Application Information
2005-2006 Visiting Fellowship
“Pre-modern Others: Race and Sexuality”

Fellowship Program. The Warren Center invites applications from scholars interested in participating in a faculty seminar as a visiting fellow during the academic year 2005-2006. The seminar, whose theme for the year will be “Pre-modern Others: Race and Sexuality” consists of an interdisciplinary group of eight Vanderbilt faculty members: Leah Marcus (English) and Holly Tucker (French) will co-direct the program.

The year-long seminar will consider issues relating to race and sexuality from the classical period through 1700. While there has been broad interdisciplinary scholarship in modern constructions of race and sexuality, the problems and possibilities of imposing more recent theories on earlier periods are only beginning to be addressed. How (if at all) can we talk about racial and sexual identities in pre-1700 cultures? To what extent are Eurocentric models challenged by non-Western evidence and theory? What are the particular interdisciplinary advantages of considering pre-modern race and sexualities together? Some of the seminar’s participants will most likely concentrate on issues of race, while others will engage primarily in a study of pre-modern sexuality, but the fact that the two are considered together will give participating fellows the opportunity to consider a range of valuable research tools, theories, and methodologies that they might not otherwise have assimilated into their own particular field of inquiry.

The visiting fellow will meet with seminar participants weekly and will have ample time to pursue her or his own research project. We will provide a stipend of one-half annual salary; the maximum stipend paid will be $40,000. Members of the Fellows Program are provided with spacious offices in the Center’s building.

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 “Pre-modern Others: Race and Sexuality.”

Application Deadline. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked no later than January 18, 2005. Faxes will not 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). Leah Marcus (l.marcus@vanderbilt.edu) and Holly Tucker (holly.tucker@vanderbilt.edu) are also available to answer questions about the program.

www.vanderbilt.edu/rpw_center/