

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP**

Oak Ridge Conference Center, Chaska, Minnesota

May 30th to June 3rd, 2012

**SPRING 2012 WORKSHOP AGENDA (REVISED TO REFLECT CHANGES MADE
DURING WORKSHOP)**

Gender Justice in the Era of Human Rights

Research Director: Dorothy L. Hodgson [dhodgson@rci.rutgers.edu]

Research Director: Pamela Scully [pamela.scully@emory.edu]

This is the first of two workshops designed to help students prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals in their chosen field. The two goals of the first workshop are 1) to map the research field with respect to contributing disciplines, methods, sources, and area knowledge; and 2) to help prepare fellows for their pre-dissertation summer research. (The goal of the second workshop will be to focus on the mechanics and methods of writing a dissertation proposal).

The field of “Gender Justice” explores and compares the historical and contemporary content, form, effectiveness and experience of “women’s human rights” and other approaches to identifying and rectifying political, economic, social and cultural inequalities between and among men and women across the globe. The purpose of the workshop will be to promote a transnational, interdisciplinary conversation among students working on the Global South and Global North, from such diverse fields as anthropology, comparative literature, education, and history, around key concepts, approaches, and methods in the study of alternative paradigms of gender justice in the past and present, including rights-based frameworks. Framing questions include: When, how, why and by whom are different modes of justice mobilized or contested? Do different justice regimes enhance women’s and men’s abilities to access justice, and if so, how? What are the gendered assumptions and effects of the different modes of justice? What kinds of opportunities and limitations do these different modes provide to seekers of justice, whether individuals or collectivities, and how are these gendered? How might gender justice appear if we take seriously the category of gender rather than conflating it with women? Does attention to gender allow us to complicate the binary categories of victim and perpetrator and to develop more complex understandings of restorative justice?

WORKSHOP READINGS AND RESOURCES

Readings and other resources will be placed on the section of the DPDF online workspace devoted to this field. Students will receive separate explanations and detailed instructions about the access and use of the DPDF digital platform.

WORKSHOP ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments should be uploaded on the DPDF online workspace unless otherwise noted:

- **Annotated Bibliography ~ Deadline, May 25th:** Fellows should prepare and submit a brief annotated bibliography of five publications (approximately one paragraph per publication) that they believe connect their project and the workshop theme. The annotated bibliography will provide everyone with an initial sense of how they are conceptualizing their

own interventions in the field of gender justice and contribute to a working bibliography of the field for all Fellows.

- **Project Overview ~ Deadline, May 25th:** Fellows should prepare a brief (2-3 single-spaced pages) overview of their research project which will include their plans for predissertation research. The mini-proposal should include the following: an introductory paragraph that engages the reader and explains the relevance or need for the project; a set of preliminary research questions; an overview of the kinds of “data” and sources that you will need to “answer” each question; an outline of the methods that you will use to collect the “data” you have identified; and a final paragraph that positions your project in terms of its contributions to the field of gender justice. The project overviews will enable Fellows to see connections (and differences) between their projects and to begin our discussion about the contours of the field of gender justice.
- **Readings ~ Deadline, May 30th:** Fellows should read the annotated bibliographies, project overviews, and the following assigned readings:
 - * Przeworski & Salomon, “On the Art of Writing Proposals” (on workspace)
 - * Watts, “The Holy Grail: In Pursuit of the Dissertation Proposal” (on workspace)
 - * skim chapters in Part 1: Selecting the Right Tools, of Perceman and Curran (book sent to you by SSRC)

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS

In addition to the scheduled workshops below, we will meet individually with each Fellow for 20 minutes during lunch or just after the afternoon session. The purpose of these sessions is to provide individual feedback on the Fellows’ project and preliminary research design. Please come to this meeting prepared with specific questions that you would like for us to address. The schedule for these individual meetings is below.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 30th

6 p.m.: **Registration and welcome reception**

Workshop materials will be distributed at registration.

Dinner to follow

Thursday, May 31st

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: **Workshop Session #1: Introductions**

* Personal Introductions

* Discussion of field of gender justice

* Discussion of annotated bibliographies on formative works posted by Fellows on workspace

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS OVER LUNCH:

12:10-12:30 – Hunt

12:30-12:50 – Kruger

12:50-1:10 – Ruble

1:10-1:30 – Chew

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #2: Mapping Fields, Asking Questions I

* Discussion of six research proposals (30 minutes per proposal, discussant in parentheses):

Bellows-Blakely (Hunt)

Chaparro-Buitrago (Kruger)

Chew (Ruble)

Francica (Samara)

Franklin (Springer)

Hernando Llorens (Velasquez Estrada)

Discussant will have five minutes to discuss and comment on proposal, followed by 25 minutes of group discussion, focused on such issues as clarity of research questions, relation of questions to proposed methods, and contributions of the proposed research to the field of gender justice.

