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**2025 – 2026**

**USF Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship Application**  
**Deadline: February 14, 2025**

The Humanities Institute (HI) at the University of South Florida has been supporting research and innovations in the humanities and relevant social sciences since 2003. HI enhances the educational experience of students, faculty, and the community through public lectures, programs, symposia, and other events. The USF Humanities Institute Faculty Fellows Program is designed to encourage interdisciplinarity and support original scholarly and creative work by USF faculty to enhance the research profile of the humanities at USF.

**Fellowship Design:**

The program is designed to allow an interdisciplinary faculty cluster to build a customized year-long fellowship at the Humanities Institute. The Fellowship Cohort will design a program that facilitates intellectual freedom and independent inquiry, while enhancing the visibility of the humanities at USF. The application questions are intentionally broad so that a Fellowship Cohort may design and self-direct a program suited to meeting that group’s short-term goals and each fellow’s individual long-term research goals.

**Fellowship Scope:**

Each member’s work must meet the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) definition of Humanities:

The term “humanities” includes, but is not limited to, the study and interpretation of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.

**Goals**

* Promote interdisciplinary collaboration and research.
* Provide time, space, and resources for advanced work in the humanities.
* Support the development of the intellectual community at USF.
* Increase graduate and undergraduate student opportunities for humanities research.

**Eligibility**

* Faculty will apply as a “Fellowship Cohort” of three people.
* The three faculty members must be from distinct departments or schools.
* All USF System faculty, including no more than one permanent instructor per cohort (I, II, and III) are eligible.
* Each cohort may have one faculty applicant from outside a traditional department or school (Library, Center for Urban Transportation, etc.).
* Faculty cannot apply with multiple cohorts.
* All cohort members must be able to participate in the fellowship simultaneously.

**Fellowship Benefits:**

Fellowships will run for an academic year (August – May). Fellows will receive a 50% reduction in their annual teaching assignment. The USF Humanities Institute will provide funding to the Fellow’s home department so they may hire adjunct faculty to offset the loss in instructional support. The Fellowship Cohort will be given the opportunity to invite an outside scholar who shares their research interests to USF to give a public lecture and spend time working privately with the cohort (budget will be provided by HI). Access to workspace and resources in the Humanities Institute Suite (CPR 478 on the Tampa Campus) including shared office, conference room, a photocopier, and the communal lobby will be provided.

**Terms of Fellowship**

* Fellows must plan and participate in four seminars during the year.
* Fellows will assist the HI team with the annual Humanities Undergraduate Research Conference by serving as panel moderators.
* Fellows will be required to participate in a Humanities & Hops (or similar community education program planned by HI) within one year of the end of their fellowship to share research progress and outcomes.
* At the end of their fellowship year, Fellows must submit a written report of research progress and outcomes.
* Fellows must acknowledge the USF Humanities Institute in any public dissemination of research results.

**Application Materials:**

Please combine all requested documents into a single .PDF and email to [ekicak@usf.edu](mailto:ekicak@usf.edu) and [cas-huminst@usf.edu](mailto:cas-huminst@usf.edu)

* Cover sheet
* Narrative (max 2000 words)
* CVs for all applicants (max 4 pages each)
* Written acknowledgement from each applicant’s department chair stating they support a reduced course load should the faculty member be accepted (email between applicant and chair is fine).

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Applications will be evaluated by the Humanities Institute Faculty Advisory Board and scored on the following criteria:

**Topic Selection (10 points)**  
The Fellowship Cohort is encouraged to select a research theme with broad interdisciplinary, campus-wide appeal (vs. very narrow or niche topics). Consideration should be given to how the theme supports the university’s commitment to inclusion and diversity. Relevance to the NEH definition of humanities should be addressed if the topic straddles the line between humanities and social sciences.

**Interdisciplinary Collaboration (30 points)**

The Fellowship Cohort has a compelling argument why collaboration between the three academic disciplines is necessary and how researchers will work together during the year. Each Fellowship Cohort member includes a clear explanation of their unique knowledge about the topic, and how their individual research contributes to the proposed program.

**Research Innovation (20 points)** The Fellowship Cohort clearly articulates how their research poses new questions or fills gaps in current knowledge in humanities and relevant social sciences.

**Development and Feasibility (20 points)**  
The Cohort has a clear program rationale with well-articulated stages of development including a clear timeline, calendar, or description to address feasibility during the yearlong appointment.

**Potential (20 points)** Cohort members should describe how the HI Faculty Fellowship could benefit them professionally, contribute to the intellectual community at USF, and advance USF’s humanities research profile.

**Contact:**

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**USF Humanities Institute Faculty Fellowship Application**  
**2025 – 2026 Cover Sheet**

**Fellowship Cohort Research Theme**: Click or tap here to enter text.  
  
Applicant One   
Name Click or tap here to enter text.  
Phone Click or tap here to enter text.  
Email Click or tap here to enter text.  
Home Campus Choose an item.   
Department Click or tap here to enter text.  
Faculty Rank Click or tap here to enter text.  
Annual Course Load Click or tap here to enter text.

Funding Disclosure: Please list any grants or fellowships you have received in the previous year for work related to the project proposed in this application: Click or tap here to enter text.

Applicant Two   
Name Click or tap here to enter text.  
Phone Click or tap here to enter text.  
Email Click or tap here to enter text.  
Home Campus Choose an item.  
Department Click or tap here to enter text.  
Faculty Rank Click or tap here to enter text.  
Annual Course Load Click or tap here to enter text.  
Funding Disclosure: Please list any grants or fellowships you have received in the previous year for work related to the project proposed in this application: Click or tap here to enter text.

Applicant Three   
Name Click or tap here to enter text.  
Phone Click or tap here to enter text.  
Email Click or tap here to enter text.  
Home Campus Choose an item.  
Department Click or tap here to enter text.  
Faculty Rank Click or tap here to enter text.  
Annual Course Load Click or tap here to enter text.  
Funding Disclosure: Please list any grants or fellowships you have received in the previous year for work related to the project proposed in this application: Click or tap here to enter text.

Group Narrative (Max 2,000 words)

Explain your cohort’s proposed research theme, making sure to address the following items:

1. Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Why does this project require collaborative effort? What does each contributor bring to the interdisciplinary effort? How researchers plan to work together.
2. Research Innovation: How does this project fill a gap in current research or what new questions does it pose that are not currently being considered?
3. Development and Feasibility: Where is your project in its current development? Is it in the early exploratory stages? Mid-range? Close to completion? Include a well-articulated estimated timeline, calendar, or description demonstrating the feasibility of the steps the group wishes to take.
4. Potential: What outcomes could result for each individual fellow’s career path? How might the proposed project contribute to the USF community or advance USF’s research profile in the humanities?