

STRC Undergraduate Research Fellowship Seminar Call and Application Guidelines

Call for Faculty: 2023 STRC Undergraduate Research Fellowship Seminar

The Social Transformation Research Collaborative is seeking applications from LAS full-time faculty interested in co-teaching the STRC Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) seminar.

Faculty will 1) co-teach this 5-week course in interdisciplinary humanities research methods for **six STRC Undergraduate Research Fellows** during Summer Session I 2023; and 2) oversee the completion of the projects of **three fellows each** over the subsequent Autumn Quarter and early December 2023.

SURF students will be rising juniors or seniors who have been nominated by faculty for the course; they will develop a research project related to the historical trajectories, legacies and/or cultures of people of color. Students will receive a stipend and free tuition for the summer course as part of their fellowships.

The SURF seeks to support students (especially students majoring or minoring in African and Black Diaspora Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, or Global Asian Studies) to prepare to enter graduate school and the academy by introducing them to key research tools and experiential learning activities. It is designed to foster the connections that studies have repeatedly shown lead to success in college and beyond: a strong network of faculty and staff advisors and mentors, friends and peer mentors, and an intellectual community.

Description of the Student Fellowship

The Course: Research Methods in the Interdisciplinary Humanities

This Summer Session I course is an on-campus, 5-week, 4 credit-hour seminar in interdisciplinary humanities research methods taught by two faculty. During the class, students will:

- develop a viable research question;
- build a bibliography of secondary and primary sources;
- develop a plan of work;
- write an abstract;
- draft a 3-5 page prospectus for a 10-12 page research paper.

Ongoing Project Mentorship

Students will spend the rest of their summer independently researching and drafting their research paper according to their prospectuses. They will meet once with their assigned faculty mentor in late July/early August to report on their progress; they will submit rough drafts of their papers on/around August 30. After receiving feedback on their drafts in early September, they will work with their faculty mentor to develop a poster presentation about their research project for the STRC Symposium in late October. They will continue to revise their research

paper through fall quarter and submit a final version to their faculty mentor for a grade in early December.

Compensation

Faculty chosen for these roles will be compensated with **one unit of summer salary** as well as a **\$1500 stipend** over the Autumn Quarter. (Please be advised that no faculty member can earn more than two units of summer salary, in total.)¹

Co-faculty will also have a **budget** for guest speakers (internal and/or external) and for field trips to area archives, museums, or other organizations related to the course. Please note that each student will also have access to funds, in addition to their fellowship stipend, to support research and travel as necessary for their projects.

Eligibility

All full-time faculty in LAS are eligible to apply. Successful candidates will be able to demonstrate that they:

- have closely reviewed the SURF program description;
- have academic and teaching experience in research methods;
- are deeply conversant with the humanities;
- and have a desire to connect with and actively mentor students doing independent work.

Applicants interested in applying as teams are encouraged to do so. Please note:

- Each member of a team must apply separately but will have the opportunity to identify their co-applicant in their applications;
- Each team must have at least one tenure-line faculty member;
- Candidates need not be experts in all humanities research methods! The faculty teams will have a budget to support guest speaker appearances to supplement their areas of expertise.

Application Timeline

The application timeline for SURF faculty is outlined below. Interested faculty should plan to attend the general information session on **January 9, 2023 at 3 p.m.** (RSVP [here](#)). Please direct questions to the directors of the STRC, Julie Moody-Freeman and Bill Johnson González: jmoodyfr@depaul.edu and bjohns58@depaul.edu.

Call for Application posted	Dec. 12, 2022
Information Session	Jan. 9, 2023
Online Application opens	Jan 30, 2023
Online Application closes	Feb. 27, 2023
Appointment Notifications	Mar. 15, 2023

¹ If you have any questions about how your summer units add up, please direct them to Susanna Pagliaro in the Dean's Office.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Key Responsibilities of the Co-Faculty Role:

In addition to the normal tasks associated with designing and teaching a credit-bearing course, co-faculty will be responsible for collaborating with each other and the STRC Directors to:

- participate in the review of applications and the selection of the six undergraduate Fellows during Spring Quarter 2023;
- determine the modality for the course (either entirely in-person or hybrid in-person/online synchronous);
- develop the syllabus for the seminar, including choosing key readings and other materials for the class;
- design seminars, workshop sessions, and lectures, including guest speaker visits, to support the students' research methods training;
- choose sites for field visits;
- provide timely and complete feedback and grades per university requirements.

During Summer Session I, co-faculty will:

- be present at each class session (the course requires 6 contact hours of instruction per week, inclusive of site visits);
- take responsibility for 50% of the active instruction and evaluation of student work, as arranged with co-lead faculty;
- be available for "office hours" with students during the week;
- be available for two short check-in meetings with STRC leadership during Summer Session I to assess student progress.

Between the end of Summer Session I and early December 2023, co-faculty will:

- meet with each of their 3 student fellows once in late July or early August to monitor their progress on their individual research projects
- receive and offer feedback on three students' rough drafts (due August 30) in the week before the AQ begins;
- participate in a review of student progress with the STRC team in the first week of AQ to determine student continued participation in the fellowship in AQ;
- meet with the entire class in the first week of AQ 2023 to check in as students enter the next phase of their projects;
- support students as they prepare a **poster presentation** outlining the main arguments and conclusions of their research, to be shared in a special poster session at the annual STRC symposium around **October 19**;
- meet with their three mentees throughout AQ as they revise their research papers that will be due in early December;
- grade final papers no later than December 15;
- participate in post-course debriefing session with STRC leadership to capture what went well and what could be improved, for the benefit of future iterations.

Application Materials

A complete application requires the following items, each of which is described in detail below.

1. Completed Online Application Form
2. Endorsement from Chair and/or Dean
3. Letter of Application
4. Syllabus from a Current Course
5. Provisional Course Description
6. Curriculum Vitae

1. Completed Online Application Form

The online application must be submitted between the application's opening date (January 30, 2023) and closing date (February 27, 2023 at 11:59 pm).

2. Endorsement from Chair or Program Director

The application must be supported by a confidential endorsement from the faculty member's Chair/Program Director (the person who writes one's annual review). Provide the name and DePaul email address of the Chair/Program Director in the unit information section of the application. The online application system will then invite the faculty member's Chair/Program Director to upload the endorsement directly to the application file.

The endorsement is a brief statement (no more than 250 words) in which the Chair/Program director explains whether they support the application, and why or why not.

Endorsements are due one week after the application deadline and may be uploaded by the Chair/Program Director directly **by 11:59 pm on March 5, 2023**. All endorsements are confidential and will not be shared with applicants.

Please note: applicants who are themselves Chairs or Program Directors should request an endorsement from the Dean.

3. Letter of Application

Your letter of application should be no longer than 750 words, double-spaced, and do the following:

- a. Describe your teaching experience and academic interests in teaching research methods in the humanities.
- b. Describe specific examples of success in teaching research methods— what approaches have you used, and why do you think that they have been successful? (Feel free to refer to your sample syllabus if you wish.)
- c. If you are applying as part of a team, indicate with whom you hope

to co-teach and what your collaboration will offer students.

4. Syllabus from an upper-division, research-oriented course you currently teach.
5. Provisional description of topics, readings, guest lecturers, and activities for the summer course.
6. Curriculum Vitae
Submit a full CV that includes pedagogical and service roles at DePaul in addition to your scholarly record.

REVIEW PROCESS

The review process will include an interview with the Faculty Directors of the STRC, to be scheduled promptly after the deadline for Chair/Program Director endorsements on March 5; decisions will be made no later than March 15.