

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EARLY MODERN STUDIES

SUMMER MENTORSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 6, 2026

This summer mentorship is only available to students who are currently participating in the Certificate program and have met program requirements.

The Center for 17th- & 18th-Century Studies awards competitive summer mentorships to students participating in the Graduate Certificate in Early Modern Studies based on the strength of their proposed projects. The summer mentorship provides financial support in the form of a \$6,000 award to complete the required 25-page paper on an early modern studies topic of interdisciplinary breadth, and offers an opportunity for students to work closely with a faculty mentor to develop their paper for presentation at an academic conference or for potential publication. Students who are not awarded a mentorship or who have other sources of summer funding may still complete program requirements and be awarded a certificate.

Awardees are expected to complete a draft of their paper by the end of the summer, and to present it at a work-in-progress session during Fall quarter with their mentor in attendance. The completed paper must be submitted, along with a letter of approval by the faculty mentor detailing the mentoring relationship, to the Certificate Core Committee for final approval by the end of the 2026-27 academic year.

It is the student's responsibility to approach affiliated faculty (preferably the instructor of a relevant seminar) to arrange a summer mentorship. Students are advised to contact prospective mentors well in advance of the application deadline, as participation in summer mentorships is at the discretion of individual faculty.

The summer mentorship program begins June 22 and ends September 11, 2026. The award will be submitted for disbursement in one lump sum the week of July 6, 2026.

In order to be eligible to apply for a summer mentorship, students enrolled in the Certificate program must:

- Have satisfactorily completed (3.0 GPA or above) at least two 200-level graduate seminars on interdisciplinary early modern topics from the list of pre-approved seminars.
- Have not yet advanced to candidacy.
- Be U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents. International students are also eligible to apply provided that they have an F-1 or J-1 Visa in effect for the duration of the mentorship and a Social Security Number or ITIN.
- Have been enrolled/registered the previous Spring and will be enrolled/registered the following Fall.

If these conditions are not met, the awardee will be required to repay the summer award.

To apply for a summer mentorship, students must submit:

- 1) A project description of no more than 1,000 words which includes a clear goal for what the summer mentorship will achieve (e.g., an article suitable for publication or for presentation at a conference). The project description should make clear the argument, the contribution of the proposed research, and the research approach or methodology. The proposal will be evaluated by an interdisciplinary committee that may or may not include faculty in the student's own field of study.
- 2) A signed letter on departmental letterhead from the mentor describing the mentoring relationship and the paper that the student will complete during the summer. The letter should detail preparation of summer research and mentoring activities that will ready the applicant's research for publication or conference presentation.
- 3) Unofficial transcripts documenting satisfactory completion (3.0 GPA or above, no incompletes) of two 200-level graduate seminars from the list of approved seminars.

Please submit application documents via email by **May 6, 2026 to:**

Jeanette LaVere, Manager of Programs & Development
UCLA Center for 17th- & 18th-Century Studies
Email: jlavere@humnet.ucla.edu

This interdisciplinary certificate is administered by