





















## Information Session for Potential Fondren Fellows (2025-2026 Cohort)

Led by Lisa Spiro, PhD Program Director Kennedy Bosie Program Coordinator



**Program Goals** What are we trying to accomplish?

- → Promote undergraduate and graduate student involvement in inquiry-based projects connected to the library
- → Create opportunities for Rice students to be mentored
- → Develop students' research, communication, & collaboration skills
- → Deepen students' appreciation for libraries
- → Provide support for library-related projects



## **Program Timeline**

- ★ March 31 @ 11:59 pm: **Application deadline**
- ★ April 1–21: Review applications; interview candidates
- ★ Late April: Process hiring paperwork
- ★ Late August: Fellows kickoff meeting
- ★ Late August 2025: Projects begin
- ★ September 26, 2025: Project plans due
- ★ January 2026: Mid-year assessment/ goal setting for spring
- ★ Late April 2026: Fellows Showcase & Projects conclude



**Program Benefits** What benefits do fellows receive?

- → Fellows will receive <u>\$18/ hour</u> for up to 200 hours of work.
- → The chance to create a meaningful research or teaching project in collaboration with experts.
- → The opportunity to **hone research and communication skills**.
- → Flexible hours; many positions involve at least some remote work.
- → Some projects provide opportunity for travel and/or co-publishing with your project mentor.
- → **One-on-one mentoring opportunities** with Rice staff and faculty.
- → Various networking and professional development opportunities.



## **Program Expectations (1)** What do we expect of Fondren Fellows?

- → **Participate in regular meetings** with your mentor(s)
- → Participate in **monthly Fellows cohort meetings**
- → Dedicate at least 5-10 hours of work per week to the project
- → Submit a research plan set goals and deadlines with your mentor (due late September)
- → Provide brief bi-weekly reports about obstacles, successes, & next steps



## **Program Expectations (2)** What do we expect of Fondren Fellows?

- → End of project (late April 2026) Public presentation: a public forum (RURS, Showcase, etc.)
- → Acknowledge the Fondren Fellows program in any publications or presentations resulting from the fellowship
- → Provide feedback on the Fellows program, including by completing a brief survey at the middle and end of the program



**Program Overview** What can you expect as a Fondren Fellow?

- → Projects will involve the library as a focus or partner
- → Fondren Fellows projects are *inquiry-based*, and student fellows have an *important role* in shaping the project beyond the traditional responsibilities of a research assistant
- → Projects have the potential to create compelling research or educational outcomes



Current Projects Local History/ Archives

- Building a History of Industrial Accidents and Disasters in Houston
- Who Owned Freedmen's Town?: Tracking Deeds from
  <u>1867 to 1936</u>
- <u>The Red Book of Houston</u>
- Olivewood Cemetery Mapping Project



**Current Projects** Teaching Technical Skills

- Teaching Qualitative Data Analysis Research Tools
- Developing a Framework for Enhancing Teaching with AI



- Computing Cultural Heritage: Processing Physical and Born-digital Data in the White House Scientists Archive
- <u>Readers' Marks: tracing the past in Fondren's rare book</u>
  <u>collections</u>
- <u>65 Years of SEL: A Research Archive Project</u>



Open Data, Open Knowledge: Rice University
 Python-Based Solutions for Enhancing Access and
 Literacy in AI Era



### **Current Projects** Medical Humanities

• Analysis of Medical Humanities Research Resources,

Strategies and Tools at Fondren Library



## **Fellows Selection Timeline** When should you expect to hear back?

- ★ March 31 Application deadline
- ★ April 1–18ish Interviews for finalists conducted
- ★ April 25ish Successful candidates notified
- ★ Late August 2026 Projects begin



## The Application How do you apply?



#### **Fondren Fellow**

#### **Rice University**

Houston - TX (United States)

- 🖻 Research, On-Campus Student Employment
- () 6 days ago () Apply By: 09/09/2024, 11:59pm CDT

**JOB POSTING - APPLICATION OPEN** 

## Scan the QR Code for access to the application form!

The application form will have explicit instructions on how to apply and links to detailed job descriptions for each project.





## Application Guidelines How do I apply?

Please submit the following via 12twenty to apply:

- → A resume or CV that includes your name, email address, telephone number and expected graduation date
- → A cover letter. The cover letter should specify which project(s) you would like to participate in, what qualifications you bring to the project(s), and what you would like to get out of the program.



- → Make sure to clearly indicate which project(s) you're applying to in your application.
- → Try to make a strong case for why you're interested in a certain project in terms of your academic/professional goals.
- → Explain why your qualifications make you a good
  candidate for the project that you're applying to.



- → Have a friend or colleague review your letter for common spelling mistakes and grammatical errors.
- → Make sure you have time to commit to the project.
  We have released students who weren't keeping up with project work.



## What will mentors look for?

How do I build a strong Fondren Fellows application?

Mentors' priorities vary, but they likely include:

- What expertise can applicants bring to help the project succeed?
- Can applicants communicate, collaborate and manage time well?
- How will this project help the applicant grow?



# **Q&A Period**

Questions? We've got answers!



### More Information How can I learn more about the Fellows?

Website: <a href="https://library.rice.edu/fondren-fellows">https://library.rice.edu/fondren-fellows</a>

Instagram: @fondrenfellows

Email: <u>fondrenfellows@rice.edu</u>



# Thanks for coming!

We look forward to reviewing your applications!