

**THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**  
**Application Cover Sheet**  
**Spring 2018**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Current or Intended Academic Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone number \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the program? \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following with your application:

- 2 short essays (in prose, no bullet points)
- 1 faculty evaluation
- Names of at least 2 professors you have spoken with, who would be appropriate advisors for your project.
- Please place your initials at the end of the following statement.**

*If accepted into the Mellon Mays Fellowship program, I agree to attend the **Mellon Mays Orientation** each Monday (4-5:00pm) during the spring 2018 semester. I understand that I may not study abroad in the fall semester of my junior year. I also commit to attending the **August Intensive Workshop** (Aug. 21 – 22 and a working lunch on August 24). Note: The Mellon program will pay for early move-in and meals. \*We are aware that the August Intensive may have some conflicts with RA Training.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Faculty evaluator:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

Two possible faculty advisors *that you have spoken with* about your project, at least one of whom has *indicated that they would likely work with you should you become a Mellon Fellow* and understands that you are *required to meet at least twice per month*.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please turn in applications to the College of Arts & Sciences, Cupples II, room 104, c/o Rachael Heuermann, Administrative Assistant, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program by:

**3:00 pm, Friday, February 9, 2018**

For further information, contact Dean Mary Laurita, Mellon Mays Administrative Coordinator, at 314-935-8667 or mlaurita@wustl.edu.

**THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

<http://artsci.wustl.edu/mellon-mays-undergraduate-fellowship>

**Name of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

**About the Fellowship Program:**

Each year, five of the University's most promising and talented undergraduates completing their sophomore year are chosen by a selection committee as Mellon Mays fellows. Beginning in spring 2018, selected fellows will participate in the Mellon Mays program through their junior and senior years as well as the summers preceding those years. Generous funding is available each semester and summer for supplies and research. Each student works with a faculty mentor whose job is to introduce the student to the world of academic research and the life of the mind. The mentor is expected to have the student work closely with him or her on an independent research project of the student's choosing. Students come together for a weekly seminar, led by a Washington University faculty member, to present and discuss their projects and related topics. Each year, the fellows participate in some kind of academic endeavor, such as writing the annual newsletter, participating in academic workshops, and presenting at conferences. The overall goals of the program are: to show students what the life of the mind and academic research are all about; to excite them about the possibilities of entering into such a world; to show them both the fulfillment and the rewards of a professional academic career; and to give them the tools they will need to be successful in graduate school and beyond.

**To the applicant:**

1. In a two- page essay (approximately 600 words, maximum 900), discuss a scholarly article or book chapter that you have read, either for a class or for another purpose. Choose a text that piqued your interest and made you think. Try to find something in the discipline of your proposed Mellon Mays project. Provide the following in your essay:
  - A summary of the author's main argument(s)
  - An account of why you feel this particular piece of scholarship is effective or successful in making its argument
  - An account of why you selected this particular piece of scholarship
  
2. In two pages (approximately 600 words, maximum 900), describe your proposed Mellon Mays research project. Why do you wish to do this project? What is the central question or set of questions your project is trying to answer? Which scholars have published work essential to your project?

**Application Due 3:00 pm, Friday, February 9, 2018  
In the College of Arts & Sciences, Cupples II, room 104**

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**in the College of Arts & Sciences, Cupples II, rm. 104  
http://artsci.wustl.edu/~college/Mellon\_Mays**

**Evaluation for:**

**Name of applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student waiver statement:**

\_\_\_ I agree that this evaluation is to remain confidential; I waive my right to see it.

\_\_\_ I may wish to see this evaluation at some later point; I do not waive my right to see it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**To the evaluator:**

Please comment on the applicant's seriousness of purpose, ability to undertake and complete (or potential to undertake and complete) the proposed lengthy project or course of study, and any other strengths and weaknesses you feel qualified to address and evaluate. Since the program encourages students to work closely with their mentors for a period of two years, any comments you can make concerning the student's level of **maturity, independence, creativity, open-mindedness, flexibility, ability to take initiative, and dedication to his/her course of study,** will be particularly helpful and appreciated. Should we add it is our expectation that faculty advisers meet a minimum of twice monthly with their advisees?

As one of the goals of the Mellon Mays program is to encourage students to continue their studies in graduate school, particularly, but not limited to Ph.D. programs in the social sciences and the humanities, any comments you can provide concerning this applicant's **motivation and intent to explore the possibility of graduate school education and his/her potential to succeed in such a program** will be extremely useful to the selection committee.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach your evaluation to this form and send it to: Racheal Heuermann, Administrative Assistant, The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, Campus Box 1117

For further information, please contact Dean Mary Laurita, Mellon Mays Administrative Coordinator, at 935-8667 or mlaurita@wustl.edu