

**Committee on Globalization and Social Change**  
**Fellowship Year 2012-2013**  
**Theme: Globalization and Temporality**

The Mellon Committee on Globalization and Social Change is a transdisciplinary working group committed to reflecting critically on the relationship between the intersecting contemporary transformations typically associated with globalization and possible political futures. Composed of a group of core faculty from the Graduate Center, a post-doctoral fellow, and cohorts of annual fellows (mid-career faculty and doctoral students), the Committee is less interested in developing a programmatic position than in defining and exploring sets of questions that demand our attention in this difficult and vexing times. We have found it especially useful to think carefully about the adequacy of inherited concepts for grasping our rapidly changing present, whether they need to be revised in relation to the contemporary situation, or whether aspects of globalization may be usefully illuminated by revisiting seemingly outmoded analytic categories.

The Committee seeks to gather students and faculty from across the CUNY system to think not only across academic fields, but in ways that may link scholars to public intellectuals, political actors, and artists beyond the university. The intellectual focal point of our work is a weekly seminar in which we discuss published texts, pre-circulated pieces by visiting scholars, and work by other fellows. Additionally, the Committee organizes a range of public programs, workshops, roundtables, and symposia. Each year our activities revolve around a specific theme. Past themes include “Emergence” and “Solidarities.” Next year’s theme will be “Temporality.”

We are interested in exploring the relationship between the processes referred to by “globalization” and the production, experience, and representation of time. How is time understood and shaped in globalization, and how do the processes of globalization shape time? What is the time of globalization? How has globalization affected the social organization or subjective experience of time, across the social spectrum and across the world? What temporal dimensions of globalization demand critical attention? How may time and temporality serve as useful optics for the study of globalization? What dimensions of globalization are illuminated when we focus on the analytics and politics of time rather than, or in addition to, space? Are conventional temporal categories or modes of reckoning with time (or change over time) adequate for grasping contemporary social transformations associated with globalization (or the temporal dimensions of globalization)? Do we need new temporal categories, schemas, and frameworks to grasp the relationship between time and society in our contemporary moment? In what ways have specific temporal figures or modalities been employed by scholars, critics, artists, and activists to understand present developments and possible futures (e.g., apocalypse, utopia, futurity, anticipation, hope, rupture, revolution, catastrophe, historicity, afterlives, legacies, spectrality, haunting, untimeliness)? We are not only interested in how globalization may influence our understanding of the past, present, and future, but how it might change the very categories “past,” “present,” and “future” as well as the relations among them.

Fellows will be expected to attend weekly seminars, serve as discussants for seminar sessions, present their research to the group, and to participate actively in other intellectual and public events hosted by the Committee. We are looking for broad and open-minded scholars whose work is empirically rich and theoretically rigorous and which crosses conventional disciplinary boundaries. We seek fellows who

are able to engage ideas and thinkers that may be located outside of their own field of expertise or even beyond the university.

## **ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

Applications are invited from scholars of the humanities and humanistic social sciences such as anthropology, religion, sociology, philosophy, political science, history, English, art history, and comparative literature who engage and transect our seminar topic. With generous support from the Mellon Foundation and the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor, successful candidates will be granted up to a four course release from college teaching requirements for the year in return for a commitment to fully participate in the work of the Committee and in the weekly seminar. The basis for selection of participants will rest primarily on the relevance to the overall project of the work proposal submitted by applicants. In accord with the interdisciplinary aim of the program, selections will also be made with an eye to maintaining disciplinary diversity.

**Applicants must be tenured, and preference will be given to faculty in the early stages of career development (i.e. within ten years of receiving tenure).**

A completed Faculty Fellow Application is comprised of four parts:

Completed application form (available by scrolling down to Mid-Career Faculty Fellowships at <http://globalization.gc.cuny.edu/fellowships/>). This should include the signature of the program Executive Officer for faculty with GSUC appointments, or of Department Chairs for non-GSUC appointments.

150 word abstract

Project description (maximum 1500 words)

a current short CV (maximum 5 pages)

Send your application, including the completed application form WITH SIGNATURES, in PDF format to [globalization@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:globalization@gc.cuny.edu)

**DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 10, 2012**

Inquiries should be directed to [globalization@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:globalization@gc.cuny.edu)

For details on the work of the committee, please visit [globalization.gc.cuny.edu](http://globalization.gc.cuny.edu)