

AMST Research Grants

Limited funds are available to AMST majors to support honors thesis research and other scholarly projects.

Applications must contain: (1) a title, (2) a brief description of the proposed project, its objectives and its significance, including a discussion of the relevant scholarly literature; (3) a statement discussing course work relating to the proposed project; (4) an account of the methods for carrying it out; (5) a timetable for completion; (6) a detailed budget; (7) a copy of the student's transcript [which you may copy from your portfolio if you wish], and (8) a letter from the faculty member who will supervise the project, carefully assessing its merit and the ability of the applicant to carry it out successfully.

Applications are not to exceed five double-spaced pages (not counting the supervisor's letter or transcript) and must be electronically submitted AS AN ATTACHMENT. (See below.) It is the applicant's responsibility to request his or her faculty supervisor to submit a letter electronically AS AN ATTACHMENT. Both the application and the faculty member's letter must contain the student's name (with the last name listed first) followed by "AMST Research Grant Application" in the subject line.

Funds are limited. The American Studies faculty will examine each proposal closely, with special attention to the scholarly value of the proposed research, the feasibility of the project, and the reasonableness of the proposed budget. Students should make their proposals as specific and detailed as possible, and support them with evidence of their ability to complete the work according to a realistic schedule. They should prepare the budget with special care, including only essential expenses and showing precisely how the proposed budget supports the work being proposed. **Your budget cannot include the purchase of capital equipment (i.e., digital recorders, cameras, etc.).** Those planning to do research abroad should consult with the Office of International Studies about their plans and budgets.

Please note that research proposals involving living human subjects who could be individually identified (unless in public office), audio or video recordings of participants, sensitive data, or vulnerable populations will require IRB approval. You can learn more about whether your project will require IRB approval and how to submit it for approval, by using this link: <http://www.wesleyan.edu/acaf/support/reviewboard.html>.

AMST Grants will ordinarily range from \$200 to \$800. Additional amounts may be awarded, depending on the availability of funds and project needs. For grants awarded to support summer research, an interim report, 3-5 pages in length, is to be submitted in September. This report should describe the work done with the grant money over the course of the summer and how this work will advance the student's thesis or other research projects during the coming year. Upon completion of the project, each AMST

Grant recipient must submit a brief report to the American Studies Department on their activities, accomplishments, and an accounting of expenditures.

Applications will be judged by the American Studies faculty. Criteria for judging applications include: the clarity and suitability of the project design; the feasibility of the proposed project; the applicant's past academic record; the evaluation submitted by the faculty member; and the realism of the proposed budget. **Senior thesis projects will receive priority.**

All materials for summer research grants, including faculty recommendations, **must be submitted electronically to the Chair of the American Studies Department by 5 p.m. on April 15th.** On the top of the first page, please include your WES I.D., Wesleyan Box No., email address, name of faculty advisor who will be submitting a recommendation (if your thesis advisor will be someone else, that person should also be listed here), **as well as your citizenship for tax purposes.** Announcement of summer grant awards will be made on or before May 2.

Students may also apply for grants to support research conducted during the course of an academic year. For full consideration, applications for grants to support fall semester research should be submitted by the end of Drop/Add. Applications for grants to support thesis research over winter break should be submitted by December 1. Applications for grants to support spring semester research must be submitted by the end of Drop/Add. The American Studies faculty will evaluate and award grants within two weeks after these submission deadlines. Upon completion of the project, each AMST Grant recipient must submit a brief report to the American Studies Department on their activities and accomplishments, as well as an accounting of expenditures.