

Summer Institute Lead Faculty Call and Application Guidelines

Call for STRC Summer Institute 2023 Lead Faculty

Through a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation, DePaul University is inviting newly admitted undergraduate students to a Summer Institute (July 17-21, 2023) on **Stories for Racial Justice and Healing**. This Summer Institute is part of **The Humanities of Healing and Restoration: A Social Transformation Research Collaborative**, which supports interdisciplinary research in literature and language, history and culture. The Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) is working to demonstrate how the humanities deepen our understanding of ourselves and our society, and empower us to act, ethically and responsibly, to counter racism, dismantle violence, and build a more just and equitable society.

The STRC is seeking applications from LAS full time faculty interested in joining the leadership team of the 2023 Summer Institute. Faculty chosen for these roles will be compensated with one unit of summer salary. (Please be advised that no faculty member can earn more than two units of summer salary, in total.)¹

APPLICATION TIMELINE

The application timeline for Summer Institute 2023 is outlined below. Interested faculty should [review the FAQ](#) and plan to attend the general information session on **January 9, 2023 at 2 PM** (RSVP [here](#)). Please direct questions to the directors of the STRC, Julie Moody-Freeman (jmoodyfr@depaul.edu) and Bill Johnson González (bjohns58@depaul.edu).

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| Call for Application posted | December 12, 2022 |
| Information Session | January 9, 2023 |
| Online Application opens | January 30, 2023 |
| Online Application closes | February 27, 2023 |
| Appointment Notifications | March 15, 2023 |

ELIGIBILITY

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

- have closely reviewed the Summer Institute theme description;
- have academic interest in and teaching experience related to the subject matter and theme of the Institute;
- are deeply conversant with the humanities;
- have a desire to connect with and mentor students.

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

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

- 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.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SUMMER INSTITUTE:

In July 2023, the Undergraduate Summer Institute will bring twenty newly admitted LAS students into a week-long, on-campus intensive immersion with faculty, alumni, current students, and peers.

During the institute students will explore how various modes, genres, and forms of storytelling have exposed, documented, and challenged racism and other forms of inequality and injustice. How have people of color and members of other marginalized groups used writing, poetry, fiction, music, art, photography, and other humanistic expressions to inform action and build new structures of anti-violence and anti-racism? How have artists and writers of color used storytelling to raise awareness about structural societal problems and envision a better future? What particular skills and inspiration can we take from the humanities that will allow us to interrogate present circumstances critically, enhance or multiply the frameworks we use to understand things, and articulate alternatives or solutions?

Students will be introduced to stories and storytelling through the study of primary sources, documentaries, lectures, seminar discussions, and field trips. During the five days of the Institute, students will have academic and experiential learning experiences that allow them to:

1. engage with various modes, genres, and forms of storytelling;
2. visit important landmarks and institutions that exist in Chicago and connect to the Institute theme;
3. learn from a community of scholars, biographers, and artists, who are experts on storytelling for justice and healing;
4. reflect on the role that the humanities can play in helping us to transform society for the better;
5. collaborate with one another, peer mentors, and faculty to produce a small project inspired by the theme;
6. develop lasting connections and networks with DePaul teachers, peers, and alumni.

The Institute 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 intellectual community. The Summer Institute particularly seeks to address shortfalls in retention and graduation rates that impact students of color by introducing them to key pillars of support within a dynamic academic environment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LEAD FACULTY ROLE:

Lead faculty will be responsible for:

Collaborating with the STRC Directors, Steering Committee, and each other to design the Summer Institute during Winter and Spring Quarters; this includes:

- Choosing key readings and other materials for the class;

- Developing projects/activities for students;
- Designing seminars and lectures;
- Selecting guest speakers;
- Choosing sites for visits;
- Designing evaluation instruments for the Institute.

During the week of the Institute, Lead Faculty will

- Be present on-campus 9-5, participating robustly in the activities of the Institute and the Collaborative even when not directly leading the seminar;
- Each take responsibility for 50% of the active instruction and evaluation of student work;
- Act as the “point person” for the Institute on one evening in the week, from 5-8 PM;
- Be available for “office hours” with students during the week.

After the Institute closes, Lead Faculty will

- Participate in post-event debriefing session with the Steering Committee to capture what went well and what could be improved, for the benefit of future iterations;
- Participate, where possible, in the Annual Conference in the subsequent AQ, by presenting on the Summer Institute experience or related topics.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

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

Applicants should inform their Chairs/Program Directors that they have applied for the Lead Faculty role and seek a brief endorsement from same. 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 6, 2023**. All letters and 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 and do the following:

- a. Describe your teaching experience and academic interests in relationship to the 2023 theme, **“Stories for Justice and Healing.”** How has your teaching to date connected with this theme, and to the humanities in relationship to this theme?
- b. Explain how you would contribute to the content and structure of the curriculum of the Institute. Be sure to note any ideas you have about Chicago landmarks or cultural institutions that could be incorporated into field trips.
- c. Describe your interest in, and preparation for, advancing the STRC’s goals of developing intellectual community and networks of support for newly admitted students, and particularly those who are first generation college students or from groups historically marginalized in higher education.
- d. Reflect upon the ways that participation in the Summer Institute will support your own professional and intellectual goals or ambitions.

4. Syllabus from an introductory level course in the humanities that you currently teach or have taught.

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 6**. Decisions will be made no later than **March 15**.