



Frequently Asked Questions
2025 Summer Institute in U.S. Latino/a/x/e Humanities Studies
Theories and Methodologies
June 20-29, 2025
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2025-2026 Crossing Latinidades Fellowship

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Crossing Latinidades Summer Institute in U.S. Latino/a/x/e Humanities Studies Theories and Methodologies is an intense training program that exposes doctoral students working on Latinx Dissertation topics to multidisciplinary in Latino/a/x/e Studies. The Summer Institute is held at the University of Illinois Chicago campus on June 20-29, 2025.

ELIGIBILITY

Who can apply to the Summer Institute and Mentorship Program?

Any doctoral student who will be completing their second or third year of studies in a humanities or humanistic social science PhD program in May 2025 and planning to work on a U.S. Latino/a/x Dissertation Proposal or Research Project. If you are in and MA/PhD program, you must be in the third/fourth year of studies by May 2025. To be eligible, students must be enrolled in the following universities:

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| Arizona State University | University of Central Florida |
| CUNY Graduate Center | University of Houston |
| Florida International University | University of Illinois Chicago |
| Texas A&M University | University of Nevada-Las Vegas |
| Texas Tech University | University of New Mexico |
| University of Arizona | University of North Texas |
| University of California-Irvine | University of Texas at Arlington |
| University of California-Riverside | University of Texas at Austin |
| University of California-Santa Barbara | University of Texas at El Paso |
| University of California-Santa Cruz | University of Texas at San Antonio |

Do I need to be a U.S. Citizen to participate in the program?

Doctoral students who are U.S. citizens; U.S. nationals; U.S. permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident Card); individuals currently granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program and who meet all the USCIS guidelines for DACA inclusive of a valid work permit; Indigenous individuals exercising rights associated with the Jay Treaty of 1794; individuals granted Temporary Protected Status; asylees; and refugees regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation are eligible.

Will First-Year PhD applicants be considered?

No. The Summer Institute is an intense program designed to support initial thinking on dissertation proposals and prospectus with a series of workshops geared towards these efforts. If you meet all other eligibility requirements, you may apply again in 2026 when you will meet the second-year requirement.

If I am in and MA/PhD Program, can I apply?

Yes, if you have already received your MA and are in the third/fourth year by May 2025.

Do I have to identify as an ethnic U.S. Latino/a/x to apply?

No. You do not have to identify as an ethnic U.S. Latino/a/x/e to apply. The program is open to all. However, as you must have a U.S. Latino/a/x Humanities Studies academic focus and U.S. experience in your dissertation topic.

Do I have to be bilingual in English and Spanish to participate?

Fluency in English and Spanish is not required. The Official language is English. However, there may be times when participants ask questions and engage in follow-up discussions in Spanish depending on instructors.

GENERAL INFORMATION

How does Crossing Latinidades define the humanities?

We followed the definitions by the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965:

The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, the study and interpretation of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.

And the American Academy of Arts and Sciences:

Arts, American and area studies, archaeology, communication, cultural, ethnic, and gender studies, languages, history, literature, jurisprudence, philosophy, religion, and other selected interdisciplinary studies.

How do applicants submit their applications?

The Crossing Latinidades Humanities Research Initiative works directly with directors of Hispanic and Latino/a/x/e research centers, programs, and department at HSRU member universities to recruit candidates. Applications should be submitted to directors of these centers who will review them and rank them, determining top applications.

What is the selection process?

Eligible students apply to the designated center in their universities. Directors and faculty of these centers rank applications, select the top three, and forward their applications to the Crossing Latinidades staff. We go over applications to make sure all eligibility requirements are met. We make the final selection and announce participants on March 3, 2025.

Can a university select more than two doctoral students?

Yes, an institution can select and nominate more than two and up to three students with a final selection of two. In case there are only one student nominated, we will fill extra slots with third selections.

What does the \$3,000 stipend cover?

Participants receive \$3,000 toward expenses related to attending the institute including airfare, local transportation, the few meals the Institute does not cover, and incidentals and personal expenses they may incur while in Chicago.

When is the stipend paid?

Per the standard business practice of the University of Illinois Chicago where the Crossing Latinidades Humanities Research Initiative is housed, stipends **are paid after** the successful completion of the Summer Institute. However, we do offer participants to purchase their airline tickets and we discount that amount from the \$3,000 total so that they do not incur extra charges on credit cards.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Do doctoral students apply to the Summer Institute and the Crossing Latinidades Fellowship Program separately?

No. There is one application for both the Summer Institute and and the 2025-2026 fellowship.

How many fellowships do you award?

We award 32 fellowships per year 2025-2026, and 2026-2027.

How are Fellows selected?

All fellows must meet all eligibility requirements including attending and participating in **all sessions and activities** of the Summer Institute.

How many fellowships do you offer?

We offer 32 fellowships to Summer Institute participants depending on their areas of research interest and best placement with humanities faculty at their universities.

How many hours am I required to conduct research during the week?

Fellows must conduct research 15-hours per week under a humanities faculty at their universities.

Who selects the faculty mentors for research projects?

Fellows and the Crossing Latinidades Principal Investigators and Managing Director select the faculty at the fellow's university to conduct research in the humanities. We count with a wide network of faculty members in 21 universities members of the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Research Universities (HSRU).

Can I hold other fellowships and assistantships while a Crossing Latinidades fellow?

No. You must forego all other employment such as TAships, GRAs, student hourly employment, jobs at the university and all external employment in order to be in good standing with the fellowship.

How does this fellowship count towards existing financial awards and aid?

The fellowship is an extra year of funding separate from any other pre-existing financial support. During the time of the fellowship, we expect fellows to also work toward comprehensive examinations, dissertation prospectus/proposals, and progress nicely along the PhD pipeline.

How is the \$30,000 stipend paid?

UIC pays the \$30,000 directly to fellows in monthly stipends of \$3,333.33 for a period of 9 months. Their universities cover their tuition and health insurance and fees.

When do I receive my first stipend payment?

UIC pays the fellows monthly beginning on September 26, 2025.

Who reads the confidential letters of recommendation in the applications?

Directors of centers where students apply to the program; Crossing Latinidades managing staff; prospective mentors.

What are the enrollment requirements while a Fellow?

You must register **full time** or at least 6 hours credits per semester in order to maintain status as a fellow. Please check with your own university what full time status entails--if 6 hours or 9 hours. We do conduct enrollment verification each semester and quarter.

