2017 Tinker Summer Field Research Grant Guidelines

Eligibility and Requirements

ELIGIBILITY

- Registered UC Berkeley graduate students at the master's or early stages of the doctoral level studies, including those pursuing professional degrees.
- Tinker grants are for predissertation field research; they are not to be used for advanced dissertation research.
- Non-U.S. citizens ARE eligible.
- Applicants from Latin American countries who are interested in conducting research in their home countries must have no previous field research experience in that country
- Must intend to register for the fall 2017 semester.
- Must be proficient in the language of the country where research will be conducted.
- Priority will be given to candidates who have not received Tinker funding in the past; however candidates who have received Tinker funding are welcome to apply providing they meet other eligibility guidelines

TRAVEL

- Tinker grants fund travel to Latin America, defined as the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries of the region. Funds will primarily cover airfare, but could be utilized to cover other travel and research related expenses. NOTE: Due to Tinker Foundation funding guidelines, applications for funding for research or travel in Puerto Rico will not be considered.
- Time spent abroad may range from a minimum of two weeks to a maximum of four months.
- Travel must be completed by August 31, 2017.

RESEARCH

Tinker grants are intended to provide graduate students with early experience conducting hands-on field research in Latin America and the opportunity to develop independent research projects.

- Grant can be used:
  - to become familiar with relevant information sources;
  - to conduct pilot studies and preliminary investigations;
  - to develop contacts with scholars and institutions in your field; and
  - to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of language and culture.
    - ***Please note: language study alone is not sufficient to receive a grant.***
- UC Berkeley policy mandates that research involving human subjects be approved or exempted by the Committee for Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS) **before** the research is begun. Applications for Committee review must be submitted approximately **one month** before the next scheduled CPHS meeting. For more information, see the CPHS website at cphs.berkeley.edu.

MEETINGS

- An informational meeting will be held at **12:00pm pm on Friday, January 20**, in the CLAS Conference Room (2334 Bowditch).
- Successful applicants will be required to attend an orientation **at 4:00pm on Wednesday, March 22**

DEADLINE:** All application materials are **due** by **5:00 pm**, **Monday, February 20, 2017
Questions should be directed to Julia Byrd Mergendoller, julia.byrd@berkeley.edu

Grant Application Process

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Complete the application form
- Write a proposal narrative (see section 7 of the application form)
- Ensure that one faculty member has submitted a recommendation for you using the following link: http://bit.ly/2j9nhO6
- Provide an unofficial transcript of relevant, graduate-level coursework
- Combine application materials (application form, proposal narrative, and unofficial transcript) into **one** PDF document
- Submit all application materials by **5:00pm on Monday, February 20, 2017,** to Julia Byrd Mergendoller, julia.byrd@berkeley.edu

AWARDING OF GRANTS

- Two faculty reviewers rank applications based on the applicant's academic record, language ability, and the merit and eligibility of the proposed project.
- CLAS awards grants based on the rankings.
- Applicants will be notified of the selection committee's decision by mid to late March.
- Amount of each grant will depend on applicant's travel destination and number of applicants eligible for this grant cycle.

Upon Return

Final report materials are due upon your return. The first three items are due on **Friday, August 18, 2017.** Please submit them electronically to Julia Byrd Mergendoller at julia.byrd@berkeley.edu.

1. Abstract

- Complete the Abstract Form and write a paragraph-long abstract.

2. Summary Report

- Submit a two- to three-page report in the form of a journalistic article describing your project.
- All reports will be considered for inclusion in The Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies.

3. Photographs

- Submit at least two original, high-resolution photographs (minimum 800x600 pixels)
- Photos should be journalistic in nature and illustrate the subject matter of your report.
- Photos should be submitted in jpeg, gif, or png. Images submitted as pdf or doc will not be accepted.
- Captions for images will be submitted as part of the Abstract Form.

4. Presentation (date TBD)

- Grant recipients are required to give an oral presentation about their research to other grantees and members of the CLAS community
- The presentation consists of a 15-minute summary of the project. Slides, PowerPoint presentations, videos and/or other media are encouraged.

Optional: Summer Research Blog

- We highly encourage you to submit a blog entry about your research.
- Blog posts should be 250 to 600 words in length and accompanied by photographs of yourself and your research topic. Please send blog entries to Julia Byrd Mergendoller at julia.byrd@berkeley.edu