

Application Information
2007-2008 Visiting Fellowship
“Black Europe, or Diasporic Research in/on Europe”

Fellowship Program. The Warren Center invites applications from scholars interested in participating in a faculty seminar as a visiting fellow during the academic year 2007-2008. The seminar, whose theme for the year will be “Black Europe, or Diasporic Research in/on Europe” consists of an interdisciplinary group of eight Vanderbilt faculty members. Tracy Denean Sharpley-Whiting, Director of African American and Diaspora Studies and Professor of French, and Lucius T. Outlaw, Jr., Professor of Philosophy, will co-direct the program.

The seminar will examine “Black Europe” and the emergent field of Black European Studies in all of its contours, across periods, and from various disciplinary and methodological perspectives. (Though aware of the various ways in which the term “black” has been used in the European context, we are restricting the use of the term to descendants of the African continent.) The seminar will be structured by a number of engaging interrogations: of identity, race, democracy, citizenship, expatriation, migration, and immigration as points of departure, particularly as these relate to such themes as the erasure (or denial) of “race” and discourses of racial differences in Europe; Europe in the making of the Americas’ slavery and Europe; race and European modernity; modernism; and European engagements (literary, philosophical, historical, artistic, and ethnographic) with Africa. One of the focal and particularly complicated suppositions to be taken up during these interrogations is geopolitical, relating as much to diaspora identity politics as to postcolonial studies: What, where, and when is there “Europe”? for example, how will the cultural, political, and economic uniqueness of France’s colonial history and the introduction of “departmentalization impact that identity?

The Warren Center invites applications from scholars in all disciplines whose lively presence will help to focus our work and stimulate discussions. We anticipate that the successful applicant will have completed the terminal degree in his/her field and will have a record of scholarly publication. The seminar meets weekly and will allow the visiting fellow ample time to pursue a major research project. The combined interests of the visiting fellow and the Vanderbilt faculty fellows will determine the form and content of seminar discussions. The visiting fellow is provided with a spacious office within the Warren Center’s own building. We will provide a stipend of one-half annual salary; the maximum stipend paid will be \$40,000. We will also provide \$2,000 in moving expenses.

Application Materials. Please submit the following: (1) the Center’s application form; (2) your *curriculum vita*; (3) your project description; (4) your financial statement. Please do not staple any submitted materials.

Project Description. Your project description should not exceed four double-spaced pages. Your project proposal must be related to the Fellows Program theme. You may wish to discuss how your current research will fit into the interdisciplinary academic program at the Center.

Letters of Recommendation. It is your responsibility to have three letters of recommendation sent to us by the application deadline. *Your referees should comment not only upon your project, but also on how your work would contribute to the faculty seminar on “Black Europe, or Diasporic Research in/on Europe.”*

Application Deadline. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later than January 18, 2007. **Faxes cannot be accepted.**

Questions? Please feel free to call the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities at (615) 343-6060 or e-mail rpw.center@vanderbilt.edu if you have questions pertaining to our program. You may speak with the Center’s executive director, **Mona Frederick** (mona.frederick@vanderbilt.edu). **Tracy Sharpley-Whiting** (t.sharpley-whiting@vanderbilt.edu) and **Lucius T. Outlaw** (loutlawjr@vanderbilt.edu) are also available to answer questions about the program.