

2021 OYCF-Chow Fellowship for Field Research in China

Since 2018, Overseas Young Chinese Forum (OYCF) has provided several fellowships to support field research in China, funded by the generous donations by Gregory C. and Paula K. Chow to OYCF. The OYCF-Chow Fellowship for Field Research in China provides \$3,000 to graduate students in humanities and social sciences in a U.S. or Canadian university to conduct fieldwork in China for their thesis projects. In addition, another \$500 will be offered as post-fieldwork award to the fellowship recipients who demonstrate productive use of the fellowship in a post-fellowship report. Fellowship recipients will be announced on the OYCF website as OYCF-Chow Fellows.

Priority will be given to research projects focusing on contemporary economic, social, cultural, or political issues in China, but historical or comparative studies with substantial amount of fieldwork to be conducted in China are also eligible for consideration.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international travel, the 2021 OYCF-Chow Fellowship will only support long-term fieldwork in the 2021-2022 academic year (i.e., fieldwork that commences after September 2021). Short-term fieldwork in the summer of 2021 is not eligible this year.

Eligibility:

1. Active enrollment in a graduate program (master's level and above) in humanities, social sciences, and policy studies in an accredited university in the United States or Canada. As a general rule, the applicant should have finished nearly all coursework and is at the stage of writing a thesis proposal or carrying out research.
2. The applicant's proposal requires substantial field research (i.e., ethnography, interviews, surveys, field experiments, or archival research) in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, and/or Taiwan.
3. Applicants must consent to OYCF fellowship terms that require the awardees a) to submit a detailed report of field research activities; and b) to contribute one or more short essays as blog or WeChat posts on a topic related to the thesis or field research.

Application Package:

1. A short cover letter (2-page maximum) in which you a) describe your fieldwork plan, including dates and location; b) explain how the fieldwork contributes to your thesis project; and, c) state how you would like to contribute to OYCF in the future
2. A full draft of the thesis proposal
3. An itemized budget with justification (please indicate other sources of funding that you have received for your fieldwork)
4. Curriculum vitae
5. Two letters of recommendation, including one from your thesis advisor

Application Procedure:

1. Applications must be submitted by email to oycf.fellowships@gmail.com in a single, PDF document that includes all the required application materials as listed above except for the letters of recommendation.
2. Letters of recommendation must be submitted directly by the recommenders by email to oycf.fellowships@gmail.com with the Subject line: "OYCF letter for [Student's name]"
3. Application deadline: **May 17, 2021**

Selection Criteria and Process:

OYCF will form a fellowship committee made up of OYCF board members and scholars to review and nominate awardees to the OYCF board for approval. Each application will be evaluated on the basis of quality, feasibility, relevance to themes stated above, and significance for long-term contribution to the study of China. Fellowship recipients will be notified via email, and they will be invited to attend the OYCF annual meeting where all recipients will be publicly announced. OYCF will also award additional \$500 to the fellowship recipients who submit high-quality field trip reports and fulfill OYCF fellowship terms in an outstanding manner.

About OYCF

Overseas Young Chinese Forum (OYCF) was established in 1999 to provide a forum for the overseas Chinese scholars, graduate students and professionals to exchange views on issues concerning China and China's relations with the world, and to develop common aspirations among its members. It is an inclusive, non-partisan and non-profit organization that advocates voluntarism and cultivates the members' continuing interest in sustainable developments in China and in China's relationship with the world. Run completely by volunteers, OYCF sponsored short-term teaching projects, organizes annual meetings for its members, funds student organizations in the U.S. and other educational activities in China, supports social innovation, and undertakes select research and publication projects that are beneficial to China's development. For more information, please refer to the OYCF website: <http://oycf.net/>