

2020 PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS IN SOCIETY AND NEUROSCIENCE: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Columbia University is pleased to announce interdisciplinary postdoctoral positions in the [Presidential Scholars in Society and Neuroscience](#) program for researchers who have earned the doctorate, or its equivalent, in: (1) a humanities, arts, or social science discipline – such as psychiatry, psychology, public health, law, history, economics, literature, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, political science, journalism, music, and the arts – and who have extensive acquaintance with, and critical understanding of, neuroscience research; OR (2) neuroscience or a related discipline in the natural sciences and who have extensive acquaintance with, and critical understanding of, another discipline in the arts, humanities, or social sciences. These Scholars will join an innovative program, Presidential Scholars in Society and Neuroscience, which includes up to nine postdoctoral scholars and a large group of mentors and affiliated faculty from the arts, humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

Over the last decade, Columbia University has assembled a distinguished group of neuroscientific researchers in the Zuckerman Mind, Brain, Behavior Institute, which stands poised to become one of the most important loci of neuroscience research in the world. Columbia University is committed to supplementing the groundbreaking experimental inquiry of the neuroscience faculty by systematic investigation into the conceptual underpinnings and the social foundations and consequences of such newly obtained knowledge. The Presidential Scholars in Society and Neuroscience program will add the perspective of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and the arts to intensify and broaden the neuroscientific research base and help advance transformative interdisciplinary research throughout the University.

The goal of the program is to train and support a new generation of scholars with the capacity to advance understanding of the humanistic and social dimensions of mind, brain, and behavior. To foster true interdisciplinary research, each Presidential Scholar will work closely with at least two faculty mentors, at least one drawn from neuroscience and the other(s) from the arts, humanities or social science discipline closest to the work proposed by the Scholar.

Successful applicants will be appointed in the Center for Science and Society at Columbia University for a total of three years. Appointments will be made at the level of postdoctoral scholar or scientist, or associate research scholar or scientist, with a start date of **July 1, 2020, for the 2020-21 academic year**. Renewal for the second and third years will be based on satisfactory performance. The annual salary will be approximately \$80,000, plus benefits.

While applications will be open until all positions are filled, **only complete applications that are submitted by Monday, December 2, 2019**, will be included in the first round of reviews.

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

Eligibility: Candidates must hold a doctoral-level degree (PhD, EdD, JD, MD, etc.) by **July 1, 2020**, and must have received this degree after **July 1, 2015**. Review of applications will begin **December 2, 2019**, and will continue until the positions are filled. Only complete applications received by this date will be included in the first round of reviews. All applications must be submitted through the Columbia University Human Resources' online Recruitment of Academic Personnel System ([RAPS](#)) and must include:

1. Cover Letter
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. PhD Dissertation Abstract (if applicable)
4. Writing sample(s) totaling up to 30 pages (articles or book chapter preferred)
5. Proposal for an interdisciplinary research project (or projects) that build(s) on the applicant's current disciplinary background and brings together an aspect of neuroscientific research with research in the arts, humanities, and/or social sciences. **Please refer to the "Instructions for Research Proposal" for specific requirements.**
6. Work sample or portfolio (if applicable – for applicants with a background in the arts)
7. Three letters of reference to be uploaded to the site below

To apply, visit:

<https://pa334.peopleadmin.com/postings/4170>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Please submit the Research Proposal as a single PDF document with a clear title. It should include the following:

1. COVER PAGE
 - a. Include the title of proposal.
 - b. Include an executive summary or abstract of the project.
 - c. List your proposed faculty mentors with their titles and affiliated schools.
 - i. Select at least one full-time faculty mentor from Columbia University or Barnard College from the arts, humanities, or social sciences.
 - ii. Select at least one full-time faculty mentor from Columbia University or Barnard College from the (neuro)sciences.
 - iii. Applicants are not required to contact their selected mentors prior to submitting their applications.

2. PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

- a. The proposal narrative should be no more than 10 pages double-spaced in 12-point font.
- b. The narrative must include a statement of interdisciplinarity, explaining how the project brings together neuroscience research and at least one other discipline in a novel way to advance understanding of mind, brain, and behavior.
- c. The narrative must include a timeline of research for the three years of the position.

3. ITEMIZED PROJECTED BUDGET

- a. Please include an estimate of any anticipated experimental and equipment costs; membership, conference, and travel expenses; costs associated with rental or use of any internal or external resources; publication costs, etc.

4. BUDGET NARRATIVE

- a. Provide a succinct description and justification of the project expenses itemized in the budget.

5. FIGURES AND TABLES (AS NEEDED)

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/ OR REFERENCES CITED

7. PLAN TO SECURE EXTERNAL FUNDING (AS NEEDED)

- a. If appropriate, include a brief plan for securing external funding, referencing specific grants, granting agencies, or foundations that may be appropriate for your project. A modest research allowance will be available, but it may not fully cover the costs of many projects.