Five College Women's Studies Research Center
2024 Summer Internship: Call for Applications

Location: Hampshire College
Priority deadline: March 31, 2024
Website: Link
Contact: Director, Jacquelyne Luce (jluce@mtholyoke.edu)
         Program Coordinator, Lily Sendroff (lsendroff@fivecolleges.edu)

The Five College Women's Studies Research Center (FCWSRC) is seeking 1 or 2 summer interns with an interest in and commitment to interdisciplinary and local, transregional and transnational feminist scholarship. Interns will work on two ongoing, interrelated projects at the FCWSRC for the duration of their internship. Together these two projects are part of an endeavor to think through and elaborate the site-specificity of the Center within the dynamic spatial, temporal, and intellectual frameworks of feminist thinking, scholarship, and pedagogy over the past 30 years.

Summer interns will gain experience related to: archival research and processing, transnational feminist organizations and networks, community outreach, and project development. Applicants must be interested in working both independently and collaboratively and have strong organizational and communication skills. They should have experience or a strong interest in feminist scholarship, women, gender, sexuality studies organizations, and community-based and/or collaborative feminist projects. A foundational understanding of archival research and/or qualitative research acquired through course work, internships, or work experience would be an asset, as would an interest in transnational feminisms, public feminisms and/or digital humanities.

About the Five College Women's Studies Research Center

Founded in 1991, the Five College Women’s Studies Research Center is a vibrant site of local, national, and international engaged, critical feminist scholarship, cultural production, and activism from diverse perspectives. The Center has a rich history of supporting transnational work, with a recognition of the diverse pathways and plurality of forms that feminist creative and academic scholarship can take. The Center provides space, community, and opportunities for Five College feminist scholars and hosts visiting scholars from around the world through the long-standing Research Associate Program. Located on the campus of Hampshire College, the Center is supported by the Five College Consortium, which includes Hampshire College as well as Amherst College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Since 1966, the five institutions have been noted for their cooperation and innovation in higher education and boast one of the largest concentrations of women’s and gender studies scholars anywhere in the world.

Project One: Mapping Transnational Flows of Feminist Knowledge

What is the practice of feminist knowledge-making, and what is its scope? How have the people who have traveled through the Center embodied roles as knowledge-makers, contributors, and interlocutors? What enables, complicates, or forecloses mobility for feminist scholars, activists, and artists, and for feminist knowledge production? What are the (after)lives and cumulative
shape of knowledge-flows, as they arrive, pass through, return, and move far beyond the Center?

These are a few of the larger questions at hand for the ongoing project “Mapping Transnational Flows of Feminist Knowledge.” This project seeks to map the now 30-plus-year history of the FCWSRC, engaging with the work of Five College community members and scholars, activists, and artists who have interacted with the Center and/or participated in the Research Associate Program. Through a combination of archival research, digital records research and maintenance, and responsive methods for community/history building, interns will conduct research on the transnational movement and interaction of ideas, projects, and people throughout the history of the Center.

Project Two: Feminist Site-Specificity of the Five Colleges

What is the significance of the Five College area being home to such a significant concentration of women’s, gender, and sexuality studies scholars? What unique historic events and trajectories, archival collections, community organizations, and community initiatives have been formed out of—and continue to influence—this concentration? How can we make the scope, content, and substance of these resources and histories visible at the Center?

These are the questions that welcome interns to the project, “Feminist Site-Specificity of the Five Colleges.” This project contributes to reimagining the Center’s communications strategy, particularly by working to identify, document, and render visible archives and special collections, as well as community initiatives, across the Five Colleges of interest to visiting scholars and participants in the Center's Research Associate Program. Interns will help develop strategic communications to increase the visibility of these resources in relation to the Center.

Eligibility

Undergraduate students at any Five College institution are welcome to apply. This internship is unpaid and is expected to last approximately 220 hours—the majority of which should be in-person at Hampshire College—during the summer months, with flexibility regarding work days/hours and internship time-frame. Five College students may apply for summer internship funding or academic credit from their home institution to support participation in this internship, if available and approved by their home institution.

How to Apply

Please complete this application form, which asks for a one-page cover letter, resume, and references. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until filled. For priority consideration, please submit application materials by March 31, 2024.