

CALL FOR PROPOSALS:
VPUE GRANTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE COURSES IN FIELDWORK PREPARATION

The Office of the Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education invites proposals for new courses aimed at preparing undergraduates to undertake field-based scholarship across a broad range of disciplines.

I. PURPOSE

Undergraduates conducting scholarly projects off campus are faced with numerous challenges related to the methods, ethics, safety, and logistics of research. Funded courses will help students prepare for and navigate these challenges, increasing the number of students who are able to return to campus with 1) rigorous project results and 2) refined perspectives on the conduct and culture of observation, analysis, and/or creativity in their chosen discipline.

We expect the program to be significantly over-subscribed, and only a select few courses will be supported for the foreseeable future.

II. CRITERIA

Proposals should be submitted as email attachments to vpue-research@stanford.edu. The proposal deadline for courses to be held in the 2010-2011 academic year is July 12th, 2010. Successful proposals will:

1. Situate the proposed course within Stanford's existing curriculum. What is the gap that will be filled? How will the proposed course complement or contrast with other classes being offered?
2. Describe the hypothetical students for whom the course will be useful. Will students need a background (or declared major) in a particular discipline? What prerequisites will be required? How will the proposed course fit into a hypothetical student's educational trajectory? Will the course be accessible and useful to students with interdisciplinary projects?
3. Leverage multigenerational teaching teams, including faculty, post-doctoral scholars, and/or graduate students. How will the broad range of past fieldwork experiences in relevant departments and programs be brought to bear on the task of training new scholars?
4. Provide an annotated syllabus-in-progress. What skills and/or knowledge will students be expected to master by the course's conclusion? What combination of primary materials, assignments, and activities will lead to this outcome?
5. Provide a course budget, as detailed below.

III. FUNDING

Grants can be used to support the proposed course's syllabus. Budget categories may include:

- Faculty support of up to \$8000
- Graduate TA salary of \$8000, and tuition support of up to \$8000 (depending on the identified TA's registration status)
- Classroom technology consultation and services
- Travel and supplies in support of field exercises
- Other expenses with a clearly described link to course activities and/or outcomes

Because funding will be limited, preference will be given to modest budget requests, as well as budgets that describe other funding and resources to be made available. We recommend that proposals include a brief description of the ways in which partial funding might still be put to use. What changes to the syllabus would be required in the event of partial funding?

Grants may support up to two academic years of the proposed course offering, after which recipients will be asked to re-apply.

IV. EVALUATION

Before the last day of classes, faculty shall send a roster of enrolled students to vpue-research@stanford.edu. VPUE may request regular student course evaluation results, and may also solicit additional comment from students participating in the course.

Renewal applications in subsequent years must provide a discussion of course outcomes, including:

- Responses to notable student experiences (positive and negative)
- Analysis of the course's success in meeting the goals set out in the initial proposal
- The titles and outcomes of individual student projects (when known)

V. CONTACT

Questions about this funding program should be directed to:

Brian Thomas
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Research Opportunities
Office of the Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education
bthomas@stanford.edu
phone: 650/723-0051, fax: 650/725-1436