



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition (First-come, First-served): Mellon Foundation Higher Learning 2024 Call for Concepts

Date: 11/09/2023

Dear UNM Researchers,

In the interest of maintaining a grantmaking portfolio that supports inquiry into issues of vital social, cultural, and historical import, the Higher Learning program at the Mellon Foundation invites ideas for research and/or curricular projects focused on any of the following three areas:

- Cultures of US Democracy
- Environmental Justice Studies
- Social Justice and Disciplinary Knowledge

The Principal Investigator (PI) should be a faculty member or dean in a program or department in the humanities or humanistic social sciences, or the institution's provost, and should have the support of the institution's senior academic leadership.

The Mellon Foundation anticipates allocating up to \$10 million for this call for concepts (with anticipated grant amounts ranging between \$250,000 and \$500,000); the final number of proposals selected will depend on the number and substance of the submissions. Mellon Higher Learning staff will review all submissions and invite a small number of the most promising ones to be developed into full proposals for potential grant funding. Full proposal invitations will be issued during the summer of 2024, and final grant recommendations will be presented for consideration in September, October, and November of 2024.

### **Eligible Fields of Study**

Please note that this list may not comprise every eligible discipline for this call for concepts.

- American Studies
- Ancient Civilizations
- Anthropology (excluding physical anthropology) and Archaeology
- Architecture (historical or theoretical focus)
- Area Studies (humanistic focus)
- Art History
- Classics
- Communication (theoretical focus)
- Comparative Literature
- Comparative Religion
- Cultural Studies

- English
- Environmental Studies: The study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.
- Ethics
- Ethnic Studies
- Film, Cinema and Media Studies (theoretical focus)
- Fine Arts
- Foreign Languages and Literatures, both modern and classical
- Gender and Sexuality Studies
- Geography (excluding physical geography)
- History
- History of Science/Science Studies
- Interdisciplinary Studies: Interdisciplinary areas of study may be eligible if they have one or more eligible fields at their core.
- Linguistics
- Literature
- Medieval Studies
- Musicology, Ethnomusicology and Music Theory
- Performance Studies (theoretical focus)
- Philosophy and Political Theory
- Religious Studies
- Rhetoric
- Sociology (qualitative)
- Theater (theoretical focus)
- Urban Studies

More details can be found [here](#). The deadline for submitting final registration information to the sponsor is 3pm EST on November 30, 2023. Concept submissions are due by 3pm EST on February 15, 2024.

This is a limited competition. **Each institution may submit no more than three (3) applications for this call.** *Please note: The registered applicant will display as the PI on the application form and **cannot** be changed.* If you are interested in applying to this program, please submit a statement of interest (200 words) describing your ideas for a potential project, with a tentative project title by **NOON on November 16, 2023** via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). **\*\*Because of the short turnaround time, this limited competition will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. This means that the first three SOIs we receive will be given the three UNM slots.\*\*** To see if applicants for a first-come, first-served opportunity have already been selected, visit the [Limited Competition website](#) and use the "Filter by Award Title" function to search for the opportunity if it isn't visible on the first page.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu).

*If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at [HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu](mailto:HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu) for more information.*