



**The Graduate School**  
**Interdisciplinary Research Scholars Fellowship**  
**Fall 2007, Fellowship Application for spring 2008**

Fellowship Description

The Graduate School is pleased to announce a new fellowship designed to assist doctoral students in making rapid progress with their doctoral dissertations and to support students who would like to explore and pursue interdisciplinary research. The first award of fellowships will be for next spring, 2008, and will be an initial experiment to explore how such a fellowship might best work in support of doctoral students. Therefore, this first award of fellowships will be smaller and more limited in scope as the Graduate School and the faculty members guiding this effort learn more about how we might best implement this program. At this stage in the development of this program, the awards will likely be more suitable for students who are in humanities/arts, social and behavioral sciences rather than “bench science” type programs.

The Graduate School will competitively award a limited number of semester-long doctoral non-service fellowships that include a stipend of \$7,200, tuition, and health insurance beginning in spring semester, 2008. The purpose of these fellowships is to give doctoral students who have completed most or all of their coursework an intensive period of time and experience to focus on completing their dissertation prospectus or research proposal. These fellowships are also intended to encourage and support doctoral students’ exploration of potential interdisciplinary scholarship and provide an opportunity for students to collaboratively discuss and learn about the opportunities and obstacles in conducting research that extends beyond the normal boundaries of their primary discipline.

In order that the student is able to devote her/himself to the quality preparation of this work, it will be generally expected that the student will enroll only in 3 credit hours of 994 (full time enrollment for dissertation work). It is expected that students not enroll in any additional courses during this semester, nor engage in TA or RA responsibilities, although this may be allowed in certain circumstances in which the time required for these additional activities does not substantially distract from the purposes of this fellowship and is necessary for the student’s progress toward his/her degree.

This fellowship will center on a weekly 3-hr seminar that will be team-taught by several faculty from different disciplines with an interest in interdisciplinary research and scholarship. Seminars may include information and discussions related to the meaning of interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary scholarship, problems of interdisciplinary research and writing, publication, professional challenges, methodological approaches, ontological perspectives, tools/techniques, research ethics, writing and knowledge dissemination issues, etc. The substance of the seminars will in large part be guided by the needs, goals, and interests of the doctoral students involved.

It is expected that the students participating in this fellowship will produce and share with their seminar colleagues by the end of the semester, a written document that will likely become their dissertation prospectus or proposal for an external research grant application. These should involve a significantly interdisciplinary research perspective.

## The Application

Please submit the application form, and a narrative not to exceed 2000 words that describes your interest in participating in this interdisciplinary fellowship and what you hope to gain from your participation in this seminar. Include a listing of all the graduate courses that you have completed, or are currently taking, and comment on how these courses or other experiences have increased your interest and helped your preparation to undertake interdisciplinary research and scholarship. While we understand that you are at a very preliminary stage in conceptualizing your research, please briefly describe some key ideas you have and include a listing of “key words” that denote the types of thematic issues around which seminar discussions might connect with your doctoral dissertation research, in other words, key words that might describe significant concepts or aspects of your proposed research, as you are currently considering it.

In preparing this application, please remember to write to an audience of faculty reviewers who may not be from your own discipline or field. Please address any questions about this application to Graduate School Associate Dean Sandra Hoeflich. Email: [sandra@unc.edu](mailto:sandra@unc.edu), Phone: 962-6323.

Please be sure the following information is included on the front page of your application:

- Name
- PID
- Department
- Year entered your graduate program
- Name of your faculty advisor
- Names of the faculty who you are considering to be on your dissertation committee

Applications must be received by 5pm on the due date: October 15, 2007. Awardees will be notified about November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

Send completed applications to:  
Lisa Clement, Fellowship Coordinator  
The Graduate School  
CB # 4010, 218 Bynum Hall



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ PID: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Year entered program: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

General topical area for your dissertation research: \_\_\_\_\_

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Dissertation advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of faculty you are considering for your dissertation committee:

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**Application Procedure:**

Applicants should submit one copy of this completed application form, with the narrative of no more than 2000 words, to **Lisa Clement, CB#4010, 218 Bynum Hall by the Graduate School Deadline**. A completed application consists of this cover form; a narrative not to exceed 2,000 words that includes a description of why you are interested in participating in this fellowship program, some ideas you have for your research, and a listing of key words that reflect significant concepts or themes you want to explore during this research fellowship. Please also include a listing of all graduate courses completed/or currently enrolled in and comment on these courses and other experiences that have supported your interdisciplinary research interest.

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If funding is approved, I agree to use these resources according to the conditions described in the Interdisciplinary Research Scholars Fellowship program application.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_