

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENN PROGRAM ON DEMOCRACY, CITIZENSHIP, AND CONSTITUTIONALISM
DCC POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH AND TEACHING FELLOWSHIP

Application Guidelines

The Penn Program on Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism (DCC) invites applications for a one-year DCC Postdoctoral Fellow in any discipline whose research is pertinent to the Program's 2015-2016 theme, "Digital Media and the Future(s) of Democracy."

The long-term impacts of disruptive new technologies are always difficult to predict. This is particularly true for the emergence, spread and evolution of digital media over the last several decades. Do web-based, mobile, and social media provide unprecedented opportunities to democratize the production of news and public information, or do they only weaken the authority and legitimacy of professional journalists? Do they improve the efficiency and accountability of governments and businesses, or do they provide new tools for government and corporate surveillance? Do they enable democratic movements against repressive regimes, or do they provide these regimes greater means of repression? Do they facilitate and even redefine the nature of civic and political engagement, or do they divert attention from public life and issues? Do they contribute to new forms of citizenship and identity that cross national and social boundaries, or do they harden national, ethnic, religious and social divides? Do they serve as public spaces for deliberation and rational discourse, or do they amplify extreme voices that contribute to the fracturing of societies along ideological lines?

The DCC program welcomes applicants engaged in empirical or normative scholarship, focused comparatively or on particular nations, regions, or communities, that explores these questions and seeks to assess the complex impact of the radically evolving media landscape on democratic politics, as well as on the closely related issues of citizenship and constitutional government.

Through the DCC Postdoctoral Fellowships, we hope to attract young scholars to Penn for research while also giving them the opportunity to teach one course in their area of interest to some of the nation's finest students. The DCC Postdoctoral Fellow, who will serve a term of two semesters, will have a departmental affiliation and will be expected to be on campus during the academic year (September-May) of their fellowship.

Each year, in addition to sponsoring a postdoctoral fellow, the DCC program also hosts a faculty seminar and conference on the annual theme, sponsors a graduate research workshop, and funds undergraduate research grants and symposia.

The DCC Fellow will teach one Undergraduate Seminar in either the fall or spring semester of the year of their appointment at Penn. The Fellow will also be expected to attend sessions of the faculty seminar series and annual conference; to supervise monthly meetings of undergraduates undertaking research projects funded by the Program, along with the Program's Chair; to attend sessions of the DCC Graduate Workshop as often as possible; and to provide general assistance to the DCC program.

Applicants will be asked to specify the department where they would like to teach, and to indicate their own preferences for a faculty mentor (with a list of no more than three [3] possibilities). The DCC program's administrators will find the best fit between an applicant and a mentor on the basis of faculty willingness and research interests. *Applicants need not contact potential mentors prior to applying.*

The chair and undergraduate chair of the department will work with the Fellow on matters of teaching. The mentor assigned to the Fellow will be responsible for helping the Fellow connect to the research resources and community at Penn. Each Fellow will thus be attached to a department, the DCC Program, and the wider community of pertinent scholarship and teaching at Penn.

The stipend for 2015-2016 is \$53,800, plus personal health insurance. International scholars are welcome. Applicants should have received the PhD no earlier than May 2010 but must have completed all requirements for the PhD by September 30, 2015.

We are delighted that the Mellon Foundation has given us this opportunity to widen the intellectual community and support our best teaching programs at the University of Pennsylvania.

Application process.

Applications will be submitted through [Interfolio](#).
The application deadline is March 15, 2015.

In addition to the Personal and Profile information requested by Interfolio, the following information and documents will be required:

Information

1. Home Telephone Number
2. Mobile Telephone Number
3. Country of Citizenship
4. Country of Permanent Residence
5. Current Position (Indicate your title, department, institution, and City/State). If you are not employed, please state what you are currently doing.
6. Potential mentors (**three**) - faculty members at the University of Pennsylvania) for the completion of your project as described (you do not need to contact the faculty yourself.)

Documents to be uploaded

1. **CV** - Include Teaching Experience (including institution, position, and dates held), Fellowships and Scholarships received, and all Publications (note refereed publications with an asterisk)
2. **Title and Description of Two Undergraduate Course Proposals** - Single-spaced (one page each) proposals of possible Undergraduate Seminars you would like to teach at Penn.
3. **Title and Description of Proposed Research Study** – No more than 1,000 words.

4. **Confidential Letters of Recommendation (three)** - Referees should be asked both to comment on your proposed project and to discuss your qualifications as a teacher.
5. **Writing Sample** – An article or excerpt of a book or dissertations chapter. (20 page limit.)
6. **Cover Letter**