



Office of Graduate Fellowships

Fellowship Opportunities in:

History

Introduction

History is a wide-ranging field, and a correspondingly wide array of fellowship opportunities exists to support historical research. For this reason, it would be impossible to list every opportunity in a concise format, and students are encouraged to master search tools that will allow them to locate opportunities in their specific fields of interest – defined by time period, world region, and area of research. Some of the best tools can be found at the web site of the Office of Graduate Fellowships, along with links to the competitions that are most commonly asked about: <http://gradfellows.gmu.edu>

In History, as in most of the liberal arts/humanities, the majority of funding opportunities are to be found at the Ph.D. level. “Pre-dissertation” fellowships are designed to support students in the earlier phases of doctoral study, as they define their dissertation topic and prepare for dissertation research. “Dissertation Research” fellowships typically support research-related costs. “Dissertation Writing” or “Completion” fellowships support the final year of dissertation writing. Bear in mind that many competitions require the student to apply 6-12 months in advance of the time when funding will be needed.

Students are also encouraged to be aware of the following types of fellowships and awards, which may be used to support historical research:

- **Competitions open to a wide range of fields**, such as those offered by AAUW, ACLS, SSRC, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and the Ford Foundation. These are among the most prestigious fellowship-granting organizations, and they frequently fund students / projects in History.
- **Competitions that target specific demographic or identity groups**, including AAUW (women), Ford Foundation and SREB-State (under-represented racial/ethnic minorities), and Soros (new Americans). Diaspora community organizations sometimes offer small fellowships based on identity as well (e.g. Italian Americans, Armenian Americans, Hispanic/Latino Americans, etc.)
- **Residential Dissertation Completion Fellowships:** These awards are usually targeted at under-represented groups (though definitions of this vary widely) and offer full funding for a dissertation completion residency at a prestigious institution while teaching 1-2 classes.
- **International fellowships:** History students whose research requires language training and/or overseas field work should seek out fellowships designed to support these endeavors, such as Fulbright, Boren, and Critical Languages programs (which are also open to Master’s level students), as well as region-specific awards.
- **Fellowships for Specific Collections:** Many libraries, archives, museums, and research collections offer fellowships to support scholars (including graduate students) to work in the collection.

The list that follows is not intended to be comprehensive, but instead represents a sampling of some of the best-known competitions and resources for funding historical research at the graduate level, which every graduate student in the field should be award of.

AAUW American Fellowships

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/american-fellowships/>

AAUW American Fellowships support women scholars completing doctoral dissertations (applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.) Dissertation fellowships are currently set at \$20,000 for the academic year. Postdoctoral fellowships of \$30,000 are also available. Deadline: November. This competition charges a modest application fee.

American Historical Association (AHA) – Prizes, Fellowships and Awards

<http://www.historians.org/prizes/index.cfm>

The AHA offers a number of prizes, fellowships and awards, some open to graduate students.

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships

<http://woodrow.org/fellowships/newcombe/>

Dissertation completion fellowship to encourage original and significant study of ethical or religious values in all fields of the humanities and social sciences. In addition to topics in religious studies or ethics, topics such as the ethical implications of foreign policy, the values influencing political decisions, the moral codes of other cultures, or religious and ethical issues reflected in history, art, or literature are welcome. Approximately 20 awards of \$25,000 are made per year for twelve months of full-time dissertation writing. Deadline: November.

Coordinating Council for Women in History – Awards and Fellowships

<http://theccwh.org/ccwh-awards/>

CCWH offers a number of small fellowships and awards (in the \$1,000 range) for women graduate students in the field of History.

Cosmos Scholarships

<http://www.cosmosclubfoundation.org/scholars/grants-program.html>

Small grant (\$500-\$3,000) in support of research in any field to graduate students at D.C. metro area universities.

