



Graduate Civic Scholars Program

Graduate School

2020-2021 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Eligibility: Enrolled University of South Carolina graduate students in any master's or doctoral program and at any level of their studies are eligible to apply. Applicants **must graduate in May 2021 or after**, and if selected, must be available to attend the scheduled meeting times in May 2020 and during the fall 2020 and spring 2021 semesters (as specified).

Please note: The application instructions are for informational purposes only. DO NOT submit this form as an application. Applications must be submitted using the online form available at http://tiny.cc/GCSP2020_app.

Applicant's Name (First and Last)	
Applicant's Email	
Applicant's Preferred Phone	
Department	
Degree Program	
Start Date of Degree Program	
Anticipated Completion Date	
Graduate Director's Name	
Graduate Director's Email	
Academic Advisor's Name	
Academic Advisor's Email	

By submitting this application, I confirm that I will be available to participate in-person for seminars from May 11, 2020 to May 22, 2020 (Monday-Friday; exact dates and times TBA) and in 20 contact hours of in-person sessions from August 2020 to April 2021 (dates and times TBA). I also understand I will be required to present my work at the university research day.

Applicant's Name (Printed)

Applicant's Signature

Date

FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY:

Note: This information will not appear in your application for selection purposes and will be used for statistical purposes only.

What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary/ third gender
- Prefer to self-describe _____
- Prefer not to say

What is your nationality or of what country(ies) are you a citizen?

Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Not applicable

What is your race? Please mark all that apply.

- Black or African American
- White
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Other | Please specify: _____
- Not applicable

APPLICATION MATERIALS

All application materials are required to be considered for the program. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Heather Brandt, Associate Dean in the Graduate School, at (803) 777-4243 or GRADprofdev@sc.edu. Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend (or view recorded) informational [webinar](#) on January 24, 2020 from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. and/or attend the in-person information session on February 7, 2020 from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. in room 584 of the Close-Hipp Building. (Refer to timeline on page 5 for additional information.)

I. Items to be sent directly by your recommenders

Recommenders send all materials via email to GRADprofdev@sc.edu with “GCSP: Name of Applicant” (insert name of applicant) as the subject by the deadline of 5 p.m. on Monday, February 17, 2020.

A. A confidential letter of support from your advisor or a faculty mentor with whom you have worked closely:

This letter of support should address the following: 1) the value of the GCSP to your present and future teaching and scholarship; and 2) your potential for collaborative, publicly engaged teaching and/or scholarship. (For a definition of public scholarship, see below.) As noted, this letter should be sent via email to GRADprofdev@sc.edu with “GCSP: Name of Applicant” (insert name of applicant) as the subject by the deadline of 5 p.m. on Monday, February 17, 2020.

B. A confidential letter of support that addresses your abilities (or potential) to work as a partner with a community organization or previous work experience with public engagement:

This letter might come from a second faculty member, a community mentor, or a supervisor in a volunteer position. This letter should address any or all of the following: 1) your potential to bring a project to fruition; 2) your ability to work with a community partner; and/or 3) the viability of the proposed project (if appropriate). As noted, this letter should be sent via email to GRADprofdev@sc.edu with “GCSP: Name of Applicant” (insert name of applicant) as the subject by the deadline of 5 p.m. on Monday, February 17, 2020.

C. An email from your Director of Graduate Studies:

To ensure your department is aware of your participation, we require an email from the Director of Graduate Studies from your school/college stating: “NAME OF APPLICANT is in good standing in our department. If he/she is accepted, I support his/her participation in the Graduate Civic Scholars Program in 2020-2021.” This statement – **no more and no less** – should be emailed by your Director of Graduate Studies. As noted, this email should be sent via email to GRADprofdev@sc.edu with “GCSP: Name of Applicant” (insert name of applicant) as the subject by the deadline of 5 p.m. on Monday, February 17, 2020.

II. Items to be uploaded by the applicant

Using the online form, complete requested information by entering it into the online form and upload materials as one (1) PDF by the deadline of 5 p.m. on Monday, February 17, 2020.

A. Academic CV

This should be no longer than five pages and should include the following: 1) your projected date of graduation and your final degree; and 2) a list of academic accomplishments, including presentations, publications, exhibits, and teaching assignments.

B. Responses to the three questions below

The length of each response is indicated below.

1) EXPERIENCE:

What is your past involvement as a student, teacher, and/or scholar with publicly engaged scholarship, volunteerism, service learning, or community activism (see definition below)? What skills have you built in these areas? (**max. 500 words**)

2) CURRENT VISION AND SUSTAINABILITY (max. 750 words):

For this part of the application, you have a choice between Option A and Option B (specify in your response). Choose only one with a word limit of 750 words.

Option A: Describe a project that you would like to develop further that involves public scholarship or community engagement. This project can be in any stage – from the spark of an idea to a program that is already in place and on which you would like to build. How can participation in this program help you move the project further? How can this project forge interdisciplinary scholarship and cooperation? We would like to hear what excites you and where you can imagine applying the methodologies of this program.

Option B: Is there a community-based group or agency that you would like to partner with to develop a project for GCSP? What is the name of the group/organization? Do you currently have a relationship with this group/agency? Why would you like to work with this group/agency? Describe a project that you would like to develop that involves public scholarship or community engagement with this group/agency. We would like to hear what excites you about possibly working with this group or agency and how you hope to enhance your skills through such a project.

3) PERSPECTIVE:

How does your background, scholarly training, and/or life experiences relate to your interests in publicly engaged scholarship? How would your participation in this program advance your own scholarly development? We are particularly interested in the unique and diverse perspective you would bring to the program. (**max. 500 words**)

Definition of Public Scholarship

It may prove useful to you and those writing letters on your behalf to consider this definition of public scholarship from Imagining America (<http://imaginingamerica.org/>):

- *Public scholarship is scholarly or creative work integral to a [faculty member's] academic area. It is jointly planned, carried out, and reflected on by co-equal university and community partners. And it yields one or more public good products.*
- *Public good products may take diverse and plural forms, including but not limited to the following: peer reviewed individual or co-authored publications; presentations at academic and non-academic conferences and meetings; oral histories or ethnographies; interviews with or reflections by participants; program development; performances, exhibitions, installations, murals, or festivals; new K-16 curriculum, site designs or plans for “cultural corridors,” and other place-making work; and policy recommendations.*

TIMELINE

January 24, 2020	Webinar, 10 - 11 a.m. Register at: http://tiny.cc/GCSP2020 Note: All webinars are recorded for later viewing. Register to access the recorded version.
February 7, 2020	Information Session, 10 - 11 a.m. Room 584, Close-Hipp Building
February 17, 2020	Application Deadline Submit application materials via the online form by 5 p.m. on February 17 th .
March 6, 2020	2020-2021 Graduate Civic Scholars Announced
May 11-22, 2020	GCSP will meet Monday through Friday Dates and times TBA
August 2020 – April 2021	20 Contact Hours through In-Person Seminars Dates and times TBA
April 2021	Discover USC (or other) Presentation of project Date and time TBA

SELECTION PROCESS

The Selection Committee desires a broad campus representation. If there are multiple applicants from an academic program, the Graduate Director may be asked to rank applicants.

GCSP DIRECTORS

Allison Marsh, PhD, Faculty Director

Associate Professor, History

College of Arts & Sciences

Email: MARSHA@mailbox.sc.edu