

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowships for 2021-2022

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 full attention on completion of the dissertation.

Eligibility: Outstanding CLASS research PhD students (non-clinical) who have made timely progress toward completion of the degree (normally to be completed 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 2021-2022 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.

Award Amount: \$20,000 for a two-semester award. This funding is granted as scholarship support rather than as assistantship/employment. Students will need to pay their own health insurance costs. 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 a 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 Award funding for the year will be withdrawn in the event this agreement is violated.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 their department in order to apply. A nominated student should submit items 3-5, below, to their department; the department should then send the completed file, with nomination and recommendation letters, to the Dean's Office. Each department should submit all application materials in a SINGLE pdf file to the Dean's Office by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. (Transcripts will be added to portfolios by the Dean's Office). Please submit applications to Dr. Susan Scarrow, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies (sscarrow@uh.edu).

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, written for a multi-disciplinary award committee. The statement should provide a clear timeline for completion of the work, if the award were to be granted.
4. The student's graduate studies CV, including any academic awards, honors, publications, etc.
5. A substantial piece of the dissertation work, preferably a draft chapter, a solo author journal article related to the dissertation, or the approved full dissertation proposal. Submitted work should not exceed 35 pages. This writing sample should illustrate the style of the proposed work and ideally should show that applicant has made good progress on the project.
6. If any of the application materials are in a language other than English, it is recommended that the applicant provides a translation or long synopsis in English so that all committee members are able to evaluate the work.

Departments may nominate up to two applicants. If there are two candidates the department is not required to rank them, but if it wishes to do so, please include that in a cover letter along with a single PDF file for each department nominee.

Decisions will be made by a CLASS committee convened for this purpose.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 12 noon, Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Please e-mail to sscarrow@uh.edu (Send one consolidated application file PDF per candidate).