



THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

Call for Proposals Summer 2026

humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu

The Humanities Institute invites proposals for the following summer programs and year-round programs that may be of particular interest in the summer. *Humanities Institute programming is made possible, in part, by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).*

1. **Summer Humanities Writing Grants**
2. **Summer New Course Planning Grants**
3. **Book Development Grants**
4. **Faculty-Student Collaborative Humanities Research Grants**

All proposal forms are posted at humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu under “Faculty Resources.” This Summer 2026 CFP is posted there as well. Please direct questions to Director Jennifer Greiman (greimaj@wfu.edu) or Associate Director Aimee Mephram (mephmam@wfu.edu).

1. Summer Humanities Writing Grants

The Humanities Institute will fund up to four \$6,000 competitive Summer Writing Grants for university faculty working in the humanities to complete or make significant progress on a MS for a monograph that is either under contract or in which a publisher has indicated written interest. Applications are open to all full-time faculty, with priority for two of the grants given to proposals submitted by tenure-track humanities faculty working on a first monograph. Grant recipients will be asked to participate in a session at the 2027 Annual Humanities Institute Symposium.

Successful proposals will include: (1) a description and outline of the book and the writing progress that has been made to-date; (2) a feasible timetable showing the applicant’s plan to devote at least 8+ weeks of full-time effort to the writing that the grant is intended to support; (3) a copy of either the book contract or written expression of a publisher’s serious interest; and (4) a letter of support from the applicant’s department Chair or Dean. Proposals will be evaluated according to the intellectual merit and significance of the monograph, as well as how far along it is at the time of application. Proposal forms are posted at <http://humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu> under “Faculty Resources.”

Proposals must be submitted by March 23rd.

2. Summer New Course Planning Grants

The Humanities Institute will offer competitive summer planning grants for faculty who plan to re-work an existing course or develop a new course in Disability Studies, Medical Humanities, or Engaged Humanities. Successful applications will include a rationale for the course, information about the proposed course-content, a statement of expertise or justification for faculty teaching the course, and a brief note of approval from the applicant’s department chair. Proposal forms are posted at <http://humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu> under “Faculty Resources.”

Proposals must be submitted by March 23rd.

Disability Studies

The Humanities Institute will award up to two \$2,000 summer planning grants to university faculty to support development of a course intended to be taught in AY 2026-27. A class foregrounding disability studies will be expected to center the understanding of disability as a political, cultural,

and historical experience. Such a class will encourage students to analyze the social formation of “disability” and “ability,” including how these social ideas and responses to them impact the lives of disabled and nondisabled people.

Medical Humanities

The Humanities Institute will award up to two \$2,000 summer planning grants to university faculty to support development of a medical humanities course intended to be taught in AY 2026-27. Medical Humanities is an interdisciplinary field that examines medicine and healthcare through humanistic disciplines. Medical Humanities courses include courses in narrative medicine, the history of medicine, medical ethics, and literature and medicine, and all are expected to draw on the disciplinary knowledge of the humanities and the medical sciences.

Engaged Humanities

The Humanities Institute will award up to two \$2,000 summer planning grants to university faculty to support development of a course intended to be taught in AY 2026-27 and designed to be eligible for additional support from our Humanities Matters or Winston-Salem Partners in the Humanities grants. Faculty receiving the planning grant award are expected to apply for a Humanities Matters or Winston-Salem Partner’s grant prior to the semester in which the newly planned course is to be taught. To learn more about our Humanities Matters and Winston-Salem Partners grants along with all our programming, visit the Humanities Institute’s programming webpage (<https://humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu/>).

3. Book Development Grants

The Humanities Institute offers a book-development grant of up to \$1,000 to be distributed as an honorarium for up to two outside readers of the grant-recipient’s book manuscript (\$500 per reader). This grant is available for full-time faculty who have completed or are close to completing a book manuscript in the humanities intended for academic publication. Applicants should include a prospectus for their book, and should demonstrate willingness from the outside reader(s). Outside readers should be experienced, well-published experts in the scholarly field(s) related to the recipient’s book. To apply, please submit the appropriate form along with your book’s proposal, and correspondence from the outside reader(s) (emails are fine), including their CV. Proposal forms are posted at <http://humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu> under “Faculty Resources.”

Applicants for this book development grant are also encouraged to apply for the College Book Development Grant: <https://college.wfu.edu/research-scholarship-creativity/funding-opportunities/>

4. Faculty - Student Collaborative Humanities Research Grants

The Humanities Institute funds faculty-student research, scholarship, or larger scale endeavors or creative activity in the humanities, including but not limited to co-authoring essays, conducting archival research, co-translating primary texts for publication, and collaborating on digital humanities projects. Formerly called College Collaborations, projects may involve individual students or teams of students. Awards can cover the cost of materials (except for hardware), consultations with other scholars, expenses related to publication, travel to conferences, and other kinds of activities. *Faculty collaborating with students who are receiving URECA or other student funding are eligible and encouraged to apply for Humanities Institute co-funding. Eligible research projects may be co-curricular or paired with independent studies. Priority is given to undergraduate student-faculty projects.* Proposal forms are posted at <http://humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu> under “Faculty Resources.”

Proposals will be reviewed on a rolling basis as funding allows, with priority given to those received by March 23rd for Summer 2026.