

FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES (FLAS) FELLOWSHIP

Academic Year 2008–2009

Program: The purpose of the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) program is to ensure continued national competence in modern foreign languages, and area and international studies. FLAS Fellowships are available for the study of languages in eight world areas: Africa, East Asia, East Europe, Latin America, Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and West Europe. A listing of Berkeley's international and area centers is attached.

The FLAS Fellowships are awarded for:

- 1) A formal program of full-time language study during the academic year.

FLAS recipients must be enrolled in a language course and an area /international studies course each semester during the 2008–2009 academic year. These courses must be taken for letter grades. Students wishing to use an award for a formal study abroad program must be at the intermediate or advanced level of language proficiency, or at the beginning level if an appropriate beginning language program is not available in the U.S. Prior approval from the U.S. Department of Education is required for language study abroad.

- 2) Dissertation research abroad during the academic year.

Only students who are at the advanced level of language proficiency may propose to use a FLAS award for dissertation research.

Students must be advanced to candidacy by the first day of instruction for the fall 2008 semester. The use of language in dissertation research must be extensive enough to consider the foreign language improvement facilitated by the research equal to the improvement that would be obtained from a full academic year's worth of formal classroom instruction. Since the legislative intent of the FLAS program is language acquisition, use of the FLAS fellowship for dissertation research is not encouraged by the U.S. Department of Education. The U.S. Department of Education prefers that students apply for the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program. Prior approval from the U.S. Department of Education is required for dissertation research abroad.

Eligibility: Eligible students must be graduate students and citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States. Lowest consideration is given to: 1) students who already possess language fluency equivalent to educated native speakers in the language for which the award is sought, including dissertators; 2) students who are taking the first 12 semester hours or the equivalent in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish; and 3) students applying for dissertation research or writing as opposed to students applying for language acquisition. Priority is given to students in the humanities and social sciences as well as professional fields. Students assessed a Professional Degree Fee (PDF) must submit a letter from their Dean that indicates that the PDF will be waived by the student's department if a FLAS fellowship is awarded. Prospective applicants are encouraged to consult the Area Center for the language of interest before submitting an application. Past FLAS recipients may apply for subsequent years of funding.

Award: The Academic Year FLAS Fellowship covers registration fees and provides a stipend of \$15,000.

Application: Berkeley continuing students may apply for the FLAS Fellowship by downloading the application from the Web (<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/financial/deadlines.shtml>), or by picking up the *Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Application* in 318 Sproul Hall. Incoming students should apply for the FLAS Fellowship using the *Graduate Application for Admission and Fellowships 2008–2009*, which should be submitted directly to their departments by the departmental deadlines. Awards will be announced in April.

DEADLINE: MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008

For more information, contact: Gina Farales • (510) 642-7739 • gfarales@berkeley.edu
Graduate Services: Fellowships • 318 Sproul Hall #5900 • Berkeley, CA 94720-5900

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) International and Area Centers

University of California, Berkeley

Center Information

Center for African Studies

342 Stephens Hall #2314
Berkeley, CA 94720-2314
Telephone: 510-642-8338
E-mail: asc@berkeley.edu

<http://ias.berkeley.edu/africa/>

Academic Year/Summer Awards

Academic Year

The Center for African Studies will offer FLAS fellowships in Arabic, Chichewa, Swahili, Wolof* and Zulu. (*Wolof is conditional upon U.S. Department of Education approval.) Awards will not be made in other African languages or any European languages. The research and training of applicants, particularly for Arabic, should demonstrate a commitment to an African Studies perspective. Applicants seeking advanced language training and from professional schools are encouraged.

Applicants for dissertation research abroad are given the lowest priority. There will be a MANDATORY orientation for all Academic Year Fellows during the week of August 19, 2008. Please plan accordingly. Consult with Center for African Studies staff for additional information.

Summer

Beginning Swahili, by agreement of all the Title VI Centers, is NOT eligible for a summer FLAS award. Refer to the web site on the Summer Cooperative African Language Institute (SCALI) at the University of Chicago Urbana-Champaign for a listing of eligible languages for Summer 2008 (<http://scali.afirst.uiuc.edu/>). It is advisable to register your interest early in studying a particular language on the SCALI website. In-country language study requires U.S. Department of Education approval of the instructional program and travel itinerary. Summer FLAS for study abroad is not awarded to first-year language study that can be done in the U.S.

