



The Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity in collaboration with
the Office of Graduate Diversity and Inclusion presents

**FALL 2023 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:
ADVANCED DOCTORAL STUDENT
DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP AWARDS**

Cultivating Emerging Qualitative/Mixed Methods Scholars

Deadline: Monday, October 30th 2023 at 5:00 PM EST

The [Qualitative Research Interest Group \(QRIG\)](#) is pleased to announce the ninth annual dissertation award fellows program for advanced doctoral students engaged in research using qualitative or mixed (qualitative and quantitative) methods.

Applicants who have successfully passed their dissertation proposal requirements, have completed data collection, are engaged in data analysis and in the final writing stages of the dissertation are eligible. Emphasis is placed on dissertations that employ the intersections of race, gender, class, ethnicity, and other dimensions of structural inequalities as they affect the lived experiences of individuals or groups and shape the construction of complex social relations in U.S. society. *All studies* need to identify basic demographic characteristics of the multiple-layered identities under study, such as age, gender, nativity, parental education, etc. as these factors are strongly associated with lived experience.¹

Program

The award provides \$500-\$2,500 for doctoral candidates to fund data analysis costs for dissertations that primarily use qualitative research methods (including participant observations, in-depth interviews, focus groups, life histories, or ethnographies with human subjects) or mixed qualitative and quantitative methods. The investigator may request funds for research equipment (e.g., recorders), transcription, data analysis software (e.g., NVivo or Atlas TI), data analysis training (e.g., NVivo workshop), a qualitative program consultant, or editor. Travel for data collection and participant incentives will **not** be funded. These funds are intended to assist participants with data analyses and the completion of their dissertation.

Eligibility

Applicants must have:

- Successfully defended the dissertation proposal by **August 31, 2023** and completed data collection by **November 1, 2023**.
- A letter from dissertation chair confirming advanced doctoral candidate status.

¹ See Dill, B.T. & Zambrana, R.E. (Eds.). (2009). *Emerging Intersections: Race, Class, and Gender in Theory, Policy and Practice*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0813544557 ISBN-10: 0813544556;
Misra, J., Curington, C. V., & Green, V. M. (2021). Methods of intersectional research. *Sociological Spectrum*, 41(1), 9–28.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02732173.2020.1791772>



- Conducted a dissertation where the *primary* focus of the data collection is on the meaning of events in the lives of study participants (i.e., an interpretative approach) rather than collecting only data that measure the frequency of events (i.e., a survey approach).
- Completed the CITI training in Social/Behavioral research with human subjects.
- Secured prior Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for dissertation study.
- A commitment to the [mission and vision](#) of CRGE.

Application Requirements

The award application consists of:

1. An **abstract** of 150 words or less.
2. A **proposal** (brief description of the dissertation study, see guiding questions under *Application Preparation Guidelines*), no longer than five (5) pages in length (with 12-point font). It should be addressed to “non-specialists.”
3. List of **References/Works Cited** included in your proposal.
4. A **justified budget** that proposes funding of a sum between \$500 and \$2,500 by stating what funds will be used for and why. Funds may be used for direct research costs related to qualitative data analysis. Award amounts will depend on the number and quality of awards approved.
5. **Timeline** for completing and defending the dissertation.
6. **Letter of support** from dissertation chair confirming the approval of the dissertation proposal and the completion of data collection.
7. Current **CV**.
8. Current **IRB approval** letter for the dissertation project.
9. Copy of **certificate** for CITI Human Subjects Research Training completion.

Application Preparation Guidelines

It is important that the submission offer a clear roadmap and a plan to complete data analysis. The executive committee understands that qualitative research is emergent. However, it is reasonable for you to give the committee a sense of the contours of your dissertation including who, what, when, where, and how you conducted and collected data for the dissertation research. The areas below serve as a guide in proposal preparation:

1. Explain the **intellectual question** you plan to engage. Briefly summarize current knowledge in the field, based on a review of the literature.
2. Explain why this research question is important. What are the intellectual debates in your field that are relevant to this proposed study? Offer a thorough description of the academic context of your study.
3. Briefly summarize the **innovative aspects** of the dissertation study.
4. Clearly define the **sociodemographic characteristics of demographic sample**, data collection procedures, and analytic processes of your study.
5. Did you experience any difficulties with data collection? Explain how you addressed them.
6. Identify your long-term career goals after completing the dissertation. Please identify expected publications from the dissertation.



Optional

If you wish, you may attach a one-to-three-page (maximum) appendix, which offers additional details of the dissertation or other supplemental information. No preliminary data are required for this proposal but may be included as an appendix if available.

Submitting the Application

Please e-mail one electronic copy of your application with subject **“QRIG Dissertation Award Application”** by **5:00 PM on Monday, October 30, 2023** to Katherine Van Nuys, Research Coordinator, at kvannuys@umd.edu.

Please submit an application with a cover sheet containing your name, department, mailing address, email address, phone number, the title of your dissertation and the abstract (150 words or less). As noted above, the complete application package consists of the abstract, a five-page proposal, justified budget, timeline, letter of support, current CV, current IRB approval letter for the dissertation project, and a copy of your CITI human subject research training completion report.

Review Process

The Executive Committee of the Qualitative Research Interest Group will review proposals. Reviewers will provide an impact score on the overall quality of the proposal and the potential of the research to lead to preliminary data for inclusion in a publication or proposal for external funding.

Post-Award Requirements

Awardees are expected to submit a brief report (4-5 pages) by the end of the **Fall 2024**. The report should summarize their completed award activities completed, study results and planned publications, and a budget report on use of funds. Award recipients are also required to present their research to interested faculty and students within one year of receiving funding. If you have completed your dissertation, you will be invited to present on a panel. All awardees agree to acknowledge this award in their dissertation and any future publications related to their study data.

Timeline

Awards will be announced the first week of December and funds will be disbursed to UMD student accounts by the third week of December.

As a resource, please review our [Advanced Doctoral Student Dissertation Award Preparation Powerpoint](#). For eligibility, logistical, or application questions, contact Katherine Van Nuys, Research Coordinator, at kvannuys@umd.edu. For questions related to research topics or approaches, contact Dr. Ruth Enid Zambrana, CRGE Director, at rzambran@umd.edu.