UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

THE HUMANITIES CENTER

Humanities Center Student Fellowship and Scholarship

Dear Student of High Achievement,

I would like to tell you about a special opportunity available to you through the Humanities Center at the University of Hartford.

The Humanities Center is accepting applications for Student Fellows for next year's seminar. Students with a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average who will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors in the 2024-25 academic year are eligible to participate in the Humanities Center as Student Fellows. You do not need to be an honors student to apply.

As a Fellow, you will attend a two-semester honors seminar based on a theme. **Ayelet Brinn, Assistant Professor of History and Judaic Studies,** will lead the Humanities Center Seminar next year. She has selected the theme of **"Banned Books"** for the seminar. Here you will get to know some of the brightest students at the University of Hartford. You will also attend lectures by both university faculty and visiting speakers who are doing research on this theme. Here is a description of the seminar:

This seminar explores the history and politics of banning, censoring, and burning books, in both the US and abroad. Reflected most recently in the rise in book banning in schools and libraries, censorship tends to focus on texts that stretch social boundaries in their depictions of race, sexuality, politics, gender, religion, and science. In the seminar, you will study banned books (such as the writings of Galileo, Darwin, and Judy Blume) within their historical context, compare and contrast the treatment of different texts across time and space, and examine the relationship between power, culture, and literacy in society. You will also read banned books and about the history of censorship while developing strategies for critically analyzing the arguments made for and against such censoring.

The Fall semester will be a traditional discussion-centered seminar-style class. The Spring semester will be a series of lectures by faculty members and visiting speakers on the topic of "Banned Books."

Students who are selected for this seminar are awarded a fellowship, receive a stipend of \$1000 and take the seminar for a total of six credits, three in the fall term and three in the spring term.* The courses are listed as HON 389 in the fall 2024 schedule and HON 390 in the spring 2025 schedule. The class meets both semesters on Wednesday evenings, 5:00-7:20 pm, and student fellows must take both semesters.

To apply, send an email by Monday, April 1, to Dr. Ayelet Brinn (brinn@hartford.edu) and to me (Dr. Nicholas Ealy, Humanities Center Director, at ealy@hartford.edu) that includes the following information:

- your name
- a brief explanation of why you want to participate in the Seminar (1 page)
- your major and minor (if you have one)
- your grade point average
- your e-mail address
- your student ID number

If you send your application as an attachment to your email, please make sure that (1) you have your name on the attached document and (2) you have your name as the name of the attached file (example: NicholasEaly.docx or NicholasEaly.pdf).

Do not attempt to register for HON 389 (Fall '24). Once accepted, you will be registered for it by the Humanities Center. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact me at ealy@hartford.edu. In the meantime, I recommend you register for four classes for fall 2024, as this would be a fifth class for you.

Sincerely,

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Nicholas Ealy / Director, Humanities Center

* Students who already receive a full tuition discount are not eligible for the stipend.