



Harvard
University

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: THE MARK CLASTER MAMOLEN DISSERTATION WORKSHOP ON AFRO-LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

ABOUT MARK CLASTER MAMOLEN DISSERTATION WORKSHOP

Created in memory of Mark Claster Mamolen (1946-2013), a lifelong friend of Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and dedicated member of the Hutchins Center National Advisory Board, the Mark Claster Mamolen annual Dissertation Workshop on Afro-Latin American Studies seeks to support the best doctoral dissertations on Afro-Latin American topics anywhere in the world.

Every year, the Afro-Latin American Research Institute at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, invite graduate students working on dissertations related to Afro-Latin American studies to submit a proposal to the annual Mark Claster Mamolen Dissertation Workshop on Afro-Latin American Studies. Doctoral students at universities anywhere in the world, who are at the dissertation writing stage, from any discipline, may submit an application. The only condition is that their dissertations deal with Afro-Latin American topics broadly defined, covering any time period, from colonial times to the present. Proposals can be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese.

Interested students will submit a three-page proposal (double space) summarizing their dissertation topic and one letter of support from their academic adviser. Up to fifteen students will be selected to participate in the workshop. They will submit a dissertation chapter (up to 50 pages, double space) in English, Spanish, or Portuguese that will be circulated among workshop participants. The Workshop will meet at Harvard University in early May.

The Afro-Latin American Research Institute will cover lodging and travel expenses for all participants.

This initiative is supported by a bequest from Mark Claster Mamolen (1946-2013), the Weatherhead Center of International Affairs, the Ford Foundation, and the International Academic Program of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (IAP UAM).

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Afro-Latin American Research Institute at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, Harvard University, invites graduate students working on dissertations related to Afro-Latin American studies to submit a proposal to the annual Mark Claster Mamolen Dissertation Workshop on Afro- Latin American Studies.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Doctoral students on Afro-Latin American Studies* at universities anywhere in the world who are actively writing their dissertations. Previous applicants who were not selected before are welcome to reapply.

**We consider Afro-Latin American Studies “as the study of people of African ancestry in Latin America, and... as the study of the larger societies, in which those people live. Under the first heading, scholars study Black histories, cultures, strategies, and struggles in the region. Under the second, they study blackness, and race more generally, as a category of difference, as an engine of stratification and inequality, and as a key variable in processes of national formation.” (Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews (eds.) Afro-Latin American Studies: An Introduction. Cambridge University Press, 2018. p. 1)*

HOW TO APPLY

1. Fill in the [Application Form](#)
2. Submit 3-page proposal of your dissertation chapter (3 pages + references, Times New Roman 12, double space). Proposals can be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese and should identify in the header the name & the institutional affiliation of the applicant.
3. Submit a Recommendation Letter from your advisor. Please note that the recommendation letter is a personalized document and needs to address both:
 - a) Confirm that you are indeed a doctoral student
 - b) Explain your contribution to the Dissertation Workshop.

Only COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Submit the COMPLETE APPLICATION using this **link by January 14, 2020, 9am EST**. Late applications will not be accepted.

<https://forms.gle/YPpjZAIYVXT2XREy5>

SELECTED APPLICANTS

Twelve to fifteen students will be selected to participate in the Workshop. They will be notified **by February 25, 2020**.

Selected students will be asked to submit a dissertation chapter (up to 50 pages, double space, in English, Spanish, or Portuguese) **by March 16, 2020**. Chapters will be circulated among workshop participants to be read in advance. The Workshop will meet at Harvard on **May 1-2, 2020**. Each participant should be ready to comment (in any language preferred) on every dissertation chapter in the workshop.

FAQ

1. *What is Afro-Latin American Studies?*

We consider Afro-Latin American Studies “as the study of people of African ancestry in Latin America, and... as the study of the larger societies, in which those people live. Under the first heading, scholars study Black histories, cultures, strategies, and struggles in the region. Under the second, they study blackness, and race more generally, as a category of difference, as an engine of stratification and inequality, and as a key variable in processes of national formation.” (Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews (eds.) Afro-Latin American Studies: An Introduction. Cambridge University Press, 2018. p. 1)

2. *Can I apply if I already have a PhD?*

Only PhD candidates in actively writing stage can apply. Master’s students or students who completed their PhD are not eligible to apply. However, students who have not yet completed their PhD by the time of the application are eligible to participate even if their defense is scheduled to take place prior to the Workshop in May.

3. *How should my application be presented?*

Please make sure you send your [COMPLETE application](#) and you identify in the header of every document your name & your institutional affiliation.

4. *When is the deadline to apply?*

You can apply until January 14, 2019 9:00am EST. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

5. *What language should I use for written proposal?*

You can present your proposal in English, Spanish, or Portuguese. We always make an effort to communicate in the three languages during the Workshop as well. You don’t need to be proficient in English to participate.

6. *Can my proposal be in one language and my letter of recommendation in another?*

Yes.

7. *Does Bibliography count in the three-page limit for the proposal?*

Your written text should not exceed three-page limit, but you can include your references in the fourth page.

8. *Do you have any model for the letter of support from my advisor?*

There is no model for the letter of support. Every research is unique and so is the relationship between the advisor and her advisee. Nonetheless, we ask you to make sure that the recommendation letter includes the confirmation that you are a PhD Candidate and explain the contribution of your research to the Afro-Latin American Studies and to the Dissertation Workshop.

9. For further inquiries, please contact ALARI@fas.harvard.edu, using subject line: "Dissertation Workshop."