TANNER HUMANITIES CENTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
215 S. Central Campus Drive | Room 110 | Salt Lake City | UT | 84112
phone 801.581.7989 | tanner.utah.edu

Call for 2026–2027 Fellowship Applications

The Tanner Humanities Center's mission is to promote humanistic research and education at the University of Utah, in the state, and in the nation. The Center sponsors several annual competitive fellowships. Details at **tanner.utah.edu**

Projects in the following fields are eligible for support: anthropology; archaeology; art history, theory, or criticism; communication; creative writing; ethnic, gender, or cultural studies; history; jurisprudence; languages; linguistics; literature; philosophy; religious studies; and historical or philosophical issues in the social sciences, natural sciences, or the professions.

This call contains all instructions for applying to our fellowship programs. All applicants should read the details about their fellowship *before* beginning to submit their application materials. All applications should be sent to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**

Obert C. and Grace A. Tanner Humanities Center Visiting Fellowship (external) 2
Virgil C. Aldrich Faculty Fellowship (internal) 4
Career-line Faculty Fellowship (internal) 6
Graduate Student Fellowship (internal) 8
For all applications: Preparing the research proposal **10**
For all applications: Instructions for references **11**

Applications for the **Mormon Studies Fellowship**, open to internal and external graduate student applicants, are submitted directly to Mormon Studies. See **mormon.utah.edu**

Applications for the **Annie Clark Tanner Teaching and Research Fellowship in Environmental Humanities**—open to advanced doctoral candidates, visiting faculty, postdocs, and professional writers—are submitted directly to Environmental Humanities. See **environmental-humanities.utah.edu**

Questions?

Fellowship eligibility, criteria, or requirements: Scott Black, Director, scott.black@utah.edu

Fellowship application procedures: Beth James, Administrative Director, beth.james@utah.edu

Obert C. and Grace A. Tanner Humanities Center Visiting Fellowship (external)

Important dates

All applications must be received by **December 1**. If your application is incomplete, we will notify you. Applicants will be notified by **March 1**.

Application materials

To be sent as a single PDF to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Application cover sheet, available at tanner.utah.edu
- ☐ Research proposal. ***Instructions on page 10.***
- ☐ CV, no more than five pages

To be sent by references to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Two letters of recommendation. ***Instructions on page 11.***

Eligibility

Applicants must have received their PhD no later than **August 1, 2025**. Both university faculty and independent scholars are welcome to apply.

The Center encourages projects that are interdisciplinary and likely to contribute to substantive intellectual exchange among a diverse group of scholars. Visiting fellows may hold other support (sabbatical or other funding) during their fellowship, but should note such support in their **research proposal**.

Selection criteria

Fellows are chosen by the Tanner Humanities Center Faculty Advisory Board, made up of faculty from NEH-defined humanities fields. The Center values excellence and diversity of disciplines, methods, and perspectives, and selections are made without regard to senior or junior status, race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship, or national or ethnic origin. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to people with disabilities.

Fellowship benefits

- **$70,000** stipend, typically paid directly to the Fellow's home institution
- Library access, office space, and invitations to all Center events

This fellowship does not provide health insurance, moving costs, parking permits, or university recreation center membership. Visiting fellows remain employees of their home institutions

while on leave at the Tanner Humanities Center, and all normal contract provisions with those institutions still apply. They are not University of Utah employees, and the Center is not responsible for payroll taxes or insurance. Research stipends are considered taxable income by the IRS, and fellows are responsible for proper withholding and all tax liabilities. Stipends are typically paid through fellows' home institutions, which usually allows fellows to maintain their regular employment benefits if their institution agrees. Fellows may also purchase individual health insurance through the University of Utah Benefits Office.

Fellowship requirements

- Remain in residence at the Tanner Humanities Center for the nine-month fellowship (**September–May**). Notify Center staff of short absences for research trips.
- Participate in Center activities and contribute to the University's intellectual life.
- Present a work-in-progress talk and colloquium, and attend other Fellows' work-in-progress talks and colloquia, in the *Spring semester*.
- Attend regular informal meetings with the Center's director (weekly or bi-weekly).
- Acknowledge the Tanner Humanities Center in all work resulting from the fellowship, and donate a copy of any resulting publications to the Center

Virgil C. Aldrich Faculty Fellowship (internal)

Important dates

Submit your request and approval form to your department chair by **October 1**.

Applications are due **October 15**.

Applicants and department chairs will be notified by **December 15**.

Application materials

To be emailed as a single PDF to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Application cover sheet, available at tanner.utah.edu
- ☐ Research proposal. ***Instructions on page 10.***
- ☐ CV, no more than five pages. Your CV should clearly indicate past research support from the University of Utah, *including any Tanner Humanities Center fellowships*. Past support is not disqualifying, but needs to be clearly disclosed to the Faculty Advisory Board.

