

2026-2027 Crossing Latinidades Mellon Predoctoral Research Fellowship
+
2026 Summer Institute in U.S. Latino/a Humanities Studies Methodologies and Theories
June 12-21, 2026
University of Illinois Chicago

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Crossing Latinidades Humanities Research Initiative at the University of Illinois Chicago seeks applicants for its 2026-2027 Fellowship, which includes the in-person Summer Institute in U.S. Latino/a Humanities Studies Methodologies and Theories to be held at the University of Illinois Chicago on June 12-21, 2026.

This Call for Application is open to doctoral students working on dissertations with a **U.S. Latino/a focus**. * Applicants **must** have completed their **second** or **third year** in humanities and humanistic social science Ph.D. programs and **not yet be ABD by May 2026**. For applicants in a combined **MA/PhD program**, completion of **the third or fourth year is required** by May 2026.

*Doctoral Students working on Latin American dissertation topics are not eligible to apply

Fellowship + Summer Institute:

The 9-month Crossing Latinidades Mellon Predoctoral Research Fellowship is designed for doctoral students who have completed coursework and will be preparing for comprehensive examinations and completing dissertation proposals. The fellowship offers a stipend of \$30,000, tuition and fee waivers, and health insurance coverage provided by your university.

The Summer Institute is **an intensive** in-person pre-doctoral training program that prepares participants to consider dissertation topics and to draft a dissertation proposal. Each participant receives a \$3,000 stipend to cover travel, a few meals not provided by the institute, and other incidental expenses incurred during attendance. Housing is provided in shared apartments on the UIC campus, as well as most of the meals.

Requirements:

You must meet all eligibility requirements, complete the Summer Institute, commit to participating in a Humanities research project with a faculty research mentor at your university, and attend all virtual Professionalization Workshops, Writing LAB, and Speaker Series events during the fall of 2026 and spring of 2027.

During the year of the fellowship, you must forgo any other employment, such as TAs, GRAs, university hourly employment, or other outside employment.

Application deadline: **February 1, 2026**

Application Cover Sheet and Eligibility Questionnaire

Legal Name (as it appears in a government-issued ID):

Name of your university:

E-mail at your university:

Personal email:

Permanent address:

Cell phone:

Doctoral Program in which you are enrolled:

Fields of Study, primary and secondary:

Date of admission to Doctoral Program:

Date of graduation from MA Program:

Projected semester/year to advance to candidacy:

Year of studies by May 2026 (PhD: second/third year; MA/PhD: third/fourth year):

What is your general topic of study and interest for a future U.S. Latino/a humanities dissertation research project? Please answer in one or two paragraphs and attach page.

Names and emails of possible Fellowship Faculty Research Mentors at your university conducting research on a U.S. Latino/a humanities project:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Designated director of Center/Program/Institute through which you are applying.

Name:

Email:

2026-2027 Crossing Latinidades Predoctoral Latinx Humanities Research Fellowship

To maintain eligibility, you must meet these requirements:

- Successful completion of the 2026 Summer Institute with **perfect attendance to all sessions, programs, and activities.**
- Commit to conduct research 10 hrs. per week for two semesters/three quarters with a designated faculty research mentor at your university on their U.S. Latino/a Humanities research project.
- Forgo any employment –Teaching Assistantships, Research Assistantships, hourly academic employment, teaching employment, and any other university or external employment.
- During the fellowship year, work towards completing comprehensive examinations, further develop the dissertation proposal, and defend it; also, start research on the dissertation project.

Application Eligibility and Requirements Checklist — Deadline is February 1, 2026

All must apply:

- ☐ I am pursuing a Ph.D. in **U.S. Latino/a** humanities or humanistic social sciences.
- ☐ I will have completed my second/third year in the Ph.D. program by May 2026.
- ☐ If I am in an MA/PhD program and have not yet completed my MA, I will have completed my third/fourth year in the Ph.D. program by May 2026.
- ☐ I will not have defended a dissertation proposal, nor will I be a Ph.D. candidate (ABD) as of May 2026.
- ☐ I commit to attending all sessions of the Summer Institute in Chicago and adhering to all requirements.
- ☐ As a fellow, I commit to **attending all training sessions**, including the Writing Lab, Professionalization Workshops, and Speaker Series events.
- ☐ I am a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, U.S. permanent resident, or an individual currently granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program and who meets all the USCIS guidelines for DACA, inclusive of a valid work permit until May 2027.

Please submit the following:

- ☐ This Application Cover Sheet
- ☐ One or two paragraphs on your general topic of study and interest for a future U.S. Latino/a humanities dissertation project.
- ☐ Personal Statement and Narrative (1000 words or less). Describe your research areas and general topic of study and future dissertation research, and your interest in participating in the fellowship and Summer Institute: what you expect to accomplish by participating, and how this experience will benefit your studies and career.

- ☐ Full CV
- ☐ Two confidential letters of recommendation.
Please note that letters of Recommendation will also be shared with prospective faculty research mentors.

Statement of Commitment

I hereby certify that I have read all the application materials for the 2026-2027 Crossing Latinidades Pre-Doctoral Fellowship and Summer Institute in Latino Humanities Methodologies and Theories.

I acknowledge that:

I am working on a dissertation proposal that focuses on topics related to **U.S. Latino/a Studies**, and if accepted, I commit to participating in **all activities and programs**. Failure to fully participate for the duration of the Summer Institute may result in the revocation of my award payment and no longer be considered for the Crossing Latinidades Mellon Pre-Doctoral Research Fellowship.

Signature

Date

Print Name