

August 6, 2009

Dear Applicant,

The Rutgers University **Center for Cultural Analysis (CCA)**, an interdisciplinary research center, announces a competition for visiting postdoctoral fellowships for 2010-2011 on the topic *The Everyday and the Ordinary*.

Fellows will receive a \$45,000 stipend with benefits and support for their research, with office space located in the Center. Fellows will be invited to teach one upper-level undergraduate course in one semester of the year's residence. They will also be expected to participate in all of the Center's programs on the year's subject, and in other related activities. Fellows are encouraged to participate in the life of the university in any number of various ways – by, for example, lecturing or participating in other faculty members' scheduled classes, offering an occasional colloquium or lecture, or participating in reading groups other than those officially connected with the year's subject. At the conclusion of the year, all fellows will be asked to provide a summary report of their year's work at the Center.

Non-funded fellowships are also available. These carry no stipend but provide full access to all Center activities and possible support for research. All fellowships, funded and non-funded, must be applied for with the External Fellowship Application Form.

The Center will host a series of visits and lectures from important scholars working on the subject of the year's program.

The Center invites scholars from all disciplinary perspectives and methodologies -- empirical, analytical, literary, historical, theoretical. Special consideration will be given to projects that are markedly interdisciplinary in approach.

The following pages describe the topic and procedures for study in 2010-11; an application form is attached. We invite your inquiries about any aspect of the application process or about the year's program on *The Everyday and the Ordinary*.

Yours sincerely,



Meredith L. McGill
Director

The Everyday and the Ordinary

For its 2010-11 program, the Center for Cultural Analysis invites research proposals on topics related to the everyday and the ordinary. A longstanding interest of many disciplines, including history, art history, anthropology, sociology and philosophy, as well as literary and cultural studies, the everyday and the ordinary have enjoyed a conceptual resurgence in recent years. For some theorists, everydayness holds out what may be the last promise for genuine democracy and solidarity not just between individuals but also between people and the environment. For others, everyday activity remains a productive site of resistance to repressive social formations, especially for those who are otherwise disempowered. And for others still, the everyday constitutes what Henri Lefebvre (after Marx) flatly terms “the irreducible core of appearances” in a world that has “been torn away from us” under capitalism. As perhaps the last refuge, then, for a politics and an ecology unassailable on moral grounds, especially in a world consumed by globalization and imperia of various kinds, the everyday is as remote or anterior as it is close at hand and a template for the future. Accordingly, we are very much interested in “our” everyday or the ordinary toward which we increasingly incline—from green and locavore initiatives to the virtual or cyber world that both mimics and collapses the alienation that everydayness has been mobilized to oppose. We are also interested in how the everyday has evolved or has been conceived over time and across cultures, both in art and in scholarly and disciplinary practice. We are particularly concerned with a paradox central to most considerations of the everyday and the ordinary: namely, how something so close and omnipresent is invariably conceived as something strange or, quoting Stanley Cavell, as “the extraordinariness within the ordinariness of our lives.” Proposals are invited from the many disciplines concerned with this topic.

Application for External Fellowship

Please submit **4** copies of your completed application packet postmarked no later than Friday, January 8, 2010. All completed application packets must be typed (single-space), stapled, and must include:

1. Completed, typed application form;
2. Description of your research project, with title (no more than 4 single-spaced pages);
3. Title and description of an advanced undergraduate course you are interested in teaching (no more than 1 single-spaced page);
4. Curriculum Vitae

Letters of reference must also be postmarked no later than January 8, 2010.

1. Full Name:

2. Rank:

Department:

3. Institutional affiliation:

4. Professional address:

5. Professional phone number:

6. Email Address (please print or type only)

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7. Home address:

8. Home phone number:

9. Education:

Institution

Degree

Dates

10. Professional positions, beginning with present:

Institution

Position

Dates

11. Fellowships: List all fellowships you have held in the past 5 years.

Type (e.g., Guggenheim; NEH)

Dates

12. Title of your research project and 150 word Abstract (use separate sheet).

13. Description of the project: Please attach additional sheets, as necessary, up to four single-spaced pages to describe your project, how it relates to the CCA theme, and how a CCA fellowship will contribute to your work.

14. List of referees: Please request three referees to submit letters of recommendation (on their own letterhead) directly to the Center by January 10, 2010. List these three referees here:

1)

2)

3)

Applications without all three letters of recommendation will be considered as incomplete and will be reviewed as such. Letters of recommendation should address the pertinence of the project to the seminar theme; please do not submit job recommendation letters.



School of Arts and Sciences

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: If you have not received acknowledgment of receipt of your application by 1 February 2010, please contact Curtis Dunn at info@cca.rutgers.edu or (732) 932-8426.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Applications will be judged by the Executive Committee of the CCA. Successful candidates will be notified of the Center's decision by March 1, 2010. Formal letters to all applicants will follow. Decisions of the Center are final and are not subject to appeal.

NOTE ON ELIGIBILITY: In order to take up a postdoctoral fellowship at the CCA, all requirements for the Ph.D. must be completed before June 30, 2010. Preference will be given to recent Ph.D.s -- scholars in the first ten years of their academic careers -- but more advanced scholars are welcome to apply.