

HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTER

2010-II

Andrew W. Mellon

Postdoctoral Fellowships

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RECEIPT DEADLINE: November 30, 2009



RICE

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Humanities Research Center Mission

The Humanities Research Center fosters scholarly research and intellectual community in the humanities broadly understood, facilitates scholarly work between the School of Humanities and other areas of Rice University, and leads institutional change by partnering with other foundations, centers, research institutions, and universities. The Center strives to bring a dynamic element to research and teaching by developing "intellectual liquidity" within and between Humanities and the sciences, information and communications technologies, and the professions.

Furthermore, the Center serves as the nucleus within the University where the disciplinary changes that will shape its future can be profitably reflected on and anticipated. For a university the size of Rice, these collaborations – both within the university and beyond it – are crucial to stimulating innovation and new research. In short, the Center is an agent of intellectual integration, within and beyond the School of Humanities.

Call for 2010-12 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowships

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The Humanities Research Center at Rice University will award up to three Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowships for two-year appointments beginning July 1, 2010. The second year's appointment is contingent on successful review of first year's performance. Fellows will receive a stipend of \$40,000 per year, as well as an allowance for research and relocation. Fellows will teach two courses per academic year within a humanities department, and will be expected to make significant progress in their research.

The fellowship recipients play an active role in the intellectual life of the center by sharing research activities through a brown bag series with other HRC fellows. Applicants should describe how their research project would contribute to the intellectual community at Rice, including faculty research activity in the School of Humanities, participation in one or more of the HRC faculty workshops, or interdisciplinary humanities initiatives such as the Americas Colloquium or Medical Humanities communities. For details, please visit:

- **Workshops:** <http://hrc.rice.edu/workshops.aspx>
- **Humanities Departments:** <http://humanities.rice.edu>

Criteria for selection

- The promise of the research project, including prospects for publication or significant advances in tangible research outcomes.
- The research project's potential interest to scholars in different fields of the humanities.
- The potential appeal of the proposed course to a broad audience.
- The applicant's potential to contribute to the intellectual community at Rice and in the HRC.

Selection Process

Each proposal is evaluated by members of an interdisciplinary committee comprised of the HRC Faculty Advisory Panel. Applicants will be notified of fellowship decisions in February 2010.

Application Process

- **Document Upload page:** <http://apps.hrc.rice.edu>

Applicants are encouraged to upload multiple files at our [Document Upload page](#) and are welcome to email materials to hrc@rice.edu (**subject: Postdoctoral Fellowship**). Applicants are also welcome to send paper copies by mail or delivery.

- **Cover sheet**
- **Curriculum vitae**
- **Letter of interest**
- 1000-word **research project proposal** and one-page bibliography, in language appropriate for a multi-disciplinary panel of non-specialist readers. Please double-space and use 12-point type.

- 250-word statement of the project's **potential contribution** to Rice faculty research activity in the School of Humanities, to one or more of the HRC's faculty workshops, or to interdisciplinary humanities initiatives.
- A brief **course proposal** for a one-semester undergraduate course

Recommendations

Three letters of reference, solicited by the applicant and sent by hard copy directly to the HRC. The most effective letters show a detailed knowledge of the candidate's past work and address directly both the importance of the proposed project and the candidate's qualifications to pursue it. General praise is less helpful to the committee. Referees may be directed to our [Fellowships Referee Guide](#) which may be downloaded and printed from our website.

Recommendation letters must be received by the HRC by the application deadline. Consideration of letters received after that date cannot be guaranteed.

Eligibility

Fellowships are awarded to support research projects in the humanities. This includes, but is not limited to history, philosophy, languages, literature, linguistics, religious studies, art history and the arts. Proposals employing humanistic approaches are welcome from the anthropology and other social sciences, natural sciences, music, architecture, and engineering.

Applicants should have received a PhD in **2007 or later**, and **before July 1, 2010**. Fellowship recipients cannot have accepted or currently hold a tenure-track position.

Rice University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. Scholars who are members of traditionally under-represented groups are encouraged to apply.

There is no citizenship requirement or restriction for this fellowship. Non-U.S. nationals are welcome to apply.

Employment eligibility verifications requested upon hire.