

Richard H. Thomas History Scholar Awards for Off-Campus Research

The **Richard H. Thomas History Scholar Awards for Off-Campus Research** provide support for **Cornell students who are majoring or minoring in history** (with preference given to history majors) to study and conduct research off-campus, by subsidizing part of the cost for student enrollment and participation in a **Cornell off-campus research-based course offered by history department faculty**, or **off-campus research-based courses not offered by history department faculty but approved by the department**, or by providing funding to support **student internships** at historical societies, libraries, and museums (HIS 380), or **students' independent research for honors projects in history** (HIS 390 or HIS 485).

Application Deadlines:

Completed applications (including a faculty letter of recommendation) for the Richard H. Thomas History Scholar Awards for Off-Campus Research to defray the expense of a research-based course off-campus **must be submitted at least four weeks before the first course payment is due, and no later than six weeks prior to the final course payment deadline**, (please refer to individual off-campus course deadlines on the webpage of the Office of International and Off-Campus Studies). Applications for support for internships or independent research projects are **due no later than six weeks before the block in which the internship or independent research will be conducted**.

To apply, students must submit to the History Department Chair:

1. A completed application form.
2. A brief letter of recommendation from a Cornell faculty member. **Letters should be emailed directly from the recommender to the Chair of the History Department.**

Eligibility, Criteria for Selection, and Review Process:

Awards will be based on:

- Academic standing
- Financial Need (Documentation provided by Cornell's Financial Aid Office)
- Student's statement of purpose and description of how this opportunity will enhance academic development and goals
- Faculty letter of recommendation
- Estimated Costs

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Preference will be given to students who are majoring in history (although history minors will be considered), whose documented financial need is the greatest, and who have *not previously*: taken an off-campus course; completed an internship for their history major or minor; conducted substantive off-campus research for their history major or minor; received a Richard H. Thomas History Scholar Awards or funding through other Cornell awards programs (such as the Cornell Fellows program, the Class of '55 Award, or the Cat Levy Off-Campus Study Award).

The **Richard H. Thomas History Scholar Awards for Off-Campus Research**, established by the Thomas family, honor the educational legacy of **Professor Emeritus Reverend Dick Thomas, “The Rev,”** who was an integral member of Cornell’s history department and the hilltop community for many years. This endowment in his name recognizes the importance of off-campus research for students majoring and minoring in history, and is intended to help off-set the increasing cost of such research for Cornell history majors and minors who meet the College’s criteria for financial need.

Questions about the Richard H. Thomas History Scholar Awards for Off-Campus Research should be addressed to Professor Catherine Stewart, cstewart@cornellcollege.edu, or the student’s academic advisor for the history major or minor.