To be emailed by references to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Approval form from your department chair, available at tanner.utah.edu
- ☐ One recommendation letter from a scholar qualified to assess your abilities and the value of your research project, preferably from outside the University of Utah. ***Instructions on page 11.***

Eligibility

Fellows may not hold other internal or external support during their term.

Applicants for **2026–2027** must not have held a Tanner Humanities Fellowship in **2022–2023** or later.

College leave policies apply to fellowship timing. College of Humanities faculty may not receive college-supported leave more often than every third year. Applicants *must* secure departmental approval for full release time *before* applying.

Projects leading to completion of an advanced degree are not eligible.

Selection criteria

Fellows are chosen by the Tanner Humanities Center Faculty Advisory Board, made up of faculty from NEH-defined humanities fields. The Center values excellence and diversity of disciplines, methods, and perspectives, and selections are made without regard to senior or

junior status, race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship, or national or ethnic origin. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to people with disabilities.

Fellowship benefits

- Full pay and benefits from home department during fellowship term
- **$15,000** departmental reimbursement for the fellowship semester
- Office space and invitations to all Center events

Fellowship requirements

- Remain in residence for the fellowship term
- Participate in Center activities and contribute to the University's intellectual life
- Present a work-in-progress talk and colloquium, and attend other Fellows' work-in-progress talks and colloquia, in the *Spring semester.* Applicants should bear this requirement in mind when arranging course releases with their department chairs.
- Attend regular informal meetings with the Center's director (weekly or bi-weekly)
- Acknowledge the Tanner Humanities Center in all work resulting from the fellowship, and donate a copy of any resulting publications to the Center
- Submit a written report by **June 30** immediately following the fellowship, summarizing their progress, findings, and fellowship experience

Career-line Faculty Fellowship (internal)

Important dates

Submit your request and approval form to your department chair by **October 1**.

Applications are due **October 15**.

Applicants and department chairs will be notified by **December 15**.

Application materials

To be emailed as a single PDF to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Application cover sheet, available at tanner.utah.edu
- ☐ Research proposal. ***Instructions on page 10.***
- ☐ CV, no more than five pages. Your CV should clearly indicate past research support from the University of Utah, *including any Tanner Humanities Center fellowships*. Past support is not disqualifying, but needs to be clearly disclosed to the Faculty Advisory Board.

To be emailed by references to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Approval form from your department chair, available at tanner.utah.edu
- ☐ One recommendation letter from a scholar qualified to assess your abilities and the value of your research project, preferably from outside the University of Utah. ***Instructions on page 11.***

Eligibility

Fellows may not hold other internal or external support during their term.

Applicants for **2026–2027** must not have held a Tanner Humanities Fellowship in **2022–2023** or later.

College leave policies apply to fellowship timing. College of Humanities faculty may not receive college-supported leave more often than every third year. Applicants *must* secure departmental approval for full release time *before* applying.

Projects leading to completion of an advanced degree are not eligible.

Selection criteria

Fellows are chosen by the Tanner Humanities Center Faculty Advisory Board, made up of faculty from NEH-defined humanities fields. The Center values excellence and diversity of disciplines, methods, and perspectives, and selections are made without regard to senior or

junior status, race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship, or national or ethnic origin. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to people with disabilities.

Fellowship benefits

- Full pay and benefits from home department during fellowship term
- **$20,000** departmental reimbursement for course buyout over the fellowship term
- Office and invitations to all Center events

Fellowship requirements

- Remain in residence for the fellowship term
- Participate in Center activities and contribute to the University's intellectual life
- Present a work-in-progress talk and colloquium, and attend other Fellows' work-in-progress talks and colloquia, in the *Spring semester.* Applicants should bear this requirement in mind when arranging course releases with their department chairs.
- Attend regular informal meetings with the Center's director (weekly or bi-weekly)
- Acknowledge the Tanner Humanities Center in all work resulting from the fellowship, and donate a copy of any resulting publications to the Center
- Submit a written report by **June 30** immediately following the fellowship, summarizing their progress, findings, and fellowship experience

Graduate Student Fellowship (internal)

Important dates

As a courtesy to your references, request your recommendation letters early.

All application materials are due **December 1**.

Applicants and department chairs will be notified by **March 1**.

Application materials

To be emailed as a single PDF to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ Application cover sheet, available at tanner.utah.edu
- ☐ Research proposal. ***Instructions on page 10.***
- ☐ CV, no more than five pages
- ☐ A list, organized by year, of *all* graduate support (masters and doctoral) from *all* sources, including tuition waivers, teaching assistantships, teaching fellowships, scholarships, grants, or other fellowships. Past support is not disqualifying, but needs to be clearly disclosed to the Faculty Advisory Board.