Institute of East Asian Studies

2223 Fulton Street #2318
Sixth Floor
Berkeley, CA 94720-2318
Telephone: 510-642-2809
E-mail: backstrom@berkeley.edu

<http://ieas.berkeley.edu/>

Academic Year

East Asian languages currently eligible for FLAS awards are Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, Cantonese, and Uighur. Students planning to study Cantonese or Uighur must make study arrangements with Berkeley faculty members ahead of time or else propose a course of study at another institution, since those languages are not taught regularly at Berkeley. Low priority is given to students who are taking the first 12 semester hours or the equivalent in Chinese and Japanese. Exceptions will only be considered if the student has already achieved competence in another East Asian language and the project statement adequately demonstrates the need to study the second language. Students are not eligible for FLAS awards in classical Chinese or Japanese. Applications to study or pursue dissertation research abroad during the academic year will be considered only if the student requires special advanced language training unavailable at Berkeley, and provides a clear plan for a full-year equivalent of language training. Please contact IEAS about FLAS eligibility questions before submitting application.

Summer

The Summer FLAS can be used either at Berkeley, elsewhere in the US or abroad, upon approval. East Asia summer FLAS awards rarely have provision for travel assistance.

Institute for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

260 Stephens Hall #2304
Berkeley, CA 94720-2304
Telephone: 510-642-3230
E-mail: iseees@berkeley.edu

<http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~iseees/>

Academic Year

Languages funded are Armenian, Bulgarian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Georgian, Hungarian, Polish, Russian. Priority will be given to Less Commonly Taught Languages for advanced language proficiency and to master's students (i.e., professional school applicants). Graduate students in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures are eligible for FLAS fellowships. Jury members look for commitment to the area and field when deciding on applications.

Summer

Summer FLAS for study abroad is not awarded to first-year language study which can be done in the U.S., whether it is Russian or one of the other languages.

Center for Latin American Studies

2334 Bowditch Street #2312
Berkeley, CA 94720-2312
Telephone: 510-642-2088
E-mail: clas@berkeley.edu

<http://socrates.berkeley.edu:7001/>

Languages include Portuguese and Spanish (funded only at the intermediate level). Other languages may be funded but must involve study abroad or study at another institution. Consult with the Center for Latin American Studies for additional information.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) International and Area Centers

University of California, Berkeley

Center Information

Center for Middle Eastern Studies

340 Stephens Hall #2314
Berkeley, CA 94720-2314
Telephone: 510-642-8208
E-mail: cmes@berkeley.edu

<http://ias.berkeley.edu/cmes/>

Center for South Asia Studies

10 Stephens Hall #2310
Berkeley, CA 94720-2310
Telephone: 510-642-3608
E-mail: csas@berkeley.edu

<http://www.ias.berkeley.edu/southasia/>

Center for Southeast Asia Studies

2223 Fulton Street #2318
Room 617
Berkeley, CA 94720-2318
Telephone: 510-642-3609
E-mail: cseas@berkeley.edu

<http://ias.berkeley.edu/cseas/>

Institute of European Studies

207 Moses Hall #2316
Berkeley, CA 94720-2316
Telephone: 510-643-4558
E-mail: ies@berkeley.edu

<http://ies.berkeley.edu>

Academic Year/Summer Awards

Academic Year

The Center for Middle Eastern Studies awards FLAS Fellowships for Arabic, Persian, Hebrew, and Turkish. FLAS awards are not given for dissertation research; the student must be engaged in active, structured study of the language. We do not award FLAS for study abroad at the elementary level and not usually at the intermediate level when there is language training available in the U.S., especially through the Western Language Consortium of 7 universities, of which Berkeley is a member. Consult with the Middle East Studies Center for additional information.

Summer

Students are encouraged to do intensive summer language study for first, second, or third year Arabic, first or second year Hebrew or Persian, or first year Turkish, through the Consortium. UC Berkeley offers intensive first year Arabic each summer.

