

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 honors seminar. Students with a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average who will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors in the 2023-24 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. **Rashmi Viswanathan, Assistant Professor of Art History**, will lead the Humanities Center Seminar next year. She has selected the theme of **"Fiction, Fabulation, Futurity"** 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 class will examine how artists and writers have used fictional stories to reimagine the future of human existence in ways that involve new concepts of race, ethnicity, class, sex and gender. Along the way, you will explore how these "reimagined futures" raise questions regarding how we think about these concepts in our contemporary "real world." To help with this, you will study artists and writers who have recreated ideas of place (such as Sun Ra and Gloria Anzaldúa), you will read novels like Art Spiegelman's *Maus* and Octavia Butler's *Kindred*, you will watch films and television episodes (such as *Whale Rider* and the *Watchmen*), examine concepts like future urban design, the human body as a cosmos, and much more. For the final project, you will curate an imagined exhibition – where you envision a future world of your own – based on a topic of your choice.

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 "Fiction, Fabulation, Futurity."

Students who are selected for this seminar are awarded a fellowship, receive a stipend of at least \$500 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 2023 schedule and HON 390 in the spring 2024 schedule. **The class meets both semesters on Monday evenings, 5:00-7:20 pm, and student fellows must take both semesters.**

To apply, send an email by Monday, April 3, to Dr. Rashmi Viswanathan (viswanath@hartford.edu) and to me (Dr. Nicholas Ealy, Humanities Center Director, at ealy@hartford.edu) that includes the following information:

- 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 '23). 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 2023, as this would be a fifth class for you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicholas Ealy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Nicholas Ealy
Director, Humanities Center

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