

**THESIS PROSPECTUS SUMMER SUPPORT GRANT**  
**Eastern Michigan University**  
**Department of History and Philosophy**

Due to a generous donation from Judge Daniel Opperman, the History program is able to provide \$2500 to one Opperman Fellow per year to assist in writing his or her thesis prospectus. The fellow should apply for the Thesis Prospectus Summer Support Grant in the second semester of his or her first year in the program and he or she is encouraged to combine the award with other fellowships such as the Opperman History Research Fund, the Graduate School Student Travel Assistance Award, and the Graduate Student Research Support Fund.

Applications are due to the EMU History Graduate Adviser by **March 1**.

**Eligibility and award criteria**

To apply, a student must:

- Hold an Opperman Fellowship in History
- Have completed 8-9 hours of graduate coursework
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.50 in graduate coursework
- Be actively exploring a master's thesis with an EMU faculty member
- Have made contact with the archives or institution where he or she intends to conduct research (if applicable)

Applications will be judged on academic merit, as determined from the statement of purpose, supporting documentation (if necessary), a faculty recommendation, and a letter from the history graduate adviser.

**Directions for completing the application**

The four parts of the application are:

1. **Statement of Purpose**. The applicant should explain how he or she will use the money. It is expected that the recipient will use the award to complete his or her thesis prospectus in a timely fashion, although other uses will be considered. Examples of alternative uses of the award include traveling to archives, supporting an internship, and conducting extensive historiographical reading. The statement should be no longer than three pages.
2. **Supporting Documentation**. If the applicant will be traveling to an archives or holding an internship, he or she should attach a letter or email indicating that appropriate arrangement have been made. If he or she will be conducting reading,

then the applicant should attach a bibliography. Additionally, if the applicant plans to use the money for travel, a budget should be attached.

3. **Faculty Recommendation**. The applicant should be working closely with an EMU History faculty member in preparation for a thesis or other culminating project. That faculty member should write a letter describing the student's progress in the program, aptitude for summer work, and a sense of how the Thesis Prospectus Summer Support Grant will aid the completion of the master's degree. This recommendation should be submitted by the faculty member to the EMU History Graduate Adviser.
4. **Graduate Adviser Letter**. The EMU History Graduate Adviser should provide a letter confirming that the applicant meets the criteria for the Thesis Prospectus Summer Support Grant and that he or she is in good standing in the program.

#### **Directions for submitting your application**

The applicant should submit the Statement of Purpose and all supporting documentation via email to the EMU History Graduate Adviser. The applicant should ask the faculty member to submit the recommendation directly to the Graduate Adviser. The application should be submitted no later than 5pm on **March 1**.