

Call for Applications

JHI New Media and Public Humanities Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2022-2023

Deadline: 30 November 2021 at 11:59 p.m. EDT

APPLY HERE: <https://redcap.utoronto.ca/surveys/?s=P97TFD8TJY4KL88N>

The Jackman Humanities Institute is pleased to invite applications for a postdoctoral fellowship in New Media and Public Humanities (NMPH), designed to support recent Ph.D. graduates from humanities disciplines who are engaged in new media and/or other journalism initiatives to bring humanities research out of the classroom or academic monograph and into discussion in public fora and across multiple media platforms. One NMPH postdoctoral fellow will be selected for a twelve-month residency at the Jackman Humanities Institute. The NMPH postdoctoral fellow is expected to conduct active research on the theme of “Labour” and to propose, write, and publish innovative media projects that take humanities research into the public domain.

The Annual Theme for 2022-2023 is Labour

From the labour of childbirth to the travail of making a living, human beings are labouring animals who derive meaning and experience meaninglessness in work. Historically, human creativity has long flourished both through and against labour-saving technologies. In a globalizing and climate-changing world, rising nationalist movements call for the fortification of borders that would stop seasonal flows of labour, while women call for pay equity and harassment-free workplaces to allow for the freedom to work in peace. In a world of increasingly precarious labour, thanks in part to automation, what does the future of work portend for both people and the planet? What forms of resistance are possible when workers face both the irrelevance of their labour and its exploitation?

The Fellowship

The postdoctoral fellowship is an award of \$56,275 CAD plus benefits. The NMPH postdoctoral fellowship is tenable for one academic year (1 July 2022-30 June 2023), and the holder is expected to be in residence September 2022 to May 2023. As a residential fellow, the New Media and Public Humanities postdoctoral fellow will be provided with an office at the JHI on the 10th floor of the Jackman Humanities Building. The NMPH postdoctoral fellow will be expected to participate in activities with faculty, postdoctoral, graduate and undergraduate fellows, including weekly lunch seminars and occasional other workshops and lectures.

Moving expenses are not provided. The JHI will provide an office, University of Toronto Library access, faculty mentoring, and administrative support. Teaching is not a component of this fellowship, but incumbents may apply for sessional positions in their home disciplines as available.

Eligibility

- Doctoral degree in humanities, writing, media studies, or journalism completed between 1 July 2012 – 30 June 2022. If you graduated before 1 July 2013, you are not eligible to apply. If you will be enrolled as a full or part-time student during the period of the fellowship, you are not eligible to apply.
- This position is normally open to Ph.D. graduates who do not hold tenure-track positions.

- A public media record going back to at least 1 July 2020.
- Fellowships are open to citizens of all countries. The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may further expand the range of ideas and perspectives.
- Doctoral candidates and Ph.D. recipients from the University of Toronto are eligible to apply.
- The Jackman Humanities Institute interprets “Humanities” as a broad category, including political theory, interpretive social science, music, and the arts.

Selection Criteria

We are seeking individuals whose intellectual scope moves between formal academic research and professional journalism. The JHI is a site for interdisciplinary humanities research conversations, and we are therefore interested in candidates who have a record of publication in non-academic venues as well as an academic background in the humanities or qualitative social sciences. Selection will be based upon accomplishment according to career stage, evidence of public media engagement, and the relevance of the applicant’s interests and media record to the annual theme of “Labour.”

Procedure

You can reach the application directly at

<https://redcap.utoronto.ca/surveys/?s=P97TFD8TJY4KL88N>

You will be asked to provide the following documents, compiled into a single pdf file. Please see the FAQ sheet below for directions on length and formatting.

1. A full resumé with demonstrated background in the Humanities that includes a full listing of both academic and non-academic publications and media endeavours.
2. A project proposal that outlines a media project or series of projects centred on the 2022-2023 annual theme, Labour, to be undertaken at the Jackman Humanities Institute (Maximum length 1000 words)
3. A writing sample (published, non-academic preferred; an academic article or dissertation chapter may be provided if necessary)
4. (Optional) For online materials such as audio or video files, please provide a page with URL links and a brief description for each.

You will be asked to provide the names and email addresses of two referees who can provide confidential letters of reference. Your referees will receive an automated request for their letters, which will be due on 7 December 2021. Please ask your referees to watch for our request email.

