

Tinker Field Research Grants

Tinker Field Research Grants are awarded by the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies to American University graduate students to support preliminary field research in Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking Latin American and Caribbean countries (excluding Puerto Rico). **Grants can only be allocated to support either preliminary or exploratory work that will inform preparation of a PhD dissertation or a Master's thesis that is necessary to complete degree requirements.**

Tinker grants primarily cover travel expenses for short (two weeks to four months) periods of investigation in Latin America. Priority is given to PhD candidates, but some grants will be allocated to students pursuing Master's and other graduate degrees.

To apply, please prepare the following:

- The **application cover sheet** – available at <http://www.american.edu/clals/tinker-field-research-grants.cfm>
- A 1500 word (maximum) summary of the project, including the empirical issue(s) to be studied and its significance; the theoretical background to the research; an outline of key sources to be consulted; and an explanation for the choice of field site(s) and institutional affiliation
- A one-page bibliography
- A one page account of how the proposed research fits within your program of study at American University, and an explanation of your preparation for the study (including language training)
- An itemized **budget form** estimating your travel and in-field expenses: *Note that at least 75% of the funds requested (and awarded) must go toward travel expenses, including flights to and from the country, as well as in-country travel (buses, taxis, domestic flights, etc)*
- A C.V. of no more than two pages, indicating educational achievements, degree plans, research and study abroad experience, language expertise and relevant work experience
- **One** letter of recommendation, speaking directly to the quality of the proposal and its relevance to your degree program

The selection committee will consist of AU faculty drawn from across Schools and Colleges on campus. Although all of the reviewers have extensive experience conducting research in the region, remember that they may not be well-versed in jargon particular to any discipline. Thus, while doctoral candidates in particular should make clear how their proposed research is situated within disciplinary debates and methodological approaches, it is important to present your work in ways that a multi-disciplinary committee will find intelligible.

All application materials should be sent as a **single attachment in one email** to Ines Luengo de Krom, Operations Administrator, AU Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, at luengode@american.edu. Please list TINKER FIELD GRANT APPLICATION LAST NAME as the subject line, and the attached file should be labeled as "Tinker Application Last Name." Applications must be received by **Monday, March 18, 2013 at 5pm**. **All grantees must attend a brief orientation session with Center staff prior to their research trip.* *If you have further questions, please contact Ashlee Armstrong at aarmstro@american.edu or at 202-885-6173.