



ANDREW W. MELLON ENGAGED SCHOLAR INITIATIVE
Fellowship Contract

This contract outlines the benefits and obligations of the UT Austin Engaged Scholar Initiative (ESI) program. Please review the following program guidelines and acknowledge your understanding and acceptance by signing below. Your dissertation supervisor must also review and sign the contract.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- The Engaged Scholar Initiative seeks to provide specialized training and research skills to UT Austin doctoral students in the humanities as they re-conceptualize both the content and form of their dissertations beyond what is currently common in their disciplines. The program brings together doctoral students in the humanities who will acquire systematic interdisciplinary training beyond their specific area of interest and work in clusters involving faculty, doctoral students, undergraduate students, and, where applicable, representatives of regional public agencies or private organizations. The dissertation project will allow for co-authored work with clear delineations of individual responsibilities, as well as more traditional individual projects that grow out of the work of a cluster. The project may take the form of a set of original articles, a position paper, an exhibition, a comprehensive curriculum, a plan for action submitted to an agency, a set of court briefs, and the like. A post-doctoral year will allow fellows to go on the job market and rework their project into a traditional dissertation format should they seek an academic job where such a dissertation is expected, or into other formats appropriate for their career paths.
- ESI fellows must enter the program in ABD status. Exemptions will be granted on an individual basis, with the understanding that failure to enter candidacy at the required time may result in the termination of the fellowship.
- ESI fellows are expected to maintain full-time student status for each long semester until their graduation.
- ESI fellows from the 2016-17 cohort are expected to complete their dissertations and graduate no later than Summer 2019.
- ESI fellows are expected to remain in residence for the duration of the program and participate in all cluster activities, with alternative individual plans designed as necessary. Such activities include but are not limited to:
 - Enrollment in *L A 380L: Engaged Scholar Initiative Seminar* in Fall and Spring semesters for each year of the program prior to graduation (this course will replace 3 hours of the Dissertation course)
 - ESI writing and research workshops
 - ESI sponsored lectures and community engagement events
 - Technical training sessions (e.g., coding and programming, digital editing, website design and development, etc.)
 - Cooperative scholarly engagement with graduate and undergraduate ESI fellows
 - Additional activities designed by cluster coordinators based on individual needs of fellows and clusters
- Evaluation of progress is based on the following benchmarks. Unsatisfactory progress may result in termination of the fellowship.

DATE

BENCHMARK

09/01/2017	Vision Plan
05/01/2018	Dissertation Concept Paper
08/31/2019	Successful Dissertation Defense; Graduation
Spring 2020	ESI Symposium Presentations

- Financial support of fellows is structured as follows. It is contingent upon satisfactory progress and timely completion of the PhD and ESI program requirements. **Fellows are not allowed to hold additional employment positions during Summer 2018, the fellowship year, Summer 2019, and the post-doc year.*

DATE	FINANCIAL SUPPORT
Summer 2017	\$5,000 supplement
09/2017 – 08/2018	\$1,000 research support (reimbursement of expenses)
Summer 2018*	\$5,000 supplement
09/2018 – 05/2019*	\$39,000 fellowship (stipend paid monthly) \$2,200 (<i>approximate</i>) student health insurance 9 hours tuition each long semester (+NRTE where necessary)
09/2018 – 08/2019	\$1,000 research support (reimbursement of expenses)
Summer 2019*	\$5,000 supplement
09/2019 – 08/2020*	\$54,000 postdoctoral fellowship plus fringe benefits

- ESI fellows should notify the Program Director immediately about any change in plan of work, enrollment status, or other circumstances that are relevant to their progress.
- Upon completion of the program, ESI fellows are requested to remain in contact with the Program Director, complete all surveys and paperwork pertaining to the program, and notify the Program Director of any changes to contact information (address, telephone, and email).

In signing this document, I acknowledge my acceptance of the UT Austin Engaged Scholar Initiative (ESI) fellowship under these guidelines.

ESI Fellow Name *UT EID*

ESI Fellow Signature *Date*

Dissertation Supervisor Name *Department Affiliation*

Dissertation Supervisor Signature *Date*