

Thompson Scholar Summer Research Program

Description

The Thompson Scholar Summer Research Program at University of Kansas is an opportunity to spend 2 months of summer doing graduate research in political science. Each spring approximately 6 graduate students will be selected to work on research projects with Kansas University political science faculty members. Selected students will receive a scholarship of \$3,000 and are expected to work closely with faculty on various research projects. Students and professors are expected to attend a political science conference the following academic year to present research findings. One of objectives of this program is to publish such findings in political science journals/books.

Dates

June, July.

Research Topics and Faculty Advisors

Each spring, the graduate committee will select at least 3 faculty to lead projects. Faculty will be required to submit a one – page proposal, which includes topic of research, intended work to be accomplished in summer, and potential conference for presentation of research. The expectation is that research will be presented at a conference and submitted for publication. Faculty may apply every other year and if numbers demand it will be selected by random draw after proposals are received. Selected topics and faculty will then be advertised and graduate students encouraged to apply for the program.

Requirements

To apply for the program, a student must satisfy the following requirements.

1. Complete at least one year of graduate political science classes, including POLS 705 and 706 and be in good standing.
2. Commit significant time to the summer program and be available for the summer months of June and July.
3. Participate in all required program work, as designated by faculty advisor, including presentation at conference.

Application Process

Applicants must submit a political science resume and a personal statement to graduate studies committee. The graduate committee will meet to review applications and applicants will be notified as soon as selections are made. Deadline for submission: March 1st

Political Science Resume

Your resume should contain the following information

1. GPA for all courses taken in KU graduate program.
2. List of courses taken in program that may be relevant for summer research.
3. Participation in other related activities – including past research and Political Science Department activities.
4. The name of faculty that may serve as your reference

Personal Statement

Your personal statement should contain the following information and be no longer than 2 pages.

1. Why you should be selected to participate in the program? How would you benefit from participation in the program?
2. What special skills would you bring to the program?
3. What are your goals for the summer?
4. Specify which project is most appealing to you.