CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2021 Summer Humanities Research Fellowship (SHRF)
Institute for Research in the Humanities
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Deadline: Thursday, April 15, 2021, 4:00 pm CST

The Summer Humanities Research Fellowship program and workshop support tenured humanities faculty in pursuing their “next big project.” Funded by the College of Letters & Science and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education (OVCRGE), these fellowships and the accompanying weekly workshop will provide a small cohort of scholars with support for their scholarly work that helps move them along in the early stages of new books or articles.

The workshop’s immediate goal is to help the program’s fellows with their writing 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 style and approach to research. They may also have explored possible sources of funding — university and external — and completed a draft of a proposal or application for review.

Over the course of summer 2021, and continuing into the 2021-2022 academic year, the fellowship will take the following form:

1. Throughout June and July, 8 weekly meetings with the other summer fellows, led by the IRH director, 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 own 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.).

2. During the summer, fellows will also have the opportunity to workshop writing samples related to the project, including preparing funding proposals for submission to publishers or to fall grant and fellowship competitions.

3. During the 2021-2022 academic year, each fellow will have the opportunity and funding 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.

4. Each fellow will receive $1000 in flexible research funds.
Participants are expected generally to be in residence during the workshop period and to attend the weekly meeting of the workshop. They will be provided with an office in the IRH (in the University Club) for the duration of the summer if they desire.

Applications for this highly selective fellowship are welcome from all tenured L&S 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.)

SHRF Fellows will be selected by a committee consisting of the IRH Director, the L&S Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities, and the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research in the Arts and Humanities.

To Apply:

Applications for a Summer Research Fellowship must include the following documents compiled into a single pdf document titled “2021 SHRF_Fellowship_Last Name_First Name”:

1. A one-page description of the book project, article or other research that will be the focus of the summer workshop.

2. A one-page statement explaining how this project 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 also make clear what exactly the applicant plans to have completed by the end of the workshop.

3. A curriculum vitae.

Applications for the Summer Humanities Research Fellowship are due by Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 4:00 pm Central Time, and should be submitted in electronic form to IRH Assistant to the Director Ann Harris (awharris2@wisc.edu). The three items above should be compiled in the order listed and saved as a single pdf titled “2021 SHRF_Fellowship_Last Name_First Name.” This title should also be the subject line of your email to Ms. Harris. Please also include the name of your department’s financial specialist in the email.

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