



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. 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 areas of interest – defined by time period, geographical region, and topical subfield (e.g. social history, political history, military history, urban history, environmental history, and so on.) 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 fields, the majority of funding opportunities are to be found at the Ph.D. level. “Pre-dissertation” fellowships support students in the earlier phases of doctoral study, as they define their dissertation topic and prepare for dissertation research. This category also includes awards supporting language training. “Dissertation Research” fellowships typically provide funds for research-related costs, ranging from small grants for research trips to major fellowships supporting long-term international dissertation research. “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.

History students are especially 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 grants 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 fieldwork 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 Special 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 represents a sampling of some of the best-known competitions and resources for funding historical research at the graduate level that every student in the field should be aware 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. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence; quality and originality of project design; and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research. 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.

AAUW International Fellowships

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

AAUW International Fellowships provide support for women pursuing full-time graduate (MA or PhD) or postdoctoral study in the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Applicants may apply at any stage of their graduate career, with level of support varying from \$18,000-\$30,000 per year. Preference is given to candidates who demonstrate commitment to the advancement of women and girls, and who plan to return to their home country to pursue a professional career. A limited number of awards are renewable for a second year. Deadline: December. This competition charges a modest application fee.

American Historical Association (AHA) – Grants and Fellowships

<http://www.historians.org/awards-and-grants/grants-and-fellowships>

The AHA offers a number of grants and fellowships in specific sub-fields of History. Most of these competitions are open to advanced doctoral students. The AHA also offers childcare grants for members attending its annual convention: <http://www.historians.org/annual-meeting/resources-and-guides/child-care-grants>

American Society for Legal History Cromwell Fellowships

<http://aslh.net/about-aslh/honors-awards-and-fellowships/cromwell-fellowships/>

Each year the American Society for Legal History makes several fellowship awards of \$5,000 each for research in legal history, particularly in the colonial and early national periods of the United States. The Foundation has supported the publication of legal records as well as historical monographs.

CLIR Mellon Fellowships for Dissertation Research in Original Sources

<http://www.clir.org/fellowships/mellon>

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) offers fellowships funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for dissertation research in the humanities and related social sciences in original sources. The program offers about fifteen competitively awarded fellowships a year in amounts up to \$25,000. Each provides a stipend of \$2,000 per month for periods ranging from 9-12 months. Each fellow receives an additional \$1,000 upon participating in a symposium on research in original sources and submitting a report acceptable to CLIR on the research experience. Deadline: November.

Center for Jewish History

<http://www.cjh.org/p/36>

The Center for Jewish History offers a number of grant and fellowship awards for research in Jewish libraries, archives, and research collections in New York City. Some opportunities are open to advanced graduate students.

Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships

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

Administered by the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation, the Newcombe Fellowship is a dissertation completion award intended to encourage original and significant study of ethical or religious values in all fields of the humanities and social sciences. Proposals exploring 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.

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Fellowships

<http://research.history.org/learning/fellowships/>

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation invites applications for a range of short-term residential fellowships at the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library, with its distinguished collection of primary and secondary sources relating to the Revolutionary era, the colonial Chesapeake, African American studies, decorative arts and material culture through 1830, archaeology, architectural history, digital history, 18th-century Williamsburg, and historic preservation. Fellowships carry a stipend of \$2,500 per month and are available to researchers with strong qualifications. Fellows are expected to be in continuous residence at the Rockefeller Library and to actively participate in the intellectual life of the Foundation's research and education campus.

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 whose work speaks to the organizational goals of the CCWH, namely the status of women in society and in the historical profession. One major award of \$20,000, the Catherine Prelinger Award, is also offered annually to a woman scholar whose career has not followed a traditional path through secondary and higher education and whose work has contributed to women in the historical profession.

Cosmos Scholarships

<http://www.cosmosclubfoundation.org/scholars/>

The Cosmos Club Foundation of Washington D.C, offers a small grant (\$500-\$4,000) in support of research in any field to graduate students at D.C. metro area universities. Open to both MA and PhD students with no citizenship restrictions. This grant can only be used to cover direct research costs that are otherwise un-supported, or in some cases costs associated with attending a professional conference. Application deadline: November 1.

Ford Foundation Fellowship Program

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

The Ford Foundation Program of the National Academies offers 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, including History. 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 U.S. Student Program

<http://us.fulbrightonline.org>

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers grants for one academic year of independent overseas research/study for U.S. citizens who have completed a bachelor's degree (by the start date of the grant), but not yet a Ph.D. Continuing students in both MA and PhD programs are eligible, as are students who have recently completed an MA. Though the Fulbright program is not a doctoral dissertation research program, it is possible (and common) to use a Fulbright grant to conduct dissertation research abroad. Some countries also offer grants for students to serve abroad as English Teaching Assistants or to engage in Digital History/Digital Storytelling projects. Requirements vary by country; some countries require foreign language proficiency. This application requires university endorsement – please see the Director of Graduate Fellowships to apply. Deadline falls annually on September 15.

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship

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

The Fulbright-Hays program (not to be confused with the Fulbright U.S. Student Program) offers six to twelve months of funding for overseas dissertation research in areas outside western Europe. The competition is 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. This competition currently runs on an irregular timeline, with deadlines typically falling in the spring for awards beginning October – March. Requires university endorsement; see the Director of Graduate Fellowships to apply.

Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

<http://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/fellowships>

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History offers annual short-term research fellowships in the amount of \$3000 each to doctoral candidates, college and university faculty at every rank, and independent scholars working in the field of American history. These fellowships support scholars who intend to conduct research at archives in New York City.

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.

Library Company of Philadelphia Fellowships

<http://www.librarycompany.org/fellowships/american.htm>

The Library Company, located in Center City Philadelphia, holds over half a million rare books and graphics that are capable of supporting research in a variety of fields and disciplines relating to the history of America and the Atlantic world in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The Library Company offers dissertation, postdoctoral, and short term fellowships for scholars wishing to conduct research in the collections. See the web site for details of the awards offered.

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

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

The ACLS/Mellon fellowships support advanced graduate students in the humanities and related social sciences during the final year of Ph.D. dissertation writing. The program encourages timely completion of the Ph.D. Applicants must be prepared to complete their dissertations within the one-year fellowship period. Approximately 65 fellowships of \$30,000 (plus other funds to support research and educational costs) are awarded annually. No citizenship restrictions. Applicants must NOT have progressed further than the 6th year or the doctoral program. Deadline: October.

Miller Center National Fellowship

<http://millercenter.org/fellowship>

The Miller Center Fellowship program at the University of Virginia funds scholars completing dissertations that employ history to shed light on American politics and public policy, foreign relations and the impact of global affairs on the United States, media and politics, and the role of the presidency in shaping American political development. Fellows receive a stipend of \$22,000 and mentorship through the Miller Center, where they spend the fellowship in residence.

Newberry Library Fellowships

<http://www.newberry.org/fellowships>

The Newberry Library in Chicago offers short- and long-term fellowships for research using Newberry Library collections. The Newberry collection has particular strengths in American history, American Indian/indigenous studies, Chicago and the Midwest, Maps/Travel/Exploration, and Medieval and Renaissance studies.

PACHS Fellowships in the History of Science

<http://www.pachs.net/fellowships/>

The Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science offers short-term Research Fellowships and nine-month Dissertation Writing Fellowships for scholars in the history of science, technology and medicine. Fellows use offices in the Center's facility in Center City Philadelphia and have ready access to events and activities at consortium member institutions as well as throughout Philadelphia's academic and cultural communities.

Smith Richardson World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship

<https://www.srf.org/programs/world-politics-statecraft-fellowship/>

The Smith Richardson Foundation 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 annually 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 interdisciplinary workshops for dissertation proposal development, plus up to \$5,000 in support of summer pre-dissertation research. Workshops pair senior faculty researchers with graduate student awardees for a series of two workshops aimed at helping participants develop their dissertation proposal and prepare for dissertation research. Open to early-career doctoral students in the humanities and social sciences. No citizenship restrictions. Deadline: October.

SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF)

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

Offers 9-12 months of support to advance graduate students in the humanities and social sciences who are enrolled in doctoral programs in the US and conducting dissertation research outside the US. 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. No citizenship restrictions. Deadline: November.

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.

U.S. Army Center of Military History Dissertation Fellowships

<http://www.history.army.mil/html/about/fellowship.html>

Dissertation Fellowships support scholarly research and writing among qualified civilian graduate students preparing dissertations in the history of warfare. For purposes of this program, the history of war on land is broadly defined, including such areas as biography, military campaigns, military organization and administration, policy, strategy, tactics, weaponry, technology, training, logistics, and the evolution of civil-military relations. In the selection of proposals for funding, preference is given to topics on the history of the U.S. Army. Amount: \$10,000. Deadline: January.

Woodrow Wilson Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship in Women's Studies

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

This \$5,000 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. The 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:

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 one of fourteen designated "critical" languages. 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, at all stages of study; must be an enrolled student at the time of application.

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.

Ann Plato Fellowship (Trinity College, Hartford, CT)

<http://www.trincoll.edu/Academics/dean/positions/pages/Ann.aspx>

Year-long pre- or post-doctoral (or post-MFA) residency at Trinity college. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who will contribute to enhancing diversity at Trinity College by increasing ethnic and racial diversity, maximizing the educational benefits of diversity, and/or increasing the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of students. Stipend is \$50,000 (\$55,000 for post-doctoral fellows). Dissertation fellows teach 1 course per year (post-docs teach 2 courses.)

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. \$36,000 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.

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 \$39,000 plus other support.

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.

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.

Penn Predoctoral Fellowships for Excellence Through Diversity (University of Pennsylvania)

<http://provost.upenn.edu/diversity-predoc>

This program is designed to provide mentorship and access to Penn's resources for doctoral students in the humanities or social sciences, enrolled at universities other than Penn, as they complete their dissertations. It supports scholars from a wide range of backgrounds who can contribute to the diversity of Penn and the higher education community. The Fellowships support graduate students in the final stages of dissertation research or writing for residency at Penn for an academic year. Stipend is \$28,500 with additional support for research / travel.

Phillips Exeter Academy Dissertation Year Fellowships

https://www.exeter.edu/about_us/171_15053.aspx

Phillips Exeter Academy seeks to support the academic and career development of doctoral students, and promote diversity and lively intellectual exchange on its campus by offering a Dissertation Year Fellowship that will support PhD candidates in the completion stage of their dissertation. The fellowship offers a \$14,000 stipend plus room, board, benefits, travel funds, access to facilities and resources, and professional development opportunities. There is no teaching obligation, though fellows are invited to share their work/research with the community during their residency.