

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowships for 2016-17

Description: This award provides monetary support and a release from teaching responsibilities in the last two (long) semesters of doctoral study, enabling PhD students who are in a position to graduate within one year to focus attention on completion of the dissertation.

Eligibility: Outstanding PhD students in the Humanities and Social Sciences who have made timely progress toward completion of the degree (normally no later than the sixth year for students who entered the PhD program with a bachelor's degree and no later than the fourth year for students who entered the PhD program with a master's degree). Applicants must be ABD and be in a position to defend the dissertation and graduate within the 2016-17 academic year. In addition, students who have been awarded significant external fellowship or grant funding, such as Fulbright, DAAD, NIH, NSF, or the like are not eligible to accept the CLASS Dissertation Completion Fellowship. According to the donor's wishes, some preference is given to applicants in the Humanities and related disciplines.

Award Amount: \$22,000 for a two-semester award. This funding is granted as scholarship support rather than as assistantship/employment. In addition, the award comes with a graduate tuition fellowship (GTF) for up to 9 hours in Fall and Spring semesters.

Requirement: A student receiving a Dissertation Completion Fellowship must not accept other employment, including teaching or research assistantship, but must dedicate full effort to the dissertation. Awardees must be registered for at least the minimum required number of dissertation hours during the period of the award. Award funding for the year will be withdrawn in the event this agreement is violated.

Application Procedures: A student *must* be nominated by his/her department in order to apply. A nominated student should submit items 3-5, below, to his/her department; the department should then send the completed file, with nomination and recommendation letters, to the Dean's Office. (The Dean's Office will run unofficial transcripts for all nominees and add the transcript to the portfolio.) The department should submit application materials in a single file to Prof. Cathy Patterson, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, 402 Agnes Arnold Hall (or electronically as a pdf to cpatters@uh.edu) by 5:00 p.m. on February 26, 2016.

Application materials must include

1. A letter of nomination from the student's department chair or director of graduate studies emphasizing the student's academic excellence and qualifications for the award. *Only demonstrably outstanding students should be nominated by their departments for these awards.*
2. A letter of recommendation from the student's dissertation director providing information about the subject, quality, and status of the student's work, including specific reference to the likelihood of completion of the dissertation within the required timeframe.
3. A statement by the student of no more than three (3) double-spaced pages describing the substance, approach, and significance of the dissertation and providing a clear timeline for completion of the work, if the award were to be granted.
4. The student's graduate CV, including any academic awards, honors, publications, etc.
5. A substantial piece of the dissertation work, such as a draft chapter or at the very least the approved proposal.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5 P.M., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016

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