

GLOBAL ARTS + HUMANITIES DISCOVERY THEME
SOCIETY OF FELLOWS:
GRADUATE TEAM FELLOWSHIPS
2025-26 Theme: Creativity | Intelligence | Automation

DEADLINE
February 17, 2025

The Graduate Team Society of Fellows Fellowship is a financial award given by the Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme to recognize the cross-disciplinary aspirations and academic accomplishments of graduate students in the Division of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences. This program brings together a cohort of graduate students whose projects align with our Society of Fellows' annual theme of Creativity | Intelligence | Automation, and it awards each student a year-long fellowship. The fellowship is open to students whose projects engage cross-disciplinary critical and/or creative practices as well as students who seek to foster the development of participatory networks with local Columbus communities. Graduate Team Fellows may be at any phase of their dissertation research or terminal degree project.

SOCIETY OF FELLOWS 2025-26 THEME

The technological advances and broad applications of artificial intelligence (AI) have profoundly impacted nearly every aspect of human society. But while AI may offer potential solutions to some of the world's most intractable problems, it also comes with its own perils. Increasingly, the same tools that promise creative innovations, democratic access and economic growth may also reiterate structural inequities, increase corporate influence and jeopardize lives, careers and the environment.

The Society of Fellows 2025-26 theme, Creativity | Intelligence | Automation, foregrounds the challenges and opportunities of automation and alerts us to the ethical obligations arising from the simulation of human intelligence. For example: How might the history of automation inform how we reckon with this new age? How does this moment push us to reimagine the nature of intelligence? How might we hold to account the automation of biases and erasures? Are there intelligences that should not be automated? What happens to artistic life when creative labor is automated? What other intelligences might we turn to beyond doctrines of human uniqueness?

The Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme invites Society of Fellows graduate applicants whose projects **grapple with the relationship** between creativity, intelligence and automation. We welcome projects that **compel new understandings** of techno-human interdependencies and histories; automation and the politics of labor; theories of personhood; and forms of performativity, communication, learning and cultural expression. The theme focuses on how creativity, intelligence and automation operate across different scales in global contexts and within wider assemblages of biomedical, communicative, cultural, educational, environmental, geopolitical, socioeconomic, carceral and technoscientific forces and relations.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A GRADUATE TEAM FELLOW?

In addition to focusing on their own research (as mentored by their department faculty advisor), Graduate Team Fellows convene as a cohort to support each other's evolving research and develop cross-disciplinary methodologies and understandings in their work. Graduate Team Fellows will be mentored by one a GAHDT Faculty Fellow with expertise in cross-disciplinary arts and humanities methods and practices.

AWARD CONDITIONS

The Graduate Team Fellowship offers three consecutive semesters (autumn, spring, summer) of tuition and fees and a monthly stipend of \$2,535. The award includes travel and research support up to \$500. Support also includes payment of general/instructional fees, tuition and any learning/technology fee. Special fees, such as COTA, recreational facility, Student Union and study activity fees are not included. Graduate Team Fellows may not hold any other type of employment or appointment during the time of the fellowship.

ELIGIBILITY

- 1.** Must be a doctoral student or student in a three-year terminal degree program (e.g., MFA) in the Division of Arts and Humanities of the College of Arts and Sciences.
- 2.** Must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.6 for all Ohio State graduate courses.
- 3.** This is a residential fellowship. Fellows must maintain residency in Columbus, Ohio, for the duration of the award and attend all in-person meetings as scheduled.

FELLOWSHIP OBLIGATIONS

The Graduate Team Fellowship Program requires fellows to meet with each other and an assigned faculty mentor for 2 hours once per month during the semester to help advance cross-disciplinary understandings, build community and attend related events.

HOW TO APPLY

All proposals must be **submitted online**, where applicants will be guided through the submission process for their proposal type. For more information, visit the Funding Opportunities webpage: go.osu.edu/gahdt-funding.

Submit electronic copies of the following materials:

- 1.** A complete curriculum vitae.
- 2.** A brief statement (two single-spaced pages) that:
 - a.** Describes your creative or scholarly project.
 - b.** Specifies how much of the project you have already completed.
 - c.** Describes how the project engages in cross-disciplinary dialogue relevant to our Society of Fellows' annual theme: Creativity | Intelligence | Automation.
 - d.** Describes the work that the fellowship will allow you to complete.
- 3.** A letter of support from your advisor that conveys the advisor's appraisal of the project's progress and cross-disciplinary significance, relevance of the project to the field of study, your unique contribution and value of the fellowship to the your overall graduate pursuits. Advisors should email the letter directly to GAHDT Associate Director Puja Batra-Wells (batra-wells.1@osu.edu).
- 4.** If your project involves a community partnership, it is highly recommended that you provide an additional letter of support from the community partner.
- 5.** A current transcript and/or academic advising report.

NOTE: No ancillary materials, such as DVDs or CDs, will be accepted. Web addresses linking to ancillary materials may be included as appropriate in the research statement.

EVALUATION PROCESS + CRITERIA

1. Applications will be evaluated by a sub-committee of the GAHDT Advisory Committee, which is comprised of senior members of the graduate faculty.
2. The advisory committee will consider all the required information presented in support of the application. Evaluation will focus on the cross-disciplinary reach and quality of the research or creative project proposed; the project's potential to link with the Society of Fellows annual theme: Creativity | Intelligence | Automation; and the student's ability to undertake the dissertation or degree project within the fellowship tenure as evaluated primarily by scholars outside the nominee's area of study.

TIMELINE

+ Fellowship call issued	October 1, 2024
+ Application deadline	February 17, 2025
+ Fellowships announced	April 1, 2025
+ Fellowship award period	Begins autumn 2025

CONTACT

Applicants may email questions to GAHDT Associate Director, Puja Batra-Wells (batra-wells.1@osu.edu).