Ford Foundation Fellowship Program

<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/FordFellowships/index.htm>

Pre-Doctoral, Dissertation, and Post-Doctoral awards for PhD and Sc.D students intending academic careers. This award is open to US citizens in most fields of study in the STEM and liberal arts fields (some practice-oriented fields are not eligible; see web site for complete list.) The award aims to promote diversity in higher education by funding candidates: (a) Who are a member of an under-represented minority, including Alaska Natives, Black/African Americans, Mexican Americans, Native American Indians, Native Pacific Islanders, and Puerto Ricans AND/OR (b) Whose research and career aims demonstrate a likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource in teaching and scholarship. Deadline: November.

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsddrap/index.html>

Six to twelve months of funding for overseas dissertation research in areas outside western Europe. Open to U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are advanced to doctoral candidacy and who possess the language skills necessary to complete their project. Please note that graduate students may also apply to the regular Fulbright U.S. Student Program (<http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html>) to support overseas dissertation research, although that program, unlike this one, is not exclusive to dissertation research. This competition currently runs on an irregular timeline, with deadlines typically falling in late May/early June for awards beginning October – March. Requires university endorsement; see the Director of Graduate Fellowships to apply.

Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowships

<http://www.hfg.org/df/guidelines.htm>

Dissertation completion award of \$20,000 for candidates in the final year of their Ph.D. program. The HFG Foundation supports dissertation completion for studies pertaining to violence and aggression in relation to social change, intergroup conflict, war, terrorism, crime, and family relationships, among other subjects. Field / discipline is open, but dissertations with no relevance to understanding human violence and aggression will not be supported. Deadline: February 1.

Josephine de Karman Dissertation Fellowships

<http://www.dekarman.org/>

Dissertation completion fellowship for the final year in the Ph.D. program. Doctoral students apply in the winter of their penultimate year in the Ph.D. program for support in the subsequent (and final) year. Open to students in any discipline without citizenship restrictions. Special consideration will be given to applicants in the humanities, though awards are made in a range of disciplines. Approximately eight awards of \$22,000 each per year. Deadline: January.

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

<http://www.acls.org/programs/dcf/>

Dissertation completion fellowship in the humanities and related social sciences, for use in the final year of the Ph.D. program. No citizenship restrictions. Approximately 65 fellowships of \$25,000 (plus other funds to support research and university fee costs) awarded annually. Deadline: October.

Smith Richardson World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship

http://www.srf.org/grants/world_politics.php

Supports research and writing of policy-relevant dissertations on American foreign policy, international relations, international security, strategic studies, area studies, and diplomatic and military history. Funds can be used toward dissertation research (including fieldwork, archival research, or language training) and writing. Preference will be given to projects that have the potential to directly inform U.S. policy debates and thinking, rather than purely theoretical or scholarly debates. The foundation awards up to 20 grants of \$7,500 each. Deadline: October.

SSRC Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship (DPDF)

<http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/dpdf-fellowship/>

Offers the opportunity to participate in intensive workshops for dissertation proposal development, plus up to \$5,000 in support of summer pre-dissertation research. Workshops pair two senior faculty researchers with twelve graduate student awardees for a series of two workshops aimed at helping participants develop their dissertation proposal and familiarize themselves with an interdisciplinary field of study. Topics and themes of workshops vary annually and are published when the new competition is announced in late fall.

SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF)

<http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/idrf-fellowship/>

Offers 9-12 months of support to graduate students in the humanities and social sciences who are enrolled in doctoral programs in the US and conducting dissertation research outside the US. Students enrolled in Ph.D. programs in public policy, public health, and education, may be eligible to apply if their research projects engage directly with broader theoretical and analytical issues in the humanities and social sciences. Research topics may address all periods in history, but applicants should call attention to the broader implications of their work as it relates to contemporary issues and debates.

SSRC – Other

<http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/all/>

SSRC offers a variety of awards in specific regions or topics of study that may be of interest to doctoral students in history, including (among other things) programs for Latin American, Eurasian, and Korean area studies.

Woodrow Wilson Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in Women’s Studies

http://www.woodrow.org/higher-education-fellowships/women_gender/index.php

This fellowship is offered to Ph.D. candidates at institutions in the United States who will complete their dissertations on issues related to women, gender, women’s studies or feminist/gender/LGBTQ theory during the fellowship year. It aims to offer comprehensive support in the final year of dissertation writing. This competition is for projects in the humanities and social sciences; interdisciplinary projects are encouraged. Candidates should be advanced to candidacy at the time of application. No citizenship or gender restrictions.

