



15 July 2020

**Institute for Research in the Humanities
University of Wisconsin-Madison**

**Solmsen Fellowship
Call for Applications 2020-2021**

Deadline: Thursday, October 29, 2020

Online applications only. Access application information and link to digital application here: <https://irh.wisc.edu/irh-fellowships/> (scroll down to “external fellowships”)

The Institute for Research in the Humanities (IRH) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is pleased to offer four Solmsen Fellowships for the academic year 2021-2022, to be awarded to scholars 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 at the IRH throughout the academic year (except for short research trips, lectures, conferences, etc.) and may extend this residency through the following summer on a non-stipendiary 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 IRH by attending the weekly Monday seminar (3:30-5:00 PM) and to give a seminar presentation. 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 IRH events, as time and interest permit. Please consult the IRH website (irh.wisc.edu) for more information about other fellowships and activities.

Eligibility

- The IRH 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 (10/29/20 at the latest); we will not accept applications from graduate students expecting to have the doctorate by the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic year.** Projects to revise doctoral dissertations should involve substantial expansion, new research, and/or new conceptual frameworks; and the proposal should clearly explain how the project relates to the dissertation.
- Scholars who have previously held a Solmsen or Kingdon Fellowship are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants whose projects are in religious studies are also eligible to apply to the IRH Kingdon Fellowship program, However, **separate** applications for the Solmsen and Kingdon Fellowship competitions are required.

Application Materials

- [Solmsen Application Form](#). Required entries in the form include a Project title and a *short* 100-word Project abstract.
- [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.
- [Project Bibliography](#). Publications (not your own) relevant to the project, up to 2 pages.
- [Curriculum Vitae](#). Including work forthcoming and in progress.
- [Three letters of recommendation](#). Each must 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: <https://apply.interfolio.com/76596>.
- You must complete your online application and upload all required materials to Interfolio by **11:59 PM ET on Thursday, October 29, 2020** (recommendation letters must also be uploaded by your recommenders by 11:59 ET pm 10/29/20). Note that Interfolio operates out of DC and deadlines are set at Eastern Time, **not** Central Time. Deadline is **10:59 PM** within Madison.
- 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 *may* submit your application early while letters of recommendation are still pending (in fact, we encourage you do so); letters of recommendation can be submitted even after you submit your portion, but they must be uploaded to Interfolio by the 11:59 PM ET/10:59 CT deadline.
- Please press the "submit" button on your portion of the application as soon as possible. Even after submission, you may return to an application to make edits and changes until 11:59 PM ET/10:59 PM CT on October 29th. (Again, 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 review or read any of your submitted materials until October 30th.**

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 then contact the three recommenders directly with instructions on how to submit your letters. Please do this early so that Interfolio has time to contact your recommenders and they have time to review Interfolio's submission instructions. **Letters must be submitted through Interfolio; letters emailed directly to IRH will not be accepted.**
- The deadline for letter writers to submit letters is also 11:59 PM ET/10:59 PM CT on **Thursday, October 29, 2020.**

Deadlines

- Application materials submitted through Interfolio: **Thursday, October 29, 2020**
- Letters of recommendation uploaded to Interfolio: **Thursday, October 29, 2020**
- Notifications from IRH: **Mid-March 2021***
*(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 review, and finalist group review). 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)