

**MINDA DE GUNZBURG CENTER FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES
GRADUATE DISSERTATION COMPLETION FELLOWSHIP AY2026-2027**

Deadline: February 1, 2026

The Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES) offers Dissertation Completion Fellowships (DCF) to support doctoral students in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University and in the social sciences at MIT as they complete their dissertations. CES considers applications by doctoral students in law, design, government, and education in exceptional circumstances; these proposals must have the support of a CES-affiliated faculty member. The DCF supports dissertation topics that focus on political, historical, economic, social, cultural, and intellectual trends, or public policy issues in modern or contemporary Europe (roughly 1750–present).

Students must have completed two draft dissertation chapters and submitted them to the dissertation advisor at the time of application (or for students in fields in which the dissertation consists of three articles, the existence of one article in draft). Applications will be judged by their overall merit, the importance of the topic, the clarity of the proposal, the potential for scholarly contribution, and the likelihood of timely completion. Applicants should not apply concurrently for the DCF and a dissertation research grant.

CES matches its stipend level to the standard DCF rates set annually by the Harvard Kenneth C. Griffin Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Harvard Griffin GSAS). The fellowship cannot be deferred and must be used within the ten-month period for which it is awarded (August 2026– May 2027). During the DCF fellowship, recipients are expected not to teach, hold other employment, or pursue other projects, as students are expected to complete their dissertations during the period of the award. *Students who have previously received writing/completion grants from other sources, whether internal or external to Harvard, are not eligible.* The fellowship also covers Harvard facilities fees and individual health insurance – [Harvard Student Health Program](#), which has two components, the [Student Health Fee](#) and the [Student Health Insurance Plan \(SHIP\)](#); MIT students will be issued the equivalent funds and may apply them to their institutional tuition and fees. CES DCF recipients will be given priority for desk space in a shared office space at CES, provided that they notify the CES Program Coordinator of their interest during the acceptance process.

Application Components

All the application materials must be uploaded to CARAT.

Paper copies and/or other electronic file formats will not be accepted.

1. CARAT-generated Dissertation Completion Fellowships Standard Application
2. Résumé/CV (max. two pages)
3. Transcript
4. Grant proposal (max. 1,000 words, double-spaced) with selected bibliography (max. additional two pages) of sources cited in the two draft chapters, proposal, and other key works
5. Two advisor confirmation forms (each one signed by advisor and the student and then scanned)
6. Two confidential letters of recommendation, one of which must be written by the dissertation advisor. The second letter can be written by any committee member, CES [Resident Faculty](#), or [Faculty Associate](#). Once you start the application process and enter the names of your recommenders, the system will generate an email to the recommender and prompt them to submit the letter.

Note: All materials, including letters of recommendation, must arrive by the February 1 deadline.