

Mellon Public Writing Fellowship Application
For Academic Year 2020-2021
Application Deadline February 24, 2020

Supported by the Mellon Humanities Ph.D. Interventions Project, the Emory Writing Program will award two graduate Mellon Public Writing Fellowships for 2020-2021 to advanced graduate students interested in community engagement and public scholarship. MPW fellows will work 15-20 hours per week for between 16 and 18 weeks with a partnering community organization during the fall semester and early spring semester before returning to campus to engage in dissemination (teaching/tutoring/presenting) activities for the remainder of the academic year. Fellows will receive a stipend of \$23,250, along with the Graduate School's health insurance subsidy for the academic year. Travel costs to the organization site will be covered.

The MPW Fellowship responds to recent academic calls to re-envision doctoral work by broadening our understanding of the activities that comprise research, teaching, and service in the context of the trend toward a more civically engaged university. Co-created community partner projects that seek to engage public audiences beyond academe offer graduate students an opportunity to develop expertise in community knowledge outside of the university. MPW fellows will partner with a community organization to develop and execute a writing project(s) that is mutually beneficial to the fellow and partnering organization.

Fellowship projects could include writing proposals for projects and funding; developing education and training materials; researching and reporting on policy or technology issues; collaborating on organizational documents such as annual reports, press releases, profiles, and so on; designing, developing, and contributing content to organizational websites, assisting with data visualization, interpretation, and publication.

Dissemination projects conducted during the spring semester may include contributing to a database of writing scenarios, prompts, rubrics, and datasets to be used in undergraduate courses, including first-year writing; conducting genre workshops for writing-center tutors; coaching writing-center tutees who are working on public scholarship projects; presenting about their fellowship projects to professional development seminars in relevant graduate programs, including the newly established Seminar in Public Humanities (GRAD 700); teaching one or more class periods in writing-program or English courses, such as ENG 380W: Writing in the Humanities, ENG 389: Introduction to the Digital Humanities, and ENG/QTM 302: Technical Writing, or other relevant continuing-writing courses; mentoring graduate students who wish to develop and pitch internships to the MPWF selection committee; conducting public writing workshops as part of Writing Across Emory (WAE), or the College's writing across the curriculum/writing in the disciplines (WAC/WID) program; conducting proposal writing for nonprofits workshops in conjunction with the Writing Center or the LGS Grant Writing Program.

Partnering organizations for the 2020-2021 academic year are Common Good Atlanta, a non-profit organization that “provides incarcerated people with broad, democratic access to higher education so they can develop a better understanding of both themselves and the societal forces at work around them” (<http://www.commongoodatlanta.com/>); and Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, a non-profit organization that does pro bono legal work for “low-income Atlantans as they demand safe and stable housing, insist on fair pay for an honest day’s work, and break free from domestic violence” (<https://avlf.org/our-purpose/>).

Successful candidates will interview with the MPWF selection committee and partnering community organizations. MPW fellows will work with the partnering organization and the MPWF Program Coordinator to develop the specificity of the fellowship writing project(s). Common Good Atlanta looks forward to potential support with writing for their website, long form narrative, white papers, assignment design, and program-assessment writing. The fellow partnering with Common Good Atlanta will spend some time working directly with incarcerated individuals. Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation looks forward to potential support with writing for their website, client interviews, and long form narrative about their organization.

We envision the Mellon Public Writing fellowship as an opportunity for students who have participated in the Seminar in Public Humanities (GRAD 700) to leverage their learning as they undertake a prolonged engagement with a community partner. However, having participated in this course is by no means a requirement for successful application.

Eligibility:

To be considered for the fellowship, applicants must:

- be a full time student in a doctoral program, in good standing;
- be in residency the year of appointment; and
- be willing to work as a full member of a diverse team.

Application Procedure

A complete application will include:

1. A **Graduate School Fellowships Application cover sheet** (available to download under resources here http://www.gs.emory.edu/financial_support/advanced.html)
2. A **statement of purpose addressing the following three subjects**: 1) your long-term career goals; 2) your experiences relevant to this position such as course work, experience in research methods, and previous community engagement work; 3) why you would like to work with a community partner, and how this experience would enhance your professional development;
3. A **current curriculum vitae**;
4. A **copy of your Emory transcript** (a copy of an unofficial transcript issued to the student is acceptable);
5. A **writing sample** (preferably under 20 pages) that represents your best expository prose;
7. A **faculty letter of recommendation** assessing your abilities and promise as a writer, thinker, teacher, and scholar. [The](#) letter is requested and submitted as part of the online application.

CollegeNET / ApplyWeb Submission

All applications, including supporting materials, must be submitted using the Laney Graduate School's online application **no later than February 24, 2020**. You will need to upload the application items as **pdf files**.

1. Go to <https://www.applyweb.com/emoryfel/index.ftl> and log in using your regular CollegeNET / ApplyWeb username and password—or—set up an account first and then log in.
2. Click on Laney Graduate School Advanced Student Fellowships, select Mellon Public Writing Fellowship and follow the instructions. The application will not let you proceed until you upload all the necessary materials.

If you have questions about using the online form, please contact Tammy Coleman at tammy.coleman@emory.edu.

Selection

Fellows will be selected by a committee of faculty and senior administrative staff in the Emory Writing Program on the basis of fit for the theme and scope of the position and the program, breadth and depth of experience, and interest relevant to the position.

Award Notifications

Finalists will be notified as quickly as possible.

Questions?

For fellowship questions, please contact Kathleen Leuschen at kleusch@emory.edu.

For online application questions, please contact Tammy Coleman at tammy.coleman@emory.edu.