AND DON’T FORGET ABOUT THESE....

Students in History may also be eligible to apply to the following awards:

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

<http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html>

International research in all fields around the world. US citizens only. Early application deadline – start planning in spring to submit in early fall. STEM fields particularly encouraged.

Boren Fellowships

http://www.borenawards.org/boren_fellowship

International travel for study with an emphasis on language training. Open to all fields, with STEM candidates particularly encouraged to apply. Will not support travel/study in Western Europe. U.S. citizens only.

Critical Languages Scholarships

<http://clscholarship.org/>

Full funding to attend an overseas summer language program in a “critical” language. For some languages no background is required and students at all stages may apply. For others pre-requisites apply, see web site for details. U.S. citizens only. Open to all fields, but STEM students are particularly encouraged to apply.

Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans

<http://www.pdsoros.org/competition/>

Supports students who are recent immigrants (e.g. naturalized citizens of the U.S.) or the children of recent immigrants for graduate study in the United States. All fields are eligible, but student must not be beyond their second year of graduate study in their chosen field.

PMF (Presidential Management Fellowships)

<http://www.pmf.gov/>

The PMF Fellowship places graduating graduate students in a two-year paid position in the US federal government. U.S. citizens only – rare exceptions may be possible for those on a path to citizenship. Students apply in the last year of graduate school. The recently introduced “Tech Fellows” program is an initiative within the PMF competition to attract more and better candidates from STEM and technical fields; currently it is the same application process as PMF.

SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program

http://www.sreb.org/page/1074/doctoral_scholars.html

SREB (Southern Regional Education Board) is a regional award open to Ph.D. students at George Mason University. Two types of fellowship are offered: The Doctoral Award supports new Ph.D. students for up to three years. The Dissertation Award is a one-year award for students who have been advanced to doctoral candidacy and are working on their dissertation. U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are members of a racial or ethnic minority and plan to become a full-time college or university faculty member after earning the Ph.D.

Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program

<http://www.si.edu/ofg/Applications/SIFELL/SIFELLapp.htm>

Fellowships in a range of fields are offered by the Smithsonian in support of pre-dissertation, dissertation, and post-doctoral research.

RESIDENTIAL AND TEACHING DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

Residential fellowships offer advanced doctoral students the opportunity to complete their dissertations in residence at a college, university, or other institution where they are offered a stipend and faculty privileges (office/lab space, library access, parking, etc.). In return, fellows are expected to contribute to the intellectual life of the institution, either by teaching a specialized course (usually a seminar in their area of expertise) or by giving an occasional public lecture or interacting with students, faculty, and colleagues. While many such fellowships specifically target “under-represented minority” candidates (with the goal of increasing faculty diversity), the definition of “under-represented” can be quite broad, and prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully review eligibility requirements and (where publicized) the profiles of past recipients.

Arnold L. Mitchem Dissertation Fellowships (Marquette University)

<http://www.marquette.edu/provost/mitchem-dissertation-program.shtml>

One-year fellowship designed to help increase the presence of currently underrepresented racial and cultural groups in the U.S. professoriate by supporting doctoral candidates in completing the final academic requirement, the dissertation. Two awards are offered per year with a stipend of \$35,000. Check web site for eligible fields, which may vary from year to year. Fellows are to be in residence at Marquette University for the academic year, during which they teach one course in their area of specialization. See web site for fields invited in a given year/competition cycle. U.S. citizens / permanent residents. Deadline: January.

Chavez/Eastman/Marshall Dissertation Fellowships (Dartmouth College)

<http://graduate.dartmouth.edu/funding/fellowships/cem.html>

Cesar E. Chavez Fellowship (for scholars of Latino/Latina descent)

Charles A. Eastman Fellowship (for scholars of Native American descent)

Thurgood Marshall Fellowship (for scholars of African American descent)

Year-long residency for doctoral student completing dissertation. Fellow will complete the dissertation in residence at Dartmouth College and also participate in selected activities with Dartmouth undergraduates. \$25,000 plus other support. Open to US citizens in most fields – check web site for details. Deadline: February 1.