Friday, June 1st

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #3: Mapping Fields, Asking Questions II

* Discussion of six research proposals (30 minutes per proposal, discussant in parentheses):

Hunt (Hernando Llorens)

Kruger (Franklin)

Ruble (Francica)

Samara (Chew)

Springer (Chaparro-Buitrago)

Velasquez Estrada (Bellows-Blakely)

Discussant will have five minutes to discuss and comment on proposal, followed by 25 minutes of group discussion, focused on such issues as clarity of research questions, relation of questions to proposed methods, and contributions of the proposed research to the field of gender justice.

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS OVER LUNCH:

12:10-12:30 – *Hernando Llorens*

12:30-12:50 – *Franklin*

12:50-1:10 – *Francica*

1:10-1:30 – *Samara*

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #4: Questions & Methods

* Review relevant methods chapters in Perelman and Curran

* Drawing on Fellows' proposals, discussion of different sources and methods for the study of gender justice, developing a research question, and relationships between research questions and methods

* Small groups to "workshop" each other's research questions, based on the previous discussion, then present to group

* HOMEWORK for tomorrow – list goals, specific tasks and timetable for summer research

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH DIRECTORS BEFORE DINNER:

5-5:20 – *Bellows-Blakeley*
5:20-5:40 – *Velazquez Estrada*

Saturday, June 2^d

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #5: Sources & Strategies for Collecting Data

- * Best practices for summer pre-dissertation research
- * Epistemological, ethical and political issues in research
- * Expectations & realities of summer research
- * Discussion of available grants.

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH DIRECTORS OVER LUNCH:

1-1:20 – Chapparo-Buitrago

1:20-1:40 -- Springer

2 to 5:00 p.m: CHANGE: Workshop Session #6: From Preliminary Research to Proposal AND Gender Justice Revisited

2-3:30pm: Summer Research

- * Review Przeworski & Salomon, “On the the Art of Writing Proposals” and Watts, “The Holy Grail: In Pursuit of the Dissertation Proposal”
- * Discuss structures of research proposals, translating summer research into dissertation proposals
- *The grant proposal as its own genre.

3:30-5:pm: CHANGE: Reflections on the field of Gender Justice

- * Discussion of genealogies, questions and challenges

Sunday, June 3^d

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #7: Looking Forward

- * Short writing assignment: Answer the following questions:
 - 1) The field of gender justice explores_____
 - 2) My project contributes to the field of GJ in the following ways (list):
- * Review summer reading lists and assignments for fall workshop
- * Ideas for fall workshop

**SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP
Radisson Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Wednesday, September 12th to Sunday, September 16th, 2012
FALL 2012 WORKSHOP AGENDA**

Gender Justice in the Era of Human Rights

Research Director: Dorothy L. Hodgson [dhodgson@rci.rutgers.edu]
Research Director: Pamela Scully [Pamela.scully@emory.edu]

This is the second of two annual DPDF workshops designed to help graduate student fellows prepare cogent and fundable dissertation proposals in their chosen field. The two goals of the second workshop are 1) to help fellows synthesize their summer research; and 2) to develop revised drafts of dissertation proposals, either for committee or funding purposes. The workshop challenges fellows to consider their summer research and proposal development within the context of contributions to their research fields. In this, the goals of the fall workshop are closely related to the project of mapping a research field that began during the spring workshop in Minnesota.

Fellows will come out of the second workshop with supportive networks, consisting of both mentors and cohorts of new scholars carrying out research in their fields, as well as intellectually mature dissertation proposals.

WORKSHOP READINGS AND RESOURCES

Any new readings and other resources will be placed on the section of the DPDF online workspace devoted to this field.

WORKSHOP ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments should be uploaded on the DPDF online workspace unless otherwise noted:

Summer Research Summary ~ Deadline Sept 6th: Fellows should prepare a brief (3-4 page double spaced) summary of their summer research experience, paying attention to how their field experiences may have changed their research questions and research design.

