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**CALL FOR GRADUATE STUDENT PROPOSALS**

**Seminar #4: “Contested Histories: How to Write History”**

The Center for Ideas and Society invites applications from UCR graduate students to participate in the last of four quarter-length seminars in its Advancing Intercultural Studies project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The seminar topic is “Contested Histories: How to Write History.” Awardees receive a stipend to release them from TA or employment obligations during the seminar quarter: **Fall 2018**.

Omissions and questions beset the study of the histories of marginalized groups. The subtitle of a 2003 article on the 1873 Colfax Massacre in which white southerners slaughtered a group of African American citizens who had assembled in a local courthouse after a contested election reads “Stumbling on a forgotten Reconstruction tragedy.” Yet this headline represents the fate of countless similar events in the United States not only during slavery and reconstruction but well afterwards. This seminar focuses on questions of historical scholarship as well as on still under-examined historical events and experiences as they affect contemporary intercultural relations in the United States.

**Project Overview:**

From September 2017 through December 2018, the AIS project is hosting a series of four quarter-long seminars to explore key themes and topics surrounding economic inequality, diversity in education, religious heterogeneity and contested histories.

* Each seminar includes faculty, graduate and undergraduate students.
* Seminar members meet weekly on a formal basis to discuss research.
* Each seminar participant generates an original paper.
* Each seminar group hosts a public lecture and a film screening.
* Each seminar group hosts a wrap-up meeting for the larger AIS project team.
* Seminars are complemented by two summer film series and a final conference featuring and extending the work of seminar participants.

**Project Dates:**

Summer 2017 Film Series

Fall 2017 Seminar #1: Responses to Economic Inequality

Convener: Mathew Mahutga (Sociology)

Winter 2018 Seminar #2: Beyond Access: Diversifying Higher Education

Convener: Jennifer Nájera (Ethnic Studies)

Spring 2018 Seminar #3: Religious Identity: Harmony or Discrimination?

Convener: Muhamad Ali (Religious Studies)

Summer 2018 Film Series

**Fall 2018** **Seminar #4**: **Contested Histories: How to Write History**

**Convener: Georgia Warnke (Political Science)**

Spring 2019 Final Conference

**Application Details:**

**Application deadline for Seminar #4 is November 6, 2017.**

Four graduate students will be selected based on eligibility and a demonstration of a research agenda that engages or enhances the seminar topic. Applicants must be able and willing to engage in interdisciplinary research that draws on disparate disciplines to create common purposes and vocabularies and to participate fully in the seminar events over the next two years, **beginning with the first quarterly wrap-up meeting in December 2017 through the final conference in Spring 2018.** Participants will receive a stipend to release them from TA or employment obligations during the seminar quarter. (Graduate Division will cover fees/GSHIP. This does not include non-resident supplemental tuition or the $2 per unit technology fee.) Eligible students must be making acceptable progress to their degree, have a 3.0 GPA and no more than 7 units incomplete, be on a normative exam schedule in their department and have satisfactory progress on their research. Preference will be given to applicants who did not participate in previous AIS seminars.

Applications should include:

* one-page CV
* one-page research project abstract that indicates potential to contribute to the seminar topic, format and aims of the grant
* letter of recommendation from a UCR faculty member
* statement of eligibility from departmental graduate advisor
* signed and completed Application Cover Page

Email as a single PDF to [katharine.henshaw@ucr.edu](mailto:katharine.henshaw@ucr.edu) by November 6, 2017. Full project description and Application Cover page available on the CIS website: ideasandsociety.ucr.edu/projects/mellon-ais/