

***The University of Minnesota***  
***Center for RIDGS Studies***  
*Application for Research Workshop or Critical Reading Group*  
*Funding For AY 2024-25*

Please email your application (as a single PDF) to [ridgs@umn.edu](mailto:ridgs@umn.edu)

1. RIDGS Research Workshops: The Center for RIDGS Studies is committed to fostering new and emerging research, providing space for experimental inquiry and skill building, and creating collaborative scholarly groups within and outside the University.
2. RIDGS Critical Reading Groups: Race, Indigeneity, Disability, Gender, and Sexuality Studies are all rapidly expanding fields. It can be difficult to stay up-to-date on all of the canonical as well as new, cutting-edge texts, which can lead to scattershot understandings of the fields. The Center for RIDGS Studies' Critical Reading Groups are intended to help students fill in gaps which they have identified in their studies.

Each year, RIDGS is sponsoring a few student or faculty-led groups of graduate and undergraduate students (ranging in size from 4-10 participants) to (1) pursue a concrete research question or (2) read and discuss a syllabus of texts of their choosing. At the end of the year, students will write a short (1) progress report outlining what research steps they have taken and what they have learned or (2) a "state of the field" essay, describing how their texts have shaped the field as well as how they have and still could be used to inform political, social, and economic action in the past and future. Groups must apply and, if accepted, will receive funding from \$200-\$1000, depending on the number of participants and demonstrated need, to be used for books, snacks, and relevant films, museum visits, or other activities. Additional funding may be made available for extraordinary and justifiable expenses.

*Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but priority will be given to applications received before **October 4, 2024.***

Funding priority will be given to proposals with:

- 1) Detailed descriptions of planned activities tied to research or learning goals that support innovation in RIDGS fields in clear and compelling ways.
- 2) Demonstrated participant interest and/or a strong target audience for the proposed workshop/group. (Workshops/groups that connect RIDGS to new communities and participants are encouraged.)
- 3) Budgets that demonstrate thoughtful use of RIDGS funds with an attention to balancing requested resources with potential impact. (Highly successful workshops/groups don't always require large budgets.)
- 4) Research/reading plans which cross disciplinary boundaries as well as those which include texts which build on one another.

Sometimes a research workshop will fail to take off. Prior failure does not preclude applicants from current or future funding.

<b><u>Workshop/Group Name and Participants</u></b>
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Indicate the project type:     Research Workshop \_\_\_\_\_ Critical Reading Group \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop/Group name:**

**Workshop/Group leader(s):**

Name:

Department:

Position:

E-mail:

**Affiliated workshop/group members:** Please provide a list of potential participants who have expressed interest in this workshop including names, institutional affiliation, and department.

<b><u>Project Proposal and Budget</u></b>
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**Project rationale:** Briefly (~200 words) explain your workshop/group's intellectual project and its potential benefit to the Center for RIDGS Studies.

**Project proposal:** Briefly (~200 words) explain the precise activities which your group plans to undertake. Please be as specific as you can (eg. hold a reading or discussion group; create a digital resource; invite a visiting scholar to campus; organize a mini symposium; etc.). Also make sure to include a statement explaining how your group's research activities relate to the mission of the Center for RIDGS Studies.

**Financial budget:** Please provide an itemized budget of anticipated expenses for your proposed workshop/group, with explanations of the purpose of the expense. Award amounts will range from \$200-\$1000. Please make a note if you anticipate extraordinary expenses, but we cannot guarantee that they will be funded.

**Total financial budget request from RIDGS:**

**Labor budget:** Research workshops often require more time and labor than financial resources. Please indicate who will be responsible for the various tasks associated with the operations and implementation of your workshop/group.

**Other information (optional):** If there is any additional information that you believe would be helpful in our review of your application, please include it below