If you SAVE your file without clicking SUBMIT, you will be able to edit your application and replace your application document until you click SUBMIT or the deadline passes. Please submit your application before the deadline. If you SAVE, you will receive a secret number that will enable you to re-enter your application. Please record this number; JHI staff will not have access to this information.

Deadline

All applications must be submitted by **30 November 2021** at 11:59 p.m. (EDT). Faxed, emailed, and paper applications will not be considered.

Questions

For questions relating to the scope and expectations of this fellowship, contact Professor Alison Keith, Director, at jhi.director@utoronto.ca or (416) 978-7415.

For assistance with the application form, contact Kim Yates, Associate Director, at jhi.associate@utoronto.ca

Frequently Asked Questions About Applying for the New Media Public Humanities Fellowship

FAQ: What are JHI's expectations in terms of length, format and content for my submitted documents?

ANSWER: You MUST submit all files as a single, compiled pdf file. This is necessary in order to ensure that your application will be readable. Please do not send files that with security settings that prevent printing. Beyond that, here are some general suggestions and guidelines.

JHI receives applications from across many disciplines and from around the world. Standards vary, and we would prefer not to set rigid rules in the matter. Please know that you will not be disqualified from applying if your documents do not comply with the following guidelines.

Make your documents easy to read: use 11- or 12-point type, and 1.5 or double spacing. Avoid unnecessarily complicated fonts.

1. **Curriculum Vitae** (as long as necessary): this is your full academic record. Please include all publications (both peer-reviewed and non peer-reviewed), research presentations, and previous digital humanities work of any nature. The focus here is more on research than on teaching.
2. **Project Proposal** (4-6 pages): Explain in detail what you would like to accomplish while you are a fellow. Your project should be relevant to the annual theme of Labour. Tell us about your anticipated goals and timeline for this project, and about the methodology that you will use to do it. It is perfectly acceptable to propose a thesis-to-book overhaul.
3. **Writing Sample** (length varies with content): This could be a chapter from your thesis, or a published article, or an example of public-facing writing. You can include a sample of your writing or provide a brief introduction and a URL (or multiple URLs) that show your public-facing writing in your application document.

FAQ: Can I save a partial application and then go back into it, or swap my application document for an updated version later?

ANSWER: Yes. You can SAVE but not SUBMIT your application until the deadline has passed. If you click SAVE, you will be given a numerical code and be emailed a link. Record this code (it will not be sent with the email). You will have to enter the code to continue your application. JHI staff members do not have access to your code and cannot generate a new code if you lose it. When you are finished, remember to SUBMIT your application before the deadline.

FAQ: I will be finishing up my thesis in the spring, and I am not sure if my defense will take place before or after 1 May. How will this affect my eligibility?

ANSWER: If you receive an offer of this fellowship, it will be contingent on your having completed all outstanding doctoral work before 1 July 2022. This means that if you apply but have not defended, we will be in touch with your Chair or supervisor to confirm your defense date (it must be before 1 May) and post-defense status. If you defend and have revisions to make, you must complete them successfully before 1 July.

FAQ: I graduated from my doctoral program in June 2012. Am I eligible to apply? Does a month matter?

ANSWER: You are not eligible to apply. This fellowship is offered with a ten-year eligibility that tracks from the date when the fellowship begins on 1 July 2022.

FAQ: When will I be required to be in Toronto? Can I do research off-site at certain times during the year?

ANSWER: The JHI will require your attendance at a fellows' lunch each Thursday from the beginning of September until the end of April (there are two weeks in December when the University will close for the holidays). If you are also teaching, please check for the dates when you must be in Toronto with your unit.

FAQ: Is any funding beyond the award for this position available for travel, moving expenses, or research?

ANSWER: There is a small amount (\$500 CAD) of research or travel funding available upon request to the Director. There is no funding for moving expenses. You are welcome to apply for up to two one-semester courses of sessional teaching in any unit appropriate to your field of doctoral study. Sessional job postings will appear on the [CUPE 3902 \(Unit 3\) Opportunities web page](#).

FAQ: Who can I contact if I have other questions?

ANSWER: For questions relating to the scope and expectations of this fellowship, email Professor Alison Keith, Director (or call 416-978-7415); for questions about the application process, [email Dr. Kimberley Yates](#).