

**2015-2016 George Croft Williams Undergraduate Research Fellowship Competition
Department of Sociology
University of South Carolina**

The George Croft Williams Undergraduate Research Fellowship provides \$1500 in support to undergraduate Sociology majors to conduct original research with a faculty mentor. George Croft Williams was a Professor of Sociology at the University of South Carolina in the early 20th century. He also served as the general secretary of the then South Carolina Board of Charities and Corrections, and worked with New Deal legislation to promote social assistance in the region during the Great Depression.

Eligibility:

To be eligible, students must be majoring in Sociology, have an overall GPA of 3.3 or better, and a GPA of 3.3 or better in Sociology courses. As well, student must have junior standing or be at least two semesters out from graduation.

Applications are due: January 15, 2016

Email application as one complete PDF scanned document to the Undergraduate Director, Professor Shelley Smith, at smithsa@mailbox.sc.edu

**Information requested from *Students* applying for the
George Croft Williams Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

Student should prepare a 2-3 page proposal/project description to include the following:

1. **Background/knowledge in the field/literature review.** Be succinct. Include a discussion of the present understanding and/or state of knowledge concerning the question/problem or a discussion of the context of the scholarly or creative work. This section presents and summarizes the problem you intend to solve. This section should include documentation, references, and a review of the literature that supports the need for your research or creative endeavor.
2. **Research question or statement** – Very clearly state what you will be studying in 1-2 sentences.
3. **Project impact, significance, or purpose** - Keep the statement of significance brief
4. **Project Design or Methods** - Design and describe a work plan. This may include lab, or field-based explorations; use of population samples; experimental and control groups; statistical analysis; surveys or interviews; archival research; translating; ethnographic fieldwork; case studies; or other forms of analysis and synthesis of ideas and concepts. This section of the proposal should explain the details of the proposed plan.
5. **Project timeline** – Provide an overview of the timing for specific steps of your project. Projects must be completed within two semesters of start date.
6. **Budget and Narrative** - Your list of budget items and the calculations you have done to arrive at a dollar figure for each item must be summarized on the Budget form. This is a separate page from your proposal

**Information requested from *Faculty Advisor* in support of students applying for the
George Croft Williams Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

1) Please comment briefly on the student's readiness or preparation for this project.

You may include such factors as coursework, current or past research experience, strengths, weaknesses, intellectual ability, writing ability, analytical skills, initiative and maturity, and level of independence (novice through advanced).

2) What do you expect the student to gain from this project and experience? You may include such information as skill development and professional experience.

3) Briefly describe how you will work with the student during this project. Considering the tasks, deliverables, and timeline of this project, please address the specific ways you will help the applicant develop the skills and techniques needed to complete the project.

4) Faculty who have multiple students submitting proposals must rank each proposal.