The Center for the Advancement of Liberal Arts and STEM
at
Fayetteville State University

Request for Proposals

Who: FSU Faculty

When: Monday, January 29, 2021 by 5:00pm

Where: Apply online (**please click**): [Research Proposals](#) | [Course Redesign Proposals](#)

The Center for the Advancement of Liberal Arts and STEM (CALAS) at Fayetteville State University is currently seeking proposals to fund faculty initiatives that focus on promoting interdisciplinary instructional strategies across STEM and Liberal Arts disciplines. More specifically, we will fund research and/or course redesign initiatives that enhance the knowledge base for generating best practices for the intersection of soft and technical skill development for students.

Liberal Arts/Soft Skills	STEM/Technical Skills
Adaptability	Creativity
Collaboration	Data Analysis
Communication	Data-Driven Decision-Making
Creativity	Project Management
Critical Thinking	Scientific Literacy
Decisiveness	Software Proficiency
Initiative	Technical Proficiency
Interpersonal	Technical Writing
Problem Solving	
Responsibility	
Time Management	

Eligibility: Full-time and adjunct faculty are eligible to apply for funding. Faculty may submit proposals individually or as a team. However, for faculty team submission research projects, the Lead Researcher is required to be a faculty member (Full-time or Adjunct). Additionally, faculty may apply for both research and course redesign initiatives. *Please note that there will need to be a separate application/proposal submission for each initiative.

Grant Award: There will be a total of 6 awards (2 research; 4 course redesign) to be received by faculty or faculty teams. Faculty awardees will receive $1,000 for course redesign and $3,000 for research projects. The CALAS Center will disburse 50% of the award at the start of the initiative, with the second disbursement distributed after completion of the "Post-Grant Reporting Requirements".

Faculty Support: The CALAS Center will provide support (i.e. consultant(s), resources, etc.) to faculty (upon request) interested in engaging in this work. This support will be available to faculty during the application submission period and to the selected faculty awardees (upon request).

<u>Proposal Guidelines for Research</u>

Research Proposal Content: Complete proposals must consist of three (3) sections:

- **Project Description (Maximum of 1200 words).** Proposals must include a detailed description of the project, including the purpose of the study and its relevance to goals and objectives of the CALAS Center. There must be explicit details of how the proposed study will investigate best practices for the intersection of Liberal Arts and STEM skill development for students.

  Proposals must also include research questions/hypotheses, and a plan for the study's proposed methodology (i.e. study sample, procedure, proposed data analysis, etc.).

- **Proposed Timeline (Maximum of 1-page).** Please provide a detailed description of the timeline for the research study.

- **References and Appendices.** Please include your references and any appendices of instruments and/or protocols (if applicable).

- **Post-Grant Reporting Requirements.** Upon completion, awardees are required to execute the following by the end of **December 2021**:

  o Submit a 1-2 page executive summary to the CALAS Center – summarizing key points from the research study and highlighting results, conclusions, and recommendations for best practices for the intersection of soft and technical skill development for students.
  o Submit a written publication to a regional or national conference, forum, or meeting. As an alternative, awardees may have a working document for publication to be completed and submitted to a regional or national conference, forum, or meeting by the end of **February 2022**.

<u>Proposal Guidelines for Course Redesign</u>

Course Redesign Proposal Content: Complete proposals must consist of two (2) sections:

- **Course Redesign Description (Maximum of 1200 words).** Proposals must include a brief description of the course. A detailed explanation of how the course redesign will implement practices that infuse soft skills into STEM discipline courses and/or technical skills into Liberal Arts discipline courses. Please include any major projects

and/or other course assignments that are relevant to the goals and objectives of the CALAS Center.

Finally, please indicate if the redesigned course will be implemented in Summer 2021 or Fall 2021. (***Please Note*** implementation must occur in Summer 2021 or Fall 2021)

- **Course Syllabus**. Please provide an updated syllabus that reflects the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) that highlight the soft or technical skills students will develop by the end of the course.

- **Post-Grant Reporting Requirements.** Upon completion, awardees are required to execute the following **within one (1) month of completion of the course redesign implementation**:

  - Submit a 1-2 page executive summary to the CALAS Center – highlighting challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations for best practices for the intersection of soft and technical skill development for students.

Proposal Review Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by the CALAS Center Steering committee and possibly external reviewers. Please see below for evaluation criteria:

Research Proposal Criteria

Category	Description	Total Points	Points Earned
Project Description	-Does the proposal include a detailed description of the project? -Does the proposal discuss the purpose of the study and its relevance to goals and objectives of the CALAS Center? -Does the proposal explicitly detail how the study will investigate best practices for the intersection of Liberal Arts and STEM skill development for students? -Does the proposal clearly identify soft or technical skills to be investigated in the study?	8	
Timeline	-Does the timeline include details for all the work to be done? -Does the timeline include feasible goals and a projection of tasks to be completed by the deadline?	4	

Total Points to be earned = 12 Points		12	

Course Redesign Proposal Criteria

Category	Description	Total Points	Points Earned
Course Redesign Description	-Does the proposal include a brief description of the course? -Does the proposal provide a detailed explanation of how the course redesign will implement practices that infuse soft skills into STEM discipline courses and/or technical skills into Liberal Arts discipline courses? -Does the proposal include any major projects, other course assignments, and/or pedagogical approaches relevant to the goals and objectives of the CALAS Center? -Does the proposal clearly identify soft or technical skills to be developed by students from the course redesign? -Does the proposal clearly indicate when implementation will occur (Summer 2021 or Fall 2021)?	10	
Syllabus	-Does the syllabus reflect the projected Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) that highlight the soft or technical skills students will develop?	2	
Total Points to be earned = 12 Points		12	