposals.

4. In the academic year following the conclusion of the summer program, each Fellow will have the opportunity to host a full-day workshop devoted to the manuscript of their work in-progress. Conceived on the model of the First Book Program, this workshop will bring to campus scholars from the fellow's field to comment on and discuss the manuscript.

Participants are expected to be in general residence during the fellowship period and to attend the weekly workshop meeting. They are provided with an office in the IRH (University Club) for the duration of the fellowship if desired. Fellowships may not be deferred for any reason.

Applications for this highly selective fellowship are welcome from all *tenured* Letters & Science faculty in the humanities and the descriptive social sciences, at any rank. (The number of fellows chosen will be small in order to foster a closer working relationship with the IRH director and other fellows, and to allow for more detailed and extensive feedback on their writing.)

**Required Application Materials (due Monday, April 13, 2020):**

1. A *curriculum vitae*.
2. A description of the book project or article that will be the focus of the summer workshop. This may take the form of a book proposal or a draft of a chapter or article. Please include a proposed title at the top of this description.
3. A one-page statement explaining how this book or article fits into the applicant's overall research program—e.g., how it relates to previous research, or how it represents a new direction for the applicant's scholarship—as well as a brief description of some of the challenges the applicant experiences in scholarly writing. This statement should make clear exactly what the applicant commits to having completed by the end of the workshop, such as a book proposal, fellowship/grant application, article, and/or book chapter.

**These three items should be combined into a *single* PDF document and emailed to Ann W. Harris, Assistant to the Director at: [awharris2@wisc.edu](mailto:awharris2@wisc.edu). The subject line of the email should read "Summer Humanities Research Fellowship (SHRF) submission\_[Your name]."**

Participants in the workshop will be selected by a committee consisting of the IRH Director, the L&S Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research in the Arts and Humanities, and two additional senior faculty members.

Should you have any questions about the fellowships or workshop, please contact Steven Nadler, IRH Director, at [smnadler@wisc.edu](mailto:smnadler@wisc.edu)).