

Graduate Fellowship Preparation Course

General Information:

- Meeting Times: F 9:10 – 10:00 am
- Location: Physical Sciences Room 111
- Lead by: Prof. Tyler Robinson
 - Email: tyler.robinson@nau.edu
 - Office: Physical Sciences 225 B
 - Office Hours: W 12:30 – 3:30 pm (and by appointment)

Course Description: The National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) and the NASA Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology (FINESST) program provide up to three years of fellowship support to high-achieving, early-career scientists. Winning a GRFP or FINESST gives you the freedom to pursue your own independent research program, and is an extremely prestigious fellowship to have to your name. This seminar series will help you to assemble a strong application for the GRFP and/or FINESST awards.

Course Objectives: This seminar series will help students understand the GRFP and FINESST funding calls, and will help students get an early start on their fellowship writing. We will workshop ideas for proposals, and will discuss writing and figures. As a group, we will perform mock panel reviews of draft proposals, thereby giving students ample feedback on their proposals prior to submission.

Course Topics Outline:

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	Aug 30	Timeline; Overview of GRFP/NESSF Program; Funding Calls
2	Sep 06	Discussion of Funding Call; Review Exercise; Update Advisor
3	Sep 13	Class Mock Review Panel
4	Sep 20	Idea Pitches
5	Sep 27	First Draft Proposal Due; Group Feedback
6	Oct 04	Second Draft Proposals Due; Group Feedback; Draft to Advisor
7	Oct 11	Class Mock Review Panel
8	Oct 18	Fastlane Summary Due; Department Mock Review Panel
9	Oct 25	GRFP Proposals Due (5:00 pm Local Time)
10	Nov 01	Internal Break – No Class; GRFP Letters Due (5:00 pm Eastern)
11	Nov 08	FINESST Personal Statements Due; Group Feedback
12	Nov 15	FINESST Research Statement Draft Due; Group Feedback
13	Nov 22	Thanksgiving Break – No Class
14	Nov 29	FINESST Mock Review Panel
15	Dec 06	FINESST Mock Review Panel