



Junior Scholars Research Grants

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning Junior Scholars Research Grants support Boston College junior scholars (defined as undergraduate and graduate students) pursuing research that is of value to the field of Christian-Jewish relations. Recipients must engage in scholarship under the guidance of a faculty member.

Grants may support recipients' production of articles, book sections or chapters, conference presentations, digital materials, translations, or other scholarly resources.

Research grants are one-time awards of \$1,000. Up to five research grants are awarded each academic year and each summer.

ELIGIBILITY

Application is open to all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Boston College. The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning (CCJL) encourages submissions from students in the history, philosophy, and theology departments, the School of Theology & Ministry, and the programs in Jewish and Catholic Studies.

The CCJL welcomes projects and research that echo the mission of the CCJL:

The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning is devoted to the multifaceted development and implementation of new relationships between Christians and Jews that are based, not merely on toleration, but on full respect and mutual enrichment. The building of new, positive relationships between Christians and Jews requires sustained collaborative research. Under the Center's auspices, scholars and thinkers representing diverse Christian and Jewish perspectives engage in intense and ongoing study of all aspects of our related yet distinct traditions of faith and culture.

(www.bc.edu/research/cjl/about)

The CCJL endeavors to make the products of its awards available to the broadest audience possible. Our goal is for scholars, educators, students, and the public to have ready and easy access to the wide range of research grant products. Such products may include digital resources, web sites, web pages, etc. For projects that lead to the development of web pages or websites, all other considerations being equal, the CCJL gives preference to those that provide free access to the public.

APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Applications for Summer 2012 research grant awards must be submitted on or before April 13, 2012.

Prior to beginning their application, applicants should review the evaluation criteria listed below under “Application Review and Award Administration.”

Once an application has been submitted, CCJL staff will not comment on it except with respect to issues of completeness and eligibility.

Please email complete applications to cjlearning@bc.edu. Applicants should instruct recommenders to email letters of recommendation to cjlearning@bc.edu.

APPLICATION PREPARATION

Applications should consist of the following five or six parts. Applicants should format pages with one-inch margins and a font size no smaller than eleven point. Please note the beginning of each section clearly, i.e. **Section 1: Biographical and Project Information**.

1. **Biographical and Project Information**

Please include in the following order:

- Applicant’s full name
- Mailing address
- Email address
- Phone number
- Year in school (i.e. junior, third-year Ph.D. student, etc.)
- Department and/or area of concentration
- Project title: The title should be brief (not more than 125 plain-text characters), descriptive, and informative to a non-specialist audience.
- Start and end dates for the project.
- Director of the research project: Provide his/her name, position, affiliation, and contact information.

2. **Narrative (not to exceed 1500 words)**

Applicants should provide an intellectual justification for their project, conveying the ideas, objectives, methods, and work plan. A simple statement of need or intent is insufficient. The narrative should not assume specialized knowledge and should be free of technical terms and jargon.

In the course of writing a narrative, applicants should address the following areas:

- *Research and contribution*
Describe the intellectual significance of the proposed project, including its value in the field of Christian-Jewish relations. Provide an overview of the project,

explaining the basic ideas, problems, or questions examined by the study. Explain how the project will complement, challenge, or expand relevant studies in the field.

- *Methods and work plan*

Clarify the part or stage of the project that will be supported by the fellowship. Provide a work plan describing what will be accomplished during the award period. For written projects, explain how the final project will be organized. If possible, provide a brief outline. For digital projects, describe the technologies that will be used and developed, and how the scholarship will be presented to benefit audiences in the humanities.

- *Competencies, skills, and access*

If the area of inquiry is new to the applicant, provide reasons for working in it, and explain one's ability to work in it. Describe where the study will be conducted and what research materials will be used. If relevant, specify the arrangements for access to archives, collections, or institutions that contain the necessary resources.

- *Final product and dissemination*

Describe the intended audience and the intended results of the project. If relevant, explain how the results will be disseminated and why these means are appropriate to the subject matter and audience. If the final product will appear in a language other than English, explain how access and dissemination will be affected.

3. **Bibliography (not to exceed one single-spaced page)**

The bibliography should consist of primary and secondary sources that relate directly to the project. Include works that pertain to both the project's substance and its theoretical or methodological approaches. Evaluators will use the bibliography to assess the applicant's knowledge of the subject area.

4. **Résumé (not to exceed two single-spaced pages)**

The résumé should provide the following, as appropriate:

- *Current and Past Positions*

- *Education*

List degrees, dates awarded, and titles of theses.

- *Awards and Honors*

If you have received prior support from other research grants, indicate the dates of these grants and the publications or products that resulted from them.

- *Publications*

Include full citations for publications and presentations.

- *Other Relevant Professional Activities and Accomplishments*

5. **Appendix (only for editions, translations, or for proposals that include visual materials)**

- *Editions or Translations*

Provide a sample of the original text (one page) and the edited or translated version (one page).

- *Visual Materials*
Provide a sample (one page) in PDF format.

6. Letter of Recommendation

The letter of recommendation should be written by the director of the research project. He or she should be familiar with the applicant's academic performance and qualities and address the applicant's scholarly potential, particularly in regard to the proposed project. The director of the research project should explain briefly how he or she will provide expertise and guidance to the applicant. The director of the research project should email the letter of recommendation to cjlrning@bc.edu.

APPLICATION REVIEW AND AWARD ADMINISTRATION

Evaluators will apply the following five criteria when judging the quality of applications.

1. The intellectual significance of the proposed project as a contribution to the field of Christian-Jewish relations.
2. The quality or promise of quality of the applicant's work as an emerging scholar in the field of Christian-Jewish relations.
3. The quality of the conception, definition, organization, and description of the project and the applicant's clarity of expression.
4. The feasibility of the proposed plan of work, including, when appropriate, the soundness of the dissemination and access plans.
5. The likelihood that the applicant will complete the project.

CCJL staff members will read each application and evaluate its merits. The Director of the CCJL will take into account the advice provided by the review process and make all final funding decisions.

Applicants will be notified of the results of their application by email in early May 2012. Recipients will receive \$500 by May 31, 2012. Recipients will receive the remainder of \$500 upon submission of their final product.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions about the CCJL Junior Scholars Research Grant program, please contact:

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