Academic Year

South Asia academic year FLAS awards are available for Bengali, Hindi, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Urdu. A FLAS grant in Sanskrit will only be considered if the student's project statement adequately demonstrates the applicability of Sanskrit to a topic dealing with modern or contemporary South Asia. Awards are **not** given for dissertation research abroad.

Summer

Berkeley students are encouraged to take languages not available at UC Berkeley through the use of a summer FLAS at an institution that has a FLAS eligible program, including programs abroad. UC Berkeley students are encouraged to take their summer study at SASLI (South Asian Studies Language Institute) held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, if the language is offered. See the SASLI Web site (<http://www.wisc.edu/sasli/>). Consult with the Center for South Asia Studies. Non-Berkeley students are welcome to apply for a summer FLAS at Berkeley for intensive first-year Hindi.

Academic Year

Southeast Asian languages approved for Academic Year FLAS awards are Indonesian, Tagalog (Filipino), Thai, Khmer (Cambodian) and Vietnamese. Awards will be prioritized for students who are pursuing advanced language proficiency for graduate research purposes and professional development. All five Southeast Asian languages approved for FLAS awards are offered at the Beginning and Intermediate level. Advanced level instruction is offered in Indonesian, Khmer, Thai, and Vietnamese.

Summer

Summer FLAS awards should be taken at a U.S. Department of Education approved program, such as SEASSI (Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute), which is held every summer at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (<http://seassi.wisc.edu>). Berkeley students interested in applying for a FLAS award for SEASSI should apply to the institute directly by its deadline of February 15, 2008. Overseas language programs run by consortia of which Berkeley is a member are also eligible for FLAS awards. These consortia are COTIM (Indonesia), CAST (Thailand), CAFA (Philippines), ASK (Cambodia) and VASI (Vietnam). Additional information on these programs is available through the Center for Southeast Asia Studies website.

Academic Year

Eligible languages include Breton, Catalan, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, modern Greek, Irish, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Welsh, and Yiddish. Priority is given to students who are pursuing advanced level language proficiency, especially in the least commonly taught languages, and/or students pursuing master's degrees in the professional schools. Past recipients may reapply.

Summer

Some past IES summer FLAS awards have made a very modest provision for travel assistance, not in itself sufficient to cover all expenses. UC Berkeley Summer Sessions offers a summer Portuguese Language Program that meets FLAS requirements for the beginning and intermediate levels.

Most Frequently Asked Questions for the Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship

Q. *Can I apply for the year-long FLAS for dissertation research and writing?*

A. Because the legislative intent of the FLAS fellowship program is language acquisition and the U.S. Department of Education has a separate dissertation fellowship program (Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program) with an annual competition, use of the FLAS fellowship for dissertation research is not encouraged.

Q. *Is a downloaded copy of my UC Berkeley transcript from Bear Facts acceptable?*

A. Yes. Make sure your name is included on the transcript.

Q. *I am a first-year graduate student. What transcripts do I submit?*

A. Provide photocopies of your undergraduate transcript as well as any transcripts with graduate coursework taken. First semester grades should be submitted as soon as they are available.

Q. *Will the Fellowships Office notify me if my application is incomplete?*

A. No. Students are responsible for checking if their application is complete.

Q. *When will I be notified if I have won the award?*

A. Awards will be announced in April.

Q. *Can I work while on the FLAS fellowship?*

A. You may work no more than an average of 25% time research or teaching appointment per academic year.

Q. *Do I have to take an international and area studies course both in the fall and the spring semesters?*

A. Yes. Please make sure that you are enrolled in your language course and an international and area studies course each semester while on fellowship tenure.

Q. *Can I take my language and international/area studies courses "pass/fail"?*

A. No. The U.S. Department of Education requires that language and international/area studies courses be taken for a letter grade.

Q. *What are examples of international and area studies courses?*

A. These courses are not limited to courses from the specific departments labeled "Africa," "East Asia," etc. Courses within the world area of award are acceptable. For example, for East Asian Studies, Music 134A: Music of the East Asia Tradition; Political Science 143A: Northeast Asian Politics; and Sociology 183C: China in the 1990's are all acceptable courses for East Asian FLAS fellows. Contact Gina Farales, FLAS Coordinator, at (510) 642-7739, or by e-mail (gfarales@berkeley.edu) if you have any questions about the course requirements for FLAS.