



**FULBRIGHT CHAIR IN ITALIAN STUDIES**  
**UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH**  
**Academic Year 2026-27**

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**General Grant Information:**

1. Grant Length: one semester (five months)
2. Requested Discipline: Includes, but is not limited, to the following: European Union Studies; History; Political Science; Sociology; Communications; Economics; History of Art and Architecture; Italian Literature; Film and Media Studies; any disciplines within the humanities and/or social sciences will be considered. Broad multi- and interdisciplinarity is encouraged. Please review Pitt's Dietrich Scholl of Arts and Sciences to see covered departments/disciplines:  
[www.as.pitt.edu/departments-programs](http://www.as.pitt.edu/departments-programs)
3. Specialization(s) (discipline and subdiscipline): Open – especially gender studies, cultural studies, literary theory/criticism, translation studies, critical race and migration studies, EU studies, film or media studies, Mediterranean Studies, communication, environment, Central and European Studies (or other transregional approaches)
4. Number of courses: one
5. Preferred Terms: Spring Term 2027
6. Start date: January 11, 2027 End date: May 1, 2027
7. Reporting date: January 4, 2027

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**Language:**

English language required: good level required, excellent level recommended.

Students will be expected to read and discuss course materials in English, unless the course is an Italian literature course. English proficiency is thus required.

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**Grant Activity:** Please describe in detail the grant activity of the Visiting Scholar and the principal duties that will be assigned to the scholar

**Courses**

**Course 1**

Focus: Italian or European History, Culture, Politics with a preference for interdisciplinarity (e.g. gender studies, cultural studies, media studies, European/European Union studies, Mediterranean studies, communication). Interested candidates should review the list of courses offered in relevant departments

and propose courses that complement or align with existing courses (links provided below). Courses that can be offered in the Department of History, Department of Political Science, Communications, Department of Art History and Architecture, or the Department of French and Italian Languages and Literature are particularly encouraged. The departments have strengths and foci that are explicit on their respective websites. Prospective scholar should complement strengths and /or provide courses that would enrich existing offerings for students.

Type: seminar – meeting twice per week for 1 hour and 15 minutes each meeting

Level: undergraduate students, upper-division, no pre-requisites

Teaching load: 3 hours per week for 15 weeks (with at least 2 hours additional per week as designated to “office hours” for students meeting outside of the classroom)

Average class size: 25

Course and syllabus requirements: No pre-requisites required. Examples of standard syllabus provided. Expectations for course should be explicit and grading procedures/evaluation methods clearly outlined. Reading load consistent with other courses at the same level (varies across disciplines, but estimate 1 article or book chapter or 2-3 primary sources per class meeting)

### **Additional grant activities and duties**

Student advising and tutorials: Regular office hours weekly to meet with students concerning the course and to answer their questions

### **Opportunities offered to the scholar**

- Opportunities for research and collaboration with peers: The visiting professor would be affiliated with the European Studies Center (ESC, recognized as a Jean Monnet Center of Excellence in EU studies and a U.S. Dept. of Education National Resource Center in West European Studies) and would be invited to participate in the many activities (lectures, panel discussions, conferences) that we organize (see [www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/)). In addition to the ESC, the hosting department and the Department of French and Italian, help coordinate networking and collaborative projects.
- Opportunities for teaching or guest lecturing at other departments and other institutions in the city of affiliation of the scholar: The ESC will host a lecture and reception in honor of the visiting scholar which will be co-sponsored by relevant departments across Pitt. Depending upon scholarly interests, we would work with the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh and other local groups to arrange lectures for the business or cultural community and could also (if the scholar were interested) coordinate visits to local public elementary and secondary schools.
- Introduction and interaction with the local and university community: Every effort is made to integrate visiting scholars into the intellectual and social life of the University and the wider Pittsburgh community. Pittsburgh is a vibrant city with an active arts and theatre culture.

**For a video about a previous Italian Fulbrighter's experience, see: <https://youtu.be/9vr7v0UBusg>**

- Other opportunities: The ESC coordinates a network of EU-funded Centers and Actors across the United States, called Jean Monnet in the US Network. We can facilitate virtual and in-person talks at our partners institutions

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**University Resources and Facilities:** Please indicate which of the following resources and facilities will

be available:

- library facilities
- office space
- access to computer network and other IT resources
- facilitated access to other on campus resources (sports and cultural facilities such as theatre, concerts, language courses, etc.

