

## Announcement

Summer Research Fellowships for Graduate Students  
at the University of Delaware in Material Culture Studies  
Public Engagement in Material Culture Institute (PEMCI)  
Summer 2010

### **Application deadline: 1 March 2010**

A limited number of \$4500 ten-week summer fellowships will be awarded to MA and PhD students in the arts, humanities, and social sciences pursuing research in material culture studies.

The fellowships aim to support material culture research while also promoting public engagement in the interpretation and preservation of our cultural heritage. The University's partnerships with such regional cultural institutions as the Winterthur Museum & Country Estate, the Delaware Art Museum, and the Hagley Museum in this initiative make this an especially exciting opportunity.

In addition to the research stipend, fellowship recipients will participate in a two-week Institute, "From Avatars to Sound Bites: Using Accessible Language and New Digital Technologies to Inform the Public about Cultural Heritage," to be held in June 2010. The institute will enhance their skills at oral presentation and provide hands-on experience with the digital technologies that museum educators and universities are using to strengthen public programming (e.g., Second Life, Facebook, interactive webpages, games). It will also encourage them to think about the potential role their research can play in society at large and to align their object-based research along a public dimension. For details on the institute and the fellowship program in general, see <http://www.materialculture.udel.edu/gradprog.html>.

Stipends of \$800 are also available for students applying *only* for the two-week Institute.

Summer fellows and other Institute participants will be required to give a public presentation about their research projects, e.g., an accessible and informative talk, an interactive session with adults or school children using new technologies, an interactive webpage or game. Their development as a multi-disciplinary cohort of material culture scholars will also be fostered during the academic year through seminars, including the fall 2010 1-credit course for undergraduates, "Interpreting Objects," and the annual "Material Culture Emerging Scholars Symposium" for graduate students at Winterthur in Spring 2011.

All continuing graduate students at the University of Delaware are eligible to apply. The awarding of a fellowship will preclude any other work obligations for the fellowship period, 1 June- 28 August 2010.

**To apply for a fellowship:**

By 1 March 2010, please send the following materials electronically to Bethany Gibson, College of Arts and Sciences ([bcgibson@udel.edu](mailto:bcgibson@udel.edu)):

- a cover note (no more than 500 words) indicating that you are applying for a summer fellowship and briefly summarizing the topic and approach of your MA or PhD proposal
- a 500-word statement of your research plan for summer 2010, including a discussion of the public presentation you'll develop as an outcome of the institute
- a curriculum vitae
- two letters of recommendation, including one from your graduate program director

**To apply for the Institute-only option:**

Awarding of the Institute-only stipend does not preclude other summer activities such as a paid internship, another fellowship, or other work obligations.

By 1 March 2010, please send the following materials electronically to Bethany Gibson, College of Arts and Sciences ([bcgibson@udel.edu](mailto:bcgibson@udel.edu)):

- a brief (no more than 250 words) statement indicating that you are applying for an Institute-only stipend, describing your research interest in material culture studies and in public engagement, and discussing the public presentation you'll develop as an outcome of the institute
- a curriculum vitae
- a letter of recommendation from your graduate program director