Reading Assignment – Research Design & Grant Proposals ~ Deadline Sept 6th: Fellows should re-read assigned materials from the spring about how to design a research project and write a successful grant proposal (by SSRC and Michael Watts)

Reading/Writing Assignment – Learning from Others ~ Deadline Sept 6th: Fellows should read several successful proposals available (with permission) from students supervised by the Research Directors. Each Fellow must then write a one page “review” of a proposal of their choosing that will a) distill, outline and summarize key components of the proposal, showing the links between theory, methodology and method; and b) critique the proposal as a reviewer would by detailing the strengths/weaknesses in the research design and suggesting specific, constructive improvements.

Draft Proposal ~ Deadline Sept 6th: Drawing on insights and tips from reading the materials about research design and successful proposals, fellows must prepare and submit a draft dissertation

proposal (maximum of 10 double-spaced pages), that includes, at a minimum, research questions, theoretical overview, literature review, methodology, qualifications, significance and bibliography.

Reading Each Others Proposals ~ Deadline Sept 12th: Fellows must read everyone's draft proposals and compile brief comments in preparation for workshop discussions. Everyone will serve as a discussant for the same proposal as in the spring, although we will reverse the order and start with the proposals we discussed in the last sessions first.

As Discussant: Write a one page "review" of the proposal as in the "Learning from Others" assignment above, that is: write a one page "review" that will a) distill, outline and summarize key components of the proposal, showing the links between theory, methodology and method; and b) critique the proposal as a reviewer would by detailing the strengths/weaknesses in the research design and suggesting specific, constructive improvements. This review will serve as support for your oral comments (and you can give it to the proposal author as well, if you like).

Revising your Proposals ~ Due Sept 17th:

Using student and faculty feedback you've received from this workshop, submit a revision of your first draft to the group by Monday, September 17th. Dorothy and Pamela will provide additional written feedback on these revised proposals within the next two weeks.

SMALL GROUPS

Fellows will spend significant time in their small groups workshopping their proposals. We will retain the small groups created in the spring:

Group 1: Sarah, Elizabeth, Kate

Group 2: Elise, Amy, Julietta

Group 3: Alex, Cynthia, Rebecca

Group 4: Belén, Emily, Jasmine

Small Group Peer Editing Exercises: While individual students are meeting with the Research Directors, students will meet in their small groups to do peer editing of their current research proposals. In each exercise you will first, for about half an hour, carefully read, take notes on and edit each other's proposals, using the following peer editing guides (pdfs of these are also available on our GJ Google Group site):

http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/assistance/writing_services/course_support/components/documents/peer_editing_mini_checklist.pdf

<http://rwc.hunter.cuny.edu/reading-writing/on-line/revpeer.html>

You will insert question marks in the margins where you have difficulties in understanding. You will edit ("markup") grammatical and typographical errors. Then you will spend about 20 minutes on each person's paper in turn, discussing them in a supportive but critical fashion.

INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS

Pamela and Dorothy will meet individually with each Fellow for 30 minutes during the “Small Group” meeting times within workshop sessions, as well as between 1-2pm. Individual meetings with the Research Directors will focus on changes in the research project resulting from summer work (as reflected in revised proposals), thoughts on the format of a good proposal gleaned from discussions and readings; new thoughts emerging from the plenary on proposal-writing and grants-seeking; identification of pressing problems and questions that must be resolved before and during writing of final dissertation and grant proposals.

PROPOSAL REVISION PROCESS

Fellows are expected to continually revise their proposals during the Workshop in response to feedback and insights so that they have a strong final version by Sunday. We ask that you revise your proposal before each meeting of your small group and submit a hard or e-copy of the revised proposal to each of your small group members so that they can conduct the peer editing exercise. As discussed above, we also expect you to post a full, polished version of this proposal on the DPDF website by Monday, September 18th – Pamela and Dorothy will then read these and provide you with additional written feedback.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 12th

6 p.m. to 8p.m.: Registration and welcome reception

Workshop materials will be distributed at registration.

Thursday, September 13th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Plenary Session on Funding and DPDF Alumni Experiences

This session, in which all 2012 fellows will attend, includes a roundtable discussion with representatives from major funding sources in the humanities and social sciences. The discussion will involve trends in dissertation funding, best practices in preparing proposals for various funders, and making the transition from dissertation to postdoc opportunities. The plenary will also include a discussion with DPDF alumni about career trajectories following the DPDF fellowship.

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #1: Summer Research – Successes, Challenges and Moving Forward

2-3pm: Review of workshop agenda, group discussion of key insights from summer research (Pamela)

What were the three main changes to your project/research design that resulted from your summer research?