Visiting Distinguished Fulbright Chairs are provided with office space and access to computer network. A desktop personal computer may be arranged, though most visitors find it preferable to bring a laptop with a familiar keyboard. Once a Pitt ID has been issued, visiting scholars receive access to public transportation (Port Authority bus system) and the University transportation system, full borrowing privileges at campus libraries, access to campus fitness facilities for staff/faculty, and discounts to cultural events in the city of Pittsburgh (through PittArts - <https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/pittarts/> ). Note that the Pitt ID can only be issued AFTER a visiting faculty member has been put on payroll, which can only happen AFTER the visitor obtains a Social Security number. The process to obtain a SSN can only be begun after the official activation date and may take 2-4 weeks.

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### Housing:

Housing must be found off campus and is the responsibility of visiting scholars to identify and secure. Suitable accommodation is generally available within convenient distance for walking, biking, or public transportation (free with Pitt ID). Typically, monthly rent = \$1,400 – 2,500 /month for an independent 1-2 bedroom apartment, though there are less costly options available for studio apartments or apartment shares. The staff of the ESC will gladly provide contacts and leads to the visiting professor to assist him/her in locating acceptable housing and will advise as much as possible but is not responsible for securing housing.

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### Additional Benefits:

Visiting scholars receive a faculty ID card which entitles them to free public transportation throughout Pittsburgh, as well as discounts at most museums and cultural events throughout the city. See <https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/pittarts/> to learn about faculty and staff discounts for performances via PITT ARTS.

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### Stipend Payment:

The \$9,000 USD stipend will be paid in monthly installments, beginning once the grantee has been processed by the Payroll Department at the University. Payments cannot be made until all paperwork has been completed and the visiting scholar receives a social security number from the U.S. government. Instructions for completing this process will be provided before arrival, but the process can only be initiated once the visiting scholar has arrived in the country. UCIS and ESC staff will do their best to expedite the process, **but please be aware that there is typically a 4-6 week processing time after the official start date in Pittsburgh.**

The \$3,000 USD housing stipend can be paid directly to the landlord/lessor. An official invoice will be required.

<p><b>The Fulbright Commission will pay its financial contribution of \$9.000 to the Visiting Scholar in one lump sum upon his/her arrival in the United States.</b></p>
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### **Tax Matters:**

The stipends are subject to taxation under the U.S. Tax code and in accordance with tax treaties currently in existence. You will be required to report the stipend as income to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and expect taxes withheld up to 30% (depending on treaty status between U.S. and Italy).

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### **Host Institution:**

Academic calendar: Spring Semester runs from January 4<sup>th</sup> till April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027 (subject to change), grades must be submitted by May 4, 2027. For details please see:

[https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/assets/PDF/2026-2027\\_Extended\\_Calendar.pdf](https://www.registrar.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/assets/PDF/2026-2027_Extended_Calendar.pdf)

Host School/Department/Center: The European Studies Center ([www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc)), housed within the University Center for International Studies with additional support from the Department of History of Art & Architecture, Department of History, Department of French & Italian

Web address of host institution: <https://www.pitt.edu/>

Helpful links: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/content/information-prospective-visitors>

<https://www.visitpittsburgh.com/>

<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/>

<http://www.frenchanditalian.pitt.edu/>

<http://www.history.pitt.edu/>

<http://www.haa.pitt.edu/>

<https://www.comm.pitt.edu/>

<https://www.filmandmedia.pitt.edu/>

<https://www.polisci.pitt.edu/>

<https://www.sociology.pitt.edu/>

<https://www.wstudies.pitt.edu/>

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### **Contacts:**

#### Primary contact person

Erica Edwards, PhD, Associate Director, European Studies Center, University Center for International Studies

Email: [eee36@pitt.edu](mailto:eee36@pitt.edu), Telephone: 412-648-3177, Fax: 1-412-648-2199

Full mailing address: University of Pittsburgh, European Studies Center, 4215 Posvar Hall, 230 S. Bouquet Street, Pittsburgh PA 15260

#### Secondary contact person

Lina Insana, Associate Professor, Department of French and Italian

Email: [insana@pitt.edu](mailto:insana@pitt.edu)

Full mailing address: 1332 Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA 15260

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**Additional Information:**

Please see the Center's webpage, which includes a list of affiliated faculty.

<http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/>

<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/about/affiliated-faculty>

<http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/esc/content/information-prospective-visitors>

For a recent video featuring one of our most recent Italian Fulbrighters: <https://youtu.be/9vr7v0UBusg>

The University Center for Teaching and Learning is a resource for any faculty member (including visiting faculty) at the University. In addition to providing one-on-one support, they also have information online to help faculty develop syllabi. See <https://teaching.pitt.edu/resources/syllabus-checklist/> for a list of required syllabus statements, suggested content, and the recommendations for what should be included on a syllabus at Pitt. In addition, we have provided two sample syllabi (one from a social science course and one from a humanities course) to provide some insights into how much reading one should expect to assign students for an upper-division course. Additional examples can be provided if requested.