

**Dissertation Fellowship  
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**

Two dissertation fellowships will be awarded in the 2009-2010 academic year for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar “Diversity and Conformity in Muslim Societies: Historical Coexistence and Contemporary Struggles” at UNC- Chapel Hill. This interdisciplinary seminar will examine the tensions between diversity and conformity, between tolerance and orthodoxy, in Muslim societies. The seminars will include faculty and students from all of the Triangle Universities and other North Carolina schools, drawing from scholars who study history, geography, politics, music, art, architecture, religion, and law.

The dissertation fellows will be expected to contribute to this seminar, working closely with Sarah Shields (History) and Banu Gokarikel (Geography and International Studies) and one postdoctoral fellow to plan, organize, and participate in twice-monthly seminar meetings and three conferences during the academic year. The appointment will be from 15 August 2009 to 15 May 2010. Appointment is in place of a TA or other graduate stipend. Salary is \$ 15,000 and includes health insurance and tuition remission.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be advanced UNC-Chapel Hill graduate students in any discipline working on any topic related to the themes of this Seminar. If you wish to receive a copy of the Sawyer Seminar program, please contact one of the conveners at the email addresses below.

**Application:** Letters of application and supporting material should include the following: 1) A two-page cover letter stating your interest in the dissertation fellowships. Provide details on (i) how your research would benefit from and contribute to the Sawyer Seminar; (ii) your related research and organizing experience, (iii) your long-term goals; 2) A *curriculum vitae*; 3) Two letters of reference; 4) One writing sample (up to 25 pages).

**Apply:** Send all application materials by 5pm on February 23, 2009 to: [sshields@email.unc.edu](mailto:sshields@email.unc.edu) and [banug@email.unc.edu](mailto:banug@email.unc.edu). Recommendation letters should be emailed directly by the recommenders to these email addresses by the same deadline.

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