3-3:15: Break

3:15-5pm: Research Design and Proposal Writing Redux (Dorothy)

* Review structure, logic and “grammar” of grant proposals

* Discuss tailoring proposals to different expectations of funding agencies

* Discuss any questions from morning plenary session

Dinner on your own (Pamela and Dorothy will be eating with other Research Directors and SSRC Staff)

Friday, September 14th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #2: Reviewing Proposals (Pamela)

9-10:30am: Discussion of three research proposals (30 minutes per proposal, discussant in parentheses):

Elizabeth (Sarah)
Emily (Julietta)
Jasmine (Amy)

Drawing on the one page review, each discussant will have five minutes to discuss and comment on the proposal in a supportive but rigorous and critical manner, followed by 25 minutes of group discussion, focused on such issues as clarity of research questions, relation of questions to proposed methods, and contributions of the proposed research to the field of gender justice.

10:30-10:45: Break

10:45-12pm: Small Groups/Individual Meetings

* Small Groups 2, 3 and 4 will meet to workshop each other's proposals following the peer editing exercise format described above (p.2).

Members of Group 1 will meet with Pamela and Dorothy in individual meetings as follows:

10:45-11:15: Elizabeth
11:15-11:45: Sarah
1-1:30: Kate

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #3: Reviewing Proposals (Dorothy)

2-3:30pm: Discussion of three research proposals (30 minutes per proposal, discussant in parentheses):

Alex (Cynthia)
Rebecca (Elise)
Kate (Belén)

Drawing on the one page review, each discussant will have five minutes to discuss and comment on the proposal in a supportive but rigorous and critical manner, followed by 25 minutes of group discussion, focused on such issues as clarity of research questions, relation of questions to proposed methods, and contributions of the proposed research to the field of gender justice.

3:30-3:45: Break

3:45-5pm: Small Groups/Individual Meetings

* Small Groups 1, 2, and 3 will meet to workshop each other's proposals following the peer editing exercise format described above (p.2).

Members of Group 4 will meet with Pamela and Dorothy in individual meetings as follows:

3:45-4:15: Emily
4:15-4:45: Jasmine
4:45-5:15: Belén

Saturday, September 15th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Workshop Session #4: Reviewing Proposals (Pamela)

9-10:30am: Discussion of three research proposals (30 minutes per proposal, discussant in parentheses):

Belén (Elizabeth)
Elise (Emily)
Cynthia (Jasmine)

Drawing on the one page review, each discussant will have five minutes to discuss and comment on the proposal in a supportive but rigorous and critical manner, followed by 25 minutes of group discussion, focused on such issues as clarity of research questions, relation of questions to proposed methods, and contributions of the proposed research to the field of gender justice.

10:30-10:45: Break

10:45-12pm: Small Groups/Individual Meetings

* Small Groups 1, 3 and 4 will meet to workshop each other's proposals following the peer editing exercise.

Members of Group 2 will meet with Pamela and Dorothy in individual meetings as follows:

10:45-11:15: Julietta
11:15-11:45: Elise
1-1:30: Amy

2 to 5 p.m.: Workshop Session #5: Reviewing Proposals (Dorothy)

2-3:30pm: Discussion of three research proposals (30 minutes per proposal, discussant in parentheses):

Amy (Alex)
Julietta (Rebecca)
Sarah (Kate)

Drawing on the one page review, each discussant will have five minutes to discuss and comment on the proposal in a supportive but rigorous and critical manner, followed by 25 minutes of group discussion, focused on such issues as clarity of research questions, relation of questions to proposed methods, and contributions of the proposed research to the field of gender justice.

3:30-3:45: Break

3:45-5pm: Small Groups/Individual Meetings

* Small Groups 1, 2, and 4 will meet to workshop each other's proposals following the peer editing exercise.

Members of Group 3 will meet with Pamela and Dorothy in individual meetings as follows:

3:45-4:15: Cynthia
4:15-4:45: Alex
4:45-5:15: Rebecca

6:30-8:30pm: Dinner as a Group at Sampan restaurant (<http://sampanphilly.com>)

Sunday, September 16th

9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.: Workshop Session #6: Wrapping Up and Next Steps

9-10:15 am: Reflections on the Field of Gender Justice (Pamela)

* Group Discussion of field of Gender Justice, based on proposals, other key readings and insights

10:15-11am: Break

11-11:45am: Moving Forward (Dorothy)

* Next steps with proposals, advisers and committees

* Plans to continue our relationship and field building as a group