

Humanities Engage: Ph.D. Student Opportunity – Summer 2020

PITCH YOUR OWN REMOTE SUMMER IMMERSIVE

Humanities Engage fosters experiential learning and immersive experiences for doctoral students across our arts and humanities programs.

In the time of COVID-19, this strand of our Mellon-funded project supports remote summer immersives that Ph.D. students devise with host organizations of their choice.

Since no university-related travel can be booked until further notice, all immersive experiences must be able to be conducted fully remotely.

To offer students maximum flexibility to integrate immersives with their individual programs of study and research, this program supports experiences designed collaboratively between a student and a prospective host organization that cannot pay interns (e.g. non-profits, small start-ups). Students are also eligible to apply for funding to support pre-existing, unpaid internships with nonprofit or public-sector organizations.

- **Eligibility:** DSAS Humanities Ph.D. students with no university academic appointment in summer 2020 (TA/TF/GSA/GSR/other full summer funding) or external fellowship and who expect to be enrolled in fall 2020
- ***Humanities Engage* expectations:** contribute at least one blog post to the project website by August 1, 2020; submit reflective essay on the experience for the project website by September 1, 2020. Help co-mentor subsequent cohort.

Please note the following guidance: Students are responsible for reporting taxable stipend payments and for remitting any tax due to their local taxing authority. International Ph.D. students would need to obtain the prior approval of their Immigration Specialist to accept positions; *Humanities Engage* would work with the student's Ph.D. program and OIS but cannot guarantee that approval would be granted.

A student is eligible to apply for funds toward one project at a time.

Immersives must involve ca. 200 hours of effort. If you receive funding from your prospective host organization, the program will pay for the difference between such outside funding and a maximum of \$3,500.

Identifying and Approaching Organizations

For examples of organizations that are willing to host students, please see the *Humanities Engage* website here: <https://www.humanitiesengage.pitt.edu/funding-opportunities/phd-students>.

The below websites can also help with finding organizations that may have the capacity to collaborate with you to develop a project that would impact their mission:

- <https://www.volunteermatch.org/virtual-volunteering>
- <https://www.internships.com/virtual>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/virtual-internship-jobs/>

As you approach organizations for possible immersives, please keep in mind that many organizations are currently experiencing challenges and may not have the capacity to collaborate with you at this time.

If you would like to discuss your internship search in general, or a specific possible opportunity, please reach out to [Dr. Marques Redd](#), Senior Director for Graduate Advising and Engagement for the Humanities.

For tips on finding internships, see also: <https://sites.duke.edu/interdisciplinary/funding-opportunities/graduate-student-training-enhancement-grants-gsteg/tips-for-duke-doctoral-students-creating-your-own-internship/>

If you plan to approach **local Pittsburgh organizations**, please contact Michele Krugh at michele.krugh@pitt.edu first so that we can help orient you to pre-existing contacts and liaise appropriately.

Application

For fullest consideration, please send your materials by **June 1, 2020**. Applications will be reviewed, and grants awarded, on a rolling basis as long as resources last.

To pitch your immersive, please provide the following materials in a single .pdf to michele.krugh@pitt.edu:

Cover Letter (2 pages max) addressing these key points:

1. An overview of the project you are proposing. We look for projects that are specific, well-defined, and encompass a scope that is realistic for a summer immersive. Specify scope, method, timelines, and intended outcomes.
2. What relevant conversations have you had with your host organization?
3. How does your project draw on the academic work you have done so far *and* advance your future academic goals?
4. How will this opportunity advance your professional goals?
5. What impact will your project have on the mission of the host organization?

Current CV

Brief letter of support from host organization detailing its commitments (including project summary, role of the PhD student, supervisory and mentoring arrangements, access to relevant systems and materials, outcomes)

Brief letter of support from primary Ph.D. advisor