

Sociology Department  
Spring 2009  
**Instructions for Applying for the Benedict S. Alper Fellowship**

Deadline: March 20, 2009

Ben Alper, a former faculty member of the Department of Sociology, left a very generous endowment to support graduate students, in the form of the Benedict S. Alper Graduate Fellowship. This fellowship is awarded each year to one student who demonstrates engaged critical scholarship and use of critical thinking toward social justice issues. The student must also demonstrate both academic achievement and financial need. The Fellowship will carry a cash stipend (in the past varying between \$9,000 and \$10,500, depending on the accrued interest to the original bequest) and, where applicable, tuition waivers. The recipient will be required to perform NO duties for the award.

If you wish to apply for the Alper Fellowship, you must deliver your application materials to Jean Lovett by March 20, 2009.

Please submit the following as an application:

1. A statement of approximately 5 pages, double-spaced, indicating:
  - a) In what ways your work contributes to critical thinking on issues of social justice.
  - b) Your plans for the upcoming academic year—how would you put the Benedict Alper Fellowship to use?
  - c) A timetable for completing your graduate studies.
  - d) Your financial needs for the period between September of 2009 and June of 2010 (one of the criteria for the award is “demonstrated financial need”).
2. A current transcript (a photocopy is acceptable).
3. A current vita (listing publications, papers presented, awards, etc.).
4. A confidential letter of support from your academic advisor or dissertation director in a sealed envelope.
5. The names of two additional faculty members familiar with your work to serve as references.
6. A writing sample.