

**TANNER HUMANITIES CENTER
DOCTORAL STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS
for UNIVERSITY OF UTAH DOCTORAL STUDENTS IN THE HUMANITIES**

The Tanner Humanities Center's mission is to promote humanistic research and education at the University of Utah, in the state, and in the nation. The Center sponsors an annual competitive program which promotes research by University of Utah faculty and graduate students and research by independent scholars and faculty from other institutions. See <http://www.thc.utah.edu> for more information.

Eligibility

University of Utah students must have successfully passed their Ph.D. or terminal degree qualifying exams, and completed all course work by the fellowship application deadline (**DECEMBER 1, 2024**) to be eligible for a fellowship.

The Tanner Humanities Center will award up to three graduate fellowships for the nine-month academic year 2025-2026. The fellowships are designed to enable doctoral students of unusual ability and achievement to enhance their career preparation by engaging in research and writing full time, and by participating in all Center activities. Projects in the following fields are eligible: anthropology, archaeology, communication, history, philosophy, religious studies, ethnic /gender/cultural studies, jurisprudence, history/theory/criticism of the arts, languages and linguistics, literature, creative writing, historical or philosophical issues in the social and natural sciences, or the professions. The Center encourages projects that are interdisciplinary and that are likely to contribute to substantive intellectual exchange among a diverse group of scholars.

DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Doctoral Fellows will receive a stipend of \$30,000 and be provided with a private office in the Center. Doctoral Fellows will be exempt from departmental teaching or instructional duties during the academic year. A tuition waiver is available **ONLY FOR THOSE CANDIDATES WHO HAVE NOT ALREADY EXHAUSTED THEIR WAIVER LIMIT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH** (ask your department chair). **Determining this is your responsibility.**

Fellowship Activities

We are an intellectual community. We require Fellows to be *in residence* during the nine-month academic year from August through April, to continue their program of studies, and to participate fully in Center activities. During their residence, Fellows will present a work-in-progress talk to faculty, graduate students, and invited guests. We require a final written fellowship report by June 30, 2026. Brief absences for research-related travel are permitted with notice to staff. If you have significant travel requirements or plans for 2025-2026, please do not apply for a Center fellowship.

Selection Criteria

The Tanner Humanities Center's faculty advisory board, comprised of distinguished faculty from a variety of humanities disciplines, reviews proposals and selects finalists. The Center seeks Fellows whose past and present work demonstrates excellence and collegiality, and represents a variety of disciplines and methodologies without regard to race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship, or national or ethnic origin. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities to people with disabilities.

Application Process

A Graduate Fellowship application consists of four parts:

- 1) Application materials arranged in the following order: a) the application cover page, b) an abstract (100 words, single-spaced) of the proposed project, and c) a brief description (double-spaced, not to exceed 1000 words) of the thesis or dissertation project that follows "description format" guidelines listed below, and d) a current curriculum vitae.
- 2) Two (2) letters of recommendation: a) one letter from the chair of the supervisory committee and, b) one letter from a scholar working in the student's area of study who is familiar with the student's proposed research project. **REQUEST YOUR LETTERS EARLY.**

Please ask your department or program graduate director to submit a letter acknowledging that you are a graduate student in good standing in the program.

Please ask your department or program to send a dated copy of your qualifying exam sheet signed by the supervisory committee indicating "pass."

All documents must be sent electronically in either .doc or .pdf format to Beth James, Administrative Director, beth.james@utah.edu

- 3) A list by year of the graduate (M.A. and Ph.D.) support—in the form of tuition waivers, teaching assistantships or teaching fellowships, scholarships, grants, and other fellowships, regardless of source—that you have received. (This will not disqualify you; we merely want to be aware of this information.)
- 4) If you have applied for a fellowship in the recent past, you must request new letters and other supporting documents anew. The Center does not retain past applications, which would in any event contain dated information.

Description Format

The review panel is composed of scholars from a wide range of disciplines who may not all possess specialized knowledge of the candidate's proposed field of study. The project should thus be clearly explained and justified and **free from jargon**. **We will not consider proposals that exceed the 1000 word limit**. The proposal should address the following points in order. Please label each section, paginate, and double-space throughout.

- a) The specific questions, problems, or ideas you will examine and the objectives or results you hope to achieve.
- b) A detailed but concise description of your methodology, approach, and/or procedures. You should make clear how your methods will lead to achieving your project objectives.
- c) Justification for your project. What contribution is the project likely to make, and what is its significance for the humanities?
- d) How does the project fit into existing scholarship in the field? What is its relationship to the work of others in the same area? What is distinct and original about the proposed project?
- e) What is the current state of the project? What is your proposed schedule or specifically laid-out work plan for the fellowship period?
- f) How does the dissertation project fit in with your career objectives?
- g) What would you gain from, and contribute to, the Tanner Center's intellectual community and activities? This is a key consideration, since unlike non-residential research fellowships, this is a fellowship in residence at an active humanities center and in a community of fellows.

ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2024 submit **the application materials via e-mail to Beth James (beth.james@utah.edu)**. The Center will notify applicants no later than March 1, 2025.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED COVER SHEET AND SUBMIT WITH ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS.

**TANNER HUMANITIES CENTER
2025-2026 DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP and
DISSERTATION SUPPORT AWARD APPLICATION**

Name: _____ UU ID number _____

Address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Telephone: (home) _____ (other) _____

Department: _____ Field of Specialization: _____

Year Ph.D. or terminal degree program was begun: _____

The title of your research project during fellowship year:

Names, address, and telephone numbers of the two persons whom you have asked to send recommendations directly to the Tanner Humanities Center:

1. _____

2. _____

I waive (), do not waive (), my right to have access to these letters of reference.

Your letters of recommendation and your program's graduate director's letter verifying that you are in good standing must be sent directly to the Tanner Humanities Center by **December 1, 2024**. All materials should be sent to Beth James at beth.james@utah.edu.

TANNER HUMANITIES CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Instructions for Referees of Doctoral Fellowship Applicants

It would be helpful to the Center's review panel (most of whom will be outside of this field) if you commented specifically on the applicant's proposed project while keeping in mind the following selection criteria:

- the conception and definition of the research or writing project;
- the project's contribution to the field in specific terms of the work's significance and originality;
- the capability, based on past performance, of this candidate to undertake and complete this project within or shortly after the period of fellowship residency;
- the applicant's writing and analytical abilities, work plan and methodology; and
- potential contributions to the University of Utah faculty, students, and community of this applicant and this project.

The Center strives to create an environment for positive intellectual and humanistic exchange. Please comment on the candidate's collegiality and ability to work and interact effectively with fellows, faculty, staff and students, and the likelihood that this candidate will be a full participant in the Tanner Humanities Center.

Please send your letter of reference directly to Beth James, Administrative Director (beth.james@utah.edu).

The deadline for RECEIPT of reference letters is December 1, 2024.