ENGAGED HUMANITIES INSTITUTE
May 11-12, 2023
Call for Applicants

Are you interested in designing courses that are more interdisciplinary and more engaging for a variety of students? Would you like to teach a Core Exploration course (X course) but haven’t found the time for syllabus design? Are you curious about the idea of connecting your pedagogy to public-facing outcomes but need a push to explore your options?

The Public Research Fellows, with the support of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and UP’s Core, invite applications for our pilot Engaged Humanities Institute, a 2-day workshop to support faculty from all UP schools, disciplines, and ranks in developing engaged humanities pedagogical approaches for new or revised courses. While we’re particularly interested in supporting faculty in the development of new X core courses, we welcome applicants who are working on any type of course. Participants will earn a $1000 stipend as they gain practical strategies for course design and classroom praxis, leaving the Institute with a set of concrete materials to build out a future course.

What are the Engaged Humanities?

The engaged humanities are a constellation of approaches that...
- seek to develop understandings of human experience and values (especially stories, art, faith, language, and history)
- through modes of interpretive inquiry (including open-ended discussion, reading and writing about primary texts, and denaturalizing "given" narratives with alternatives)
- that connect academic work with the world outside the classroom (via timely issues, interdisciplinary collaboration, or a focus on local/global communities).

Who are the Engaged Humanities For?

In short, EVERYONE! But the engaged humanities can be especially useful for faculty who are looking for new ways to engage their students and their teaching with interdisciplinary thinking, local communities, and professional development.

Institute activities will include:
- Sessions on putting interdisciplinarity into classroom practice, crafting engaged humanities assignments and activities, connecting coursework with student professional development, and leading engaging classroom discussions
- Community engagement roundtable with community members and UP faculty working in partnerships
- Time for guided course development work on your own
- Small group workshops to review and improve course/activity development

Participants can expect to leave the Institute with:
- A draft engaged humanities pedagogical rationale
- New or revised engaged course description and learning outcome(s)
- An engaged assignment and scaffolding for implementation
- Experience using the online Engaged Humanities toolkit for future steps in engaged humanities teaching

Apply by March 31, 2023
Submit this form to apply; send any questions to Jen McDaneld (mcdaneld@up.edu)