APPLICATION FOR THE BUTTRICK-CRIPPEN FELLOWSHIP  
2015–2016

An academic-year of support during which the Fellow can devote him- or herself
to the study and practice of teaching writing within
and beyond the context of her or his own discipline

The Buttrick-Crippen Fellowship is open to candidates with an interest in undergraduate writing from any field of the Graduate School at Cornell. Preference will be given to those who are enrolled in a Ph.D. program. The award is intended for graduate students who have had substantial teaching experience.

The Buttrick-Crippen Fellow will spend the fall semester preparing a new First-Year Writing Seminar for the John S. Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines and will teach that seminar in the spring. In 2015–16 the award will provide a stipend ($24,104 in 2014–15), tuition, and health insurance. The Fellow may receive the opportunity to attend appropriate conferences. He/she may also be invited to participate in various Knight Institute activities and will be expected to submit a final report on the development of his or her course at the end of the teaching semester.

The application should include:

• a description of the proposed seminar’s focus, the applicant’s interest and background therein, and the applicant’s conception of its place in the Institute and of its appeal to undergraduates (particularly first-year).
• discussion of the integration of the study of writing and reading.
• discussion of the kinds of writing assignments the applicant plans to give.
• copies of student evaluations, if the applicant has taught a First-Year Writing Seminar or any other course before.
• any other information about the seminar and its place in the Institute that the Committee may find helpful and interesting.
• a vita.
• supporting letter(s) of recommendation.

Your name __________________________________ Graduate field ____________________

Local address __________________________________ Local telephone __________________

__________________________________________________________________________ e-mail address _____________________

Recommender(s): __________________________________________________________________________

Proposed Course Title _________________________________________________________________

Should I win this fellowship, I give the John S. Knight Institute permission to publish, quote from, and/or distribute copies of my proposal and/or final report, and to distribute publicity to newspapers and other publications, local and/or national, about my winning the prize.

Applicant’s signature _________________________________ Date _________________

Submit applications to:
Buttrick-Crippen Committee
c/o the John S. Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines
101 McGraw Hall
no later than 7 January 2015.
The Applicant

Open to candidates with an interest in undergraduate writing from any field of the Graduate School at Cornell. Preference will be given to those who are enrolled in a Ph.D. program. The award is intended for graduate students who have had substantial teaching experience.

The Award

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The Application should include:

• a description of the proposed seminar’s focus, the applicant’s interest and background therein, and the applicant’s conception of its place in the Institute and its appeal to undergraduates (particularly first-year students).
• a discussion of the kinds of writing assignments the applicant plans to give.
• the applicant’s plans to relate reading to writing in the seminar, both in discussions and in writing assignments. For example, will some writing assignments be modeled after the kind of writing found in the reading?
• copies of student evaluations, if the applicant has taught a First-Year Writing Seminar before.
• any other information about the seminar and its place in the Institute that the Committee may find helpful and interesting.
• a vita.
• supporting letter(s) of recommendation.

The Criteria

The Committee seeks applications that integrate writing into the study of a discipline. Seminars that fill gaps in the current set of offerings have been the strongest contenders in previous years. Applicants may consult the Institute’s website for listings of the Institute’s current offerings:

www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute

The primary purpose of the proposed seminar should be to help students write good English expository prose—prose that, at its best, is characterized by clarity, coherence, intellectual force, and stylistic control.

The seminar should adhere to a program-wide set of guidelines that includes the following:

• At least six—and at most nine—formal essays on new topics, totaling ca. 25 – 30 pages of polished prose.
• No fewer than three of the 6 – 9 required essays should go through a process of development under the instructor’s guidance (e.g. revision, peer review, responses to readings, conferences).
• All seminars should spend ample classroom time on work directly related to writing.
• Reading assignments in the course subject should be kept under ca. 75 pages per week to permit regular, concentrated work on writing.
• All students should meet in at least two individual conferences with the instructor.

Applicants who have not taught a First-Year Writing Seminar before should expect to take Writing 7100, “Teaching Writing,” in either the summer or fall of 2015.

Applications must be received by the Buttrick-Crippen Committee, c/o the John S. Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, 101 McGraw Hall, no later than 7 January 2015.