

Reckoning with Race, Racism, and the History of the American South

Request for Proposals

Thanks to generous funding from The Duke Endowment, the Office of the Provost is accepting research proposals to study “Reckoning with Race, Racism, and the History of the American South.” The deadline for submissions is **February 1, 2021**. We anticipate one- or two-year awards to range from \$5,000 to \$40,000 with funding available by August 1, 2021 for use through June 30, 2023.

Background

Racism has indelibly shaped the history of the United States, and continues to influence American culture, social relationships, politics, educational systems, and the economy. Interrogating the history of racism and race as ideology is critical to a deeper understanding of the systemic inequities that persist in such areas as health, employment and economic security, education, credit, access to capital, housing, and policing and criminal justice.

As an institution located in North Carolina and the American South, Duke University is connected to the painful history of slavery, segregation, systemic racism, and violence that Black Americans have faced. As a major research institution, Duke is well-positioned to leverage its strong research expertise and resources to deepen our understanding of race and racism, and to apply that knowledge to redress past injustices and to produce more equitable social outcomes.

Themes

We invite proposals that engage any topic related to the history of the South with a focus on race, racism, anti-racism, and freedom/liberation/abolition struggles and the implications of that history for our contemporary situation and the paths that we might take now. There will be priority consideration of proposals that engage with the history of the American South, but we will also consider comparative analyses between the American South and other regions that focus on the history of race, racism, and anti-racism, and freedom struggles. Some of the themes may include:

- Environmental Justice and Racism
- Race and Education/Economic Opportunity
- Race and Medicine

- Race and Labor
- Race and Politics/Policy
- Race and Culture/the Arts
- Race and Demographic Change
- Racism and Native America
- Native America and Black America
- Racism and LatinX/Hispanic peoples
- Race and Sexuality
- Representations of Freedom/Forms of Freedom
- Race, Racism, and the Law
- Race, Research and Teaching and the Archive
- Atlantic or Transnational Histories of Slavery and Freedom (separately or together)
- Race, Racism and the Media

Eligibility

Duke faculty, of any rank; faculty with primary appointments in the Schools of Medicine and Nursing are NOT eligible to serve as Primary Investigator, but may participate as a research team member.

Eligible Types of Expenditures

The budget may include: stipends for research assistants; research-related travel and materials; workshops; and other justifiable and allowable research expenses such as open access publication subventions (in the case of research that has already reached an advanced stage), interactive multi-media installations, and multi-media platforms. Faculty summer salary up to \$10,000 is also allowed.

Proposal Requirements

The Provost's Office is using *Formstack* online application software to submit applications. You will be asked to upload the following information and documents:

1. **general proposal information**, to include the following: proposal title; name, title/rank, departmental affiliation, email address, and telephone number of all members of the research team; designation of a Principal Investigator;
2. a brief **abstract of the proposal** (250 word maximum);
3. a **brief (maximum three-page) narrative** that articulates (1) the plan for research, (2) statement of research objectives, (3) description of significance of the research, and (4) work already completed related to the proposed work (if relevant);

4. a proposed **budget (maximum one-page)**;
5. **two-page CVs** for each member of the research team.

Review Process and Selection Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by a faculty committee to be named by the Provost and will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Originality of proposed research
- Potential implications for public understandings of racism and anti-racism
- Ability to integrate activities with existing Duke efforts and programs

Submission Instructions

The deadline for submissions has passed.

Timeline

RFP released	11/05/2020
RFP deadline for submission	02/01/2021
Project winner(s) notified	04/30/2021
Funds made available (or sooner upon request)	08/01/2021

Contact for Questions

Please contact the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Advancement at ovpfa@duke.edu with any questions about this Request for Proposals, including questions about using *Formstack*.