TO: RICE FACULTY IN THE HUMANISTIC DISCIPLINES
FROM: SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND THE HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTER

Deadline: MARCH 14, 2014

The Rice Seminar is designed to promote humanistic research, broadly understood. It brings together a select group of Rice faculty members, visiting scholars, and Rice graduate students to study a common theme from several disciplinary perspectives. The most visible goal of the seminar is a scholarly publication to which all participants will contribute. Equally important but less visible will be the creation of international and interdisciplinary scholarly communities that will outlive the seminar itself. After the year in residence, seminar participants will attend follow-up meetings primarily aimed towards completing the book publication or some other appropriate outcome. The topic of the Rice Seminars will change every year.

Participants: In terms of its makeup, the format of the Rice Seminar is flexible in order to accommodate requirements best suited to a particular theme. A minimum of ten participants is set and their makeup can, for example, be as follows:
- Two Rice Faculty Seminar Leaders
- Two Rice Faculty Participants
- Four Visiting Scholars at any rank (Post-doc to Senior)
- Two Rice Graduate Student Participants

Responsibilities, Compensation, and Budget: Applications should, ideally, be submitted jointly by two Rice faculty members, one of whom is from the School of Humanities. While the two faculty applicants may be from the School of Humanities and even from the same department, the theme for the Rice Seminar must be broad enough to be of interest across disciplines. Applicants will act as seminar leaders and will be expected to coordinate all seminar activities from inception to completion. The two Rice faculty seminar leaders receive a research supplement of $4K and one course release per semester (to be determined in consultation with, and approved by, their respective department chairs and/or deans). Additional Rice faculty participants receive a $4K research supplement and one course release per year (to be determined in consultation with, and approved by, their respective department chairs and/or deans). The Rice Seminar does not provide funding for teaching replacements. Visiting scholars will receive a stipend not to exceed $60,000 per year, eligibility for Rice medical benefits, and a moving allowance Houston. Visiting postdoctoral scholars will be expected to teach one semester-long course at either the undergraduate or graduate level. The Rice graduate student participants will receive $5K in addition to their usual support. If authorized by their department, they may receive course credit

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for seminar participation. The seminar will receive a budget to bring in outside speakers to give public talks, provide feedback, meet with the seminar participants, and otherwise engage with seminar participants and the broader Rice community.

Application Requirements: The proposal should consist of an eight-to-ten page description of the seminar, addressing the following items:

- An overview of the intended structure of the seminar (e.g. frequency of meetings, focus of meetings, shared resources, etc.)
- Indications of who the seminar leaders plan to recruit as additional participants and the two graduate student participants
- Projected outcomes of the seminar, both tangible (such as a book publication) and intangible (such as new collaborations)
- The scholarly promise and originality of the proposed topic
- Intervention in scholarly fields, and significance with contemporary contexts
- The intellectual distinction of the previous work of applicants
- The research project’s potential interest to scholars in different fields
- The seminar’s potential for promoting interaction among scholars within and beyond Rice
- The seminar’s international reach
- The seminar’s potential to raise the profile of humanistic research and pedagogy at Rice
- A two-page CV of both applicants
- A note from each seminar leader’s department chairs (or dean if the applicant serves as a chair) indicating approval for the applicant to receive a two-course reduction should the seminar be funded

For more information on the seminar and for queries, please contact: Lauren Kleinschmidt at laurenk@rice.edu

Proposals must be submitted to the Humanities Research Center, 306 Herring Hall (MS-620) or hrc@rice.edu