
GAINES FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Gaines Center for the Humanities ♦ 232 East Maxwell Street ♦ Lexington, KY ♦ 40506-0344 ♦ 859-257-1537

APPLICATION

GENERAL APPLICANT INFORMATION

Application Date: _____

Name: _____

Campus Address: _____

Cell phone: _____

Email address: _____

Home Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Name(s) of Parent(s) or Spouse: _____

Parent(s) Address or Addresses: _____

APPLICANT ACADEMIC INFORMATION

College Status: First-year student Sophomore Junior Senior

Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Major & College: _____

Transfer Student: Yes No

Previous College(s): _____

FACULTY RECOMMENDATIONS

*Faculty Letters of Recommendation should be sent directly to the following address:

Gaines Fellowship Program
Gaines Center for the Humanities
232 East Maxwell Street
Lexington, KY 40506-0344

(1) Name: _____

Department/Campus Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____

(2) Name: _____

Department/Campus Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____



The Gaines Center is committed to realizing a vision of true intellectual community. We welcome fellowship applications from eligible candidates from diverse disciplinary backgrounds and actively seek racial, ethnic, economic, geographic, and philosophical diversity, as well as diversity across gender, sexual orientation, age, marital and disability status.



Deadline: Friday, January 18, 2008 by 4:30 p.m.

The John R. and Joan B. Gaines Fellowships in the Humanities

The Gaines Fellowships are given in recognition of an outstanding academic performance, a demonstrated ability to conduct independent research, an interest in public issues, and a desire to enhance understanding of the human condition through the humanities. Ten Fellowships will be awarded for tenure in the junior and senior years, or for the last two years of a five-year program. The Gaines Fellowships carry a stipend of \$2,000 in the junior year and \$3,000 in the senior year. All Gaines Fellows are required to take a specially designed, four-credit hour per semester seminar in the humanities during both semesters of the junior year, (includes a thesis workshop); each Fellow completes a major independent study project (of six to fifteen credit hours) in the senior year. Gaines Fellows must participate in all activities of the Gaines Center for the Humanities.

Eligibility

Any student at the University of Kentucky may apply for a Gaines Fellowship. Students in all disciplines and with any intended profession are given equal consideration. Participation in the Honors Program is not a prerequisite for application. Applicants must have two years of undergraduate study remaining and must have an outstanding academic record (normally measured at a 3.5 GPA or better). Renewal in the senior year will be contingent upon satisfactory academic performance and demonstrated participation in all Gaines Center events.

Application

Applicants are required to submit the following information (original & three copies):

- ❑ A completed Applicant Information Form.
- ❑ A curriculum vitae (resume) highlighting the student's academic and community achievements.
- ❑ A brief, well articulated answer (no more than 800 words) to **one** of four questions:
 - (1) "Of what value is the study of the humanities in an increasingly profit-driven and technologically advanced world?"
 - (2) "What meaningful experience have you had which was or would have been further enriched by the study of the humanities?"
 - (3) "Imagine a world without the study of language, literature, the fine arts (music, sculpture, painting, etc.), philosophy, etc. What would be the positive or negative values of this society? What arguments would you make to encourage the incorporation of the humanities into the fabric of this world?"
 - (4) "Imagine that you are dead. A monument is to be built in your memory. Describe the monument in detail."
- ❑ Letters of recommendation (to be sent directly to the address below) from two instructors, preferably University of Kentucky professors, selected not by department but for knowledge of the applicant's qualities of mind and person.
- ❑ Official college transcript(s). An unofficial copy of your transcript copied from the University's website is **NOT** acceptable.

Informational Meeting

Students considering application to the Gaines Fellowship Program are invited to attend an informational meeting with the Director and current Gaines Fellows. The meeting will be at 4:00 p.m. **Thursday, November 15, 2007** at the Gaines Center, Commonwealth House, 226 East Maxwell Street. *Please refer all inquiries to the Gaines Center for the Humanities, 257-1537.*

Selection Schedule

The application deadline is Friday, January 18, 2008 by 4:30 p.m. All parts of the application and copies must be delivered by that time to: Gaines Center for the Humanities, 232 East Maxwell Street, Lexington, KY 40506-0344

Notification of initial screening results will be mailed to all applicants no later than February 1, 2008.

Individual interviews with selected candidates will be held Wednesday, February 6 through Thursday, February 21, 2008. Members of the Gaines Fellowship Advisory Committee will conduct half-hour interviews at the Bingham Davis House (218 East Maxwell Street), Gaines Center for the Humanities.

Notification of selection results will be mailed to all candidates no later than March 7, 2008.

Information for Fellowship Candidates

The Gaines Fellowship is granted for a term of two years, renewal in the second year contingent upon continuing high-quality academic performance (3.5 Seminar grade, 3.3 GPA). The stipend of \$2000 in the first year and \$3000 in the second is paid contingent upon completion of the requirements for that semester.

Junior Gaines Fellows must enroll in the special Gaines Seminar (offered for four credit hours each semester, one hour given over to a thesis workshop). Unlike standard undergraduate courses, the seminar entails extracurricular events and interchanges among students and faculty. Junior Fellows are expected to adjust their schedules to accommodate not only the extensive reading and writing required in this seminar but also the social and cultural activities as well. The seminar course is held on Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Senior Gaines Fellows must complete the Gaines Fellowship Senior Thesis (for 6-15 credit hours). The thesis must be completed and defended orally before a three-member advisory committee during the second semester of the second year. Working closely with their faculty advisors, Gaines Fellows have found preparation of the thesis an intellectually rigorous and time-consuming activity, to a degree uncommon among undergraduate courses. Senior Fellows should adapt their course schedules and credit hour distribution accordingly.

All Gaines Fellows are encouraged to share in the social and intellectual life of the Center. They are asked to attend and host a variety of activities planned for the Fellowship and for special guests. Participation in afternoon and evening events may require an adjustment in individual schedules.

Special facilities are available for Gaines Fellows. The Bingham Davis House includes a study room (designed to provide a quiet workspace) and a computer lab.

For further information, telephone the Gaines Center office at 257-1537.