Consortium for Faculty Diversity in Liberal Arts Colleges

<http://www.gettysburg.edu/about/offices/provost/cfd/>

Dissertation and post-doctoral fellowships in all disciplines of the liberal arts and engineering for scholar-in-residence postings in a nationwide consortium of liberal arts colleges. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are also members of under-represented minority groups. Appointments are made by the member institutions according to local needs and local program guidelines.

Five Colleges Fellowship Program (Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges)

<https://www.fivecolleges.edu/faculty/fellowships/node/75>

Year-long residency for PhD students completing dissertation. This program supports scholars from under-represented groups and/or scholars with “unique interests and histories.” Fellows will complete the dissertation in residence at Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, or Smith College. Most fellows also teach 1 course. \$30,000 plus other support. Open to all fields with no citizenship restrictions. Deadline: January.

Gaius Charles Bolin Dissertation Fellowships (Williams College)

<http://dean-faculty.williams.edu/graduate-fellowships-2/graduate-fellowships/>

Two-year residency at Williams College in Williamstown, MA. The first year is spent primarily on dissertation completion, the second on academic career development while teaching one course. The Bolin Fellowship is awarded to U.S. citizens and permanent residents from under-represented groups, including ethnic minorities, first generation college graduates, women in predominantly male fields, and scholars with disabilities. Annual stipend is \$37,000 plus other support. This award is also open to post-MFA candidates.

Getty Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowships (Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, CA)

http://www.getty.edu/foundation/funding/residential/getty_pre_postdoctoral_fellowships.html

Getty Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowships support emerging scholars in Art History and closely related fields who are completing work on projects related to the Getty Research Institute's annual theme. Recipients are in residence at the Getty Research Institute, where they pursue research to complete their dissertations or to expand them for publication. Pre-Doctoral fellows are in residence from September to June and receive a stipend of \$25,000. Scholars of all nationalities are welcome, but certain U.S. residency requirements apply, see web site for details. Deadline: November 1.

Jackie McLean Fellowship (University of Hartford, CT)

http://www.hartford.edu/aboutuofh/office_of_provost/jackie_mclean_fellows.aspx

Designed to support the development of diversity and intercultural competence on campus by bringing promising scholars or artists to our campus for a year. Successful candidates will demonstrate promise as a teacher and scholar or artist; interest in a career in academia; and a commitment to working with a diverse student body and advancing intercultural competence in all students. Responsibilities include teaching one course per semester, conducting research or scholarship toward the completion of their degree or as a follow-up to their graduate work, and engaging in academic service. For application information please visit the web site.

Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (RCAC) Fellowships

<http://rcac.ku.edu.tr/fellowships>

Approximately 10 yearly fellowships awarded to Ph.D. candidates of any nationality in the archaeology, art history, history, and allied disciplines for dissertation research focused on the geographical area of Turkey / Anatolia from the Neolithic through the Ottoman eras (including Classical civilizations, late Antiquity, Byzantine studies, studies of Anatolian Islam and Christianity, and studies of communities within the Ottoman Empire.) Fellowships include accommodation, travel, and stipend to spend one academic year in Istanbul at Koç University's Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, located in central Istanbul. No teaching requirement, but fellows must be resident in Istanbul during the tenure of the award. Note that the language medium at Koç University is English; proficiency in Turkish is not required unless it is otherwise relevant to the topic of research.

Marilyn Yarbrough Dissertation/Teaching Fellowship (Kenyon College)

<http://www.kenyon.edu/x27112.xml>

Year-long residency for doctoral students completing dissertation. This program supports scholars from under-represented groups (including ethnic minorities, women in male dominated fields and men in female dominated fields, and persons who are first-generation college attendees.) Open to U.S. citizens in most fields in the arts and sciences. Fellows will complete the dissertation in residence at Kenyon College and teach one course per semester. \$32,500 plus other support.