Postdoctoral Fellowship
2019-20 Call for Applications (revised March 28, 2019)

The Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies will award one full-time Postdoctoral Fellowship for the 2019-2020 academic year. This fellowship is awarded on a competitive basis. It is designed to provide recent University of Michigan History or joint-History PhDs the opportunity to teach two undergraduate courses while pursuing revisions of their dissertations for publication. This award has been funded by a generous gift from Kenneth and Frances Aftel Eisenberg.

This fellow will form an integral part of the institute community and is expected to participate regularly in institute events. The Postdoctoral Fellow will collaborate with Graduate Student Research Fellows in designing/organizing the Friday workshops presented in 2019-20. This provides the fellows greater autonomy in shaping coherent scholarly forums around matters of interest to them. Fellows will convene in April 2019 shortly after the awards have been announced to begin the planning process.

Eligibility: The institute invites applications from 2018-19 University of Michigan History and joint-History PhD graduates as well as candidates who have defended their dissertations by June 24, 2019 (with a degree conferred by August 20, 2019). Preference will be given to those who have already defended their dissertations at the time of application or who can confirm a scheduled defense date. Failure to complete all requirements for the PhD by June 24, 2019, will result in withdrawal of the fellowship offer. Fellows are expected to maintain Ann Arbor residency during the fall and winter terms of their award, with exceptions for short research, conference, or personal leaves of absence. Fellows may not combine this award with appointments or teaching obligations at other institutions.

Award: The Postdoctoral Fellowship consists of a $52,500 salary, full benefits, and a $2,000 research fund. The salary will be paid evenly throughout the 2019-20 academic year, September to August. This fellow is expected to teach two courses.

Application: The application consists of the following:

• A statement describing the dissertation project and timeline for completion, as well as plans for research and writing during the fellowship year (500-1000 words).
• A teaching proposal, including descriptions of two proposed courses that may be taught during the fellowship year. Include a course from the current history curriculum along with a new course. Proposals will be evaluated, in part, by their potential to attract both history and non-history students, along with the department’s curricular needs (500-1500 words). We are open to all fields.
• A brief statement indicating the applicant’s possible contributions to the institute community during the fellowship year; also explain why affiliation with the institute is particularly useful and interesting at this point in the applicant’s training (100-200 words).
• A brief statement outlining a possible Friday workshop of your choice for implementation during the fellowship term (100-200 words).
• Two letters of recommendation, including at least one from the dissertation supervisor(s) and one from a faculty member who has supervised the applicant’s teaching. The advisor’s letter should address the timeline for dissertation completion. Please list the recommenders in the application.

Submit complete applications via email (eisenberginstitute@umich.edu) by noon, April 5, 2019. Institute staff will confirm receipt.

Notification: The fellowship award will be made by the institute’s Steering Committee and announced in late April or early May 2019. The institute will contact each applicant regarding the outcome of their application. To ensure that this award strengthens the undergraduate history curriculum, the Postdoctoral Fellow must consult with the associate chair as soon as possible after accepting this fellowship offer.