To be emailed by references to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu**:

- ☐ One recommendation letter from the chair of your supervisory committee
- ☐ One recommendation letter from a scholar working in your area of study, who is familiar with the proposed research project. ***Instructions on page 11.***
- ☐ One letter from your department chair or graduate program director, affirming that you are in good standing in the program and have successfully passed your qualifying exams. Form available on **tanner.utah.edu/fellowships**

If you have applied for fellowships in the recent past, you must still request new letters for this application. The Center does not retain applications from previous years, and any past recommendation letters would not be up-to-date.

Eligibility

Applicants must have successfully passed their PhD or terminal degree qualifying exams, and completed all coursework, by the fellowship application deadline.

Selection criteria

Fellows are chosen by the Tanner Humanities Center Faculty Advisory Board, made up of faculty from NEH-defined humanities fields. The Center values excellence and diversity of disciplines, methods, and perspectives, and selections are made without regard to senior or

junior status, race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship, or national or ethnic origin. The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to people with disabilities.

Fellowship benefits

- **$30,000** stipend, and exemption from departmental teaching or instructional duties for the fellowship term.
- A tuition waiver is available only for those who have not already exhausted their University of Utah waiver limit. Applicants are responsible for confirming this eligibility with their home department.
- Office space and invitations to all Center events

Fellowship requirements

- Remain in residence for the fellowship terms
- Participate in Center activities and contribute to the University's intellectual life
- Present a work-in-progress talk and colloquium, and attend other Fellows' work-in-progress talks and colloquia, in the *Spring semester*
- Attend regular informal meetings with the Center's director (weekly or bi-weekly)
- Acknowledge the Tanner Humanities Center in all work resulting from the fellowship, and donate a copy of any resulting publications to the Center
- Submit a written report by **June 30** immediately following the fellowship, summarizing your progress, findings, and fellowship experience

For all applications: Preparing the research proposal

The Faculty Advisory Board, which reviews all fellowship applications, come from a variety of humanities disciplines and backgrounds. Your research proposal should be clearly written, justified in terms accessible to people outside your immediate specialization, and free of jargon. Your research proposal should consist of the following parts:

Page 1: Abstract. An abstract of the proposal, *single-spaced*, no more than 250 words.

Pages 2-6: Narrative. Following the abstract, the research proposal should be *double-spaced* and organized into the numbered sections below and labeled.

1. **Conception and definition of the project.** Describe the specific research planned for the fellowship period and explain the basic humanistic ideas, problems, or questions to be explored. Clearly explain the relationship of the project to your past and future research objectives and tie the project to recent work of other scholars in your field.

2. **Significance.** Explain the significance of the proposed work and its anticipated contribution to existing scholarship on your topic. Proposals should demonstrate originality and avoid duplicating existing work. *For non-doctoral applicants: while dissertation rewrites are not disqualified, the Board prefers projects that are demonstrably separate and distinct from previous dissertation work.*

3. **Plan of work and methodology.** Outline your work plan, methodology, and schedule for the proposed research period, noting preliminary work completed. Describe the present state of the project and detail any stages to be completed after the fellowship period. Be as precise as possible about fellowship activities. Include a monthly timeline of goals.

4. **Expected results.** Detail the likely and intended results of research during the fellowship, as well as plans for further research on the same project. Address what will result from the project—book, articles, lectures, performances, scholarly editions, or other outcomes—and note any secured or tentative publication agreements. *Doctoral students should explain how this research advances dissertation completion and professional preparation. Other applicants should address how the project fits broader professional objectives.*

5. **Intellectual community participation.** Explain what you would gain from and contribute to the Tanner Center's intellectual community and activities. This residential fellowship emphasizes participation in an active humanities center and community of fellows.

Include *your name* and *page numbers* on each page.
Note: Applicants proposing creative or fine arts projects should consult with the Director about including additional materials with the application.

For all applications: Instructions for references

To ensure the fullest consideration of each application, applicants should share these instructions with their references

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Thank you for your willingness to serve as a reference for an applicant to a Tanner Humanities Center fellowship.

It would be helpful to the Center's Faculty Advisory Board, who work in a wide variety of disciplines, if you commented specifically on the applicant's proposed project while keeping in mind the following selection criteria:

- the conception and definition of the research or writing project
- the project's contribution to the field in terms of its significance and originality
- the capability, based on past performance, of this candidate to undertake and complete this project within or shortly after the fellowship residency
- the applicant's work plan and methodology
- the likelihood that this candidate will perform research in residence and fully participate in the intellectual community of the Tanner Humanities Center

The Center strives to create an environment for positive intellectual and humanistic exchange. Please comment on the candidate's collegiality and ability to work and interact effectively with fellows, faculty, staff, and students.

Please send your recommendation letters to **tanner-fellowships@utah.edu** by the application deadline.