

Application Prompt	Evaluation criteria	Scores>>> Accomplished	Competent	Basic	None
Cover Letter					
Significance of Topic		Accomplished (3 points)	Competent (2 points)	Basic (1 point)	None (0 points)
Prompt: Please briefly explain your scholarly topic and its significance to your field. How does your scholarship aim to address historical or methodological biases, challenge assumptions in your field, or incorporate underexplored perspectives?	Significance of topic (3 points)	Applicant: - clearly explains the topic in an understandable way for a non-expert - makes a strong case for the significance or originality of the work	Applicant: - provides an explanation understandable for a non-expert, but lacks some clarity - indicates some significance or originality, but with insufficient detail or an incomplete argument	Applicant: - does not explain the topic in an understandable way for a non-expert - points to little or no significance or originality	Applicant: - does not describe the significance of their topic.
	Address historical or methodological biases, challenge assumptions in your field, or incorporate underexplored perspectives (3 points)	Applicant: - provides a clear, specific, and compelling explanation of how the work aims to address historical or methodological biases, challenge assumptions in the field, or incorporate underexplored perspectives - shows deep critical engagement and provides concrete examples	Applicant: - provides an explanation of how the work aims to address historical or methodological biases, challenge assumptions in the field, or incorporate underexplored perspectives, but generally takes a familiar path - explains general strategies or examples that lack specificity	Applicant: - provides a vague explanation of how the work aims to address historical or methodological biases, challenge assumptions in the field, or incorporate underexplored perspectives - does not provide examples	Applicant: - does not describe how their topic aimed to address historical or methodological biases, challenge assumptions in the field, or incorporate underexplored perspectives
Potential for Public Impact		Accomplished (3 points)	Competent (2 points)	Basic (1 point)	None (0 points)
Prompt: What are the potential real world applications of your scholarship? Examples may include (but aren't limited to) policy, practice, education, entrepreneurship, or community driven initiatives. How might your work help address real-world problems, reduce disparities, or promote broader societal benefit?	Proposed real world applications (3 points)	Applicant: - clearly articulates specific, feasible, and meaningful real-world applications - provides concrete examples	Applicant: - explains general real-world applications with some clarity and relevance - provides general applications or examples that lack specificity	Applicant: - explains vague applications, but shows limited understanding of how the work translates to the real world - does not provide examples	Applicant: - does not describe real world applications for their scholarship.
	Addressing real-world problems, reducing disparities, or promoting broader societal benefit (3 points)	Applicant: - provides a clear, insightful, and compelling explanation of how the work addresses real-world problems, reduces disparities, or promotes broader societal benefit - demonstrates excellent understanding of the real-world problem, disparities, or societal benefit the work addresses	Applicant: - provides a relevant but general explanation of how the work addresses real-world problems, reduces disparities, or promotes broader societal benefit - demonstrates some understanding of the real-world problem, disparities, or societal benefit the work addresses, but response may be unclear or overly broad	Applicant: - provides a vague or superficial explanation of how the work addresses real-world problems, reduces disparities, or promotes broader societal benefit - demonstrates limited understanding of the real-world problem, disparities, or societal benefit the work aims to address	Applicant: - does not describe how the scholarship addresses real-world problems, reduces disparities, or promotes broader societal benefit
Use of the library		Accomplished (6 points)	Competent (4 points)	Basic (2 points)	None (0 points)
Prompt: How did your use of the library deepen and extend your scholarly inquiry? Did you engage with any specific resources, services, or people in the library, and how did these interactions enhance your work?	Use of UC Davis Library resources and services. (6 points)	Applicant: - identifies multiple research tools and investigative techniques relevant to the inquiry - provides specific examples of tools and techniques used - engages with various library resources, services, or approaches unique or appropriate to the	Applicant: - identifies some research tools and investigative techniques, but omits others relevant to the inquiry - provides some specific examples of tools and techniques used but offers general/vague descriptions elsewhere - engages with some library resources, services, or	Applicant: - identifies use of basic tools only, such as the VPN and library catalog - does not include specific examples of tools used or techniques employed - does not engage with library resources, services, or approaches unique or appropriate to the	Applicant: - does not describe use of the UCD library resources and services.
	How library resources and services deepened, extended, enhanced the work. (6 points)	Applicant: - clearly articulates how the library resources and services used deepened, extended, or enhanced the work - provides multiple examples of how library resources and services supported, changed, or shaped their process	Applicant: - provides an incomplete or unclear explanation of how the library resources and services used deepened, extended, or enhanced the work - provides only one example or does not provide sufficient detail of how library resources and services supported, changed, or shaped their process	Applicant: - provides limited explanation of how the library resources and services used deepened, extended, or enhanced the work - provides no specific examples of how library resources and services supported, changed, or shaped their process	Applicant: - does not describe how library resources and services deepened, extended, or enhanced their work.
Scholarly work					
Quality		Accomplished (3 points)	Competent (2 points)	Basic (1 point)	
	Execution, clarity and quality of composition. (3 points)	The work is polished and of sophisticated quality for the discipline and medium. Key concepts, themes, or findings are well organized and effectively communicated. The applicant effectively conveys the project's central question, argument, thesis, or conceptual framework. If the work is written, it is clear and free of errors.	The work is generally well executed and appropriate to the discipline and medium, but may lack polish. Key concepts, themes, or findings are present and understandable but organization or clarity may be inconsistent. The applicant conveys the project's main question, argument, thesis, or conceptual framework, but may be underdeveloped. If the work is written, it is mostly clear and coherent, with minor errors that do not interfere with comprehension.	The work demonstrates limited understanding of the discipline and medium and lacks refinement. Key concepts, themes, or findings are unclear or poorly organized, making comprehension difficult. Ineffective, inconsistent, or nonexistent project question, argument, thesis, or conceptual framework. If the work is written, it lacks clarity and contains consistent errors that negatively affect comprehensibility.	
Resources		Accomplished (3 points)	Competent (2 points)	Basic (1 point)	
	Integration of resources. (3 points)	Demonstrates thoughtful and critical engagement with or selection and integration of high-quality, relevant, and diverse resources. Resources are clearly connected to the work's purpose and effectively used to strengthen impact, deepen insight, or ask critical questions.	Uses generally appropriate and relevant resources. Resources are integrated in a way that strengthens the work, but may lack depth or clear connection to the overall purpose.	Includes some resources, but they are limited in quantity, quality, relevance, or diversity. The role of resources in shaping or supporting the work is unclear or minimal.	
Parts of this rubric were developed with assistance from Generative AI (ChatGPT and Microsoft CoPilot). All AI outputs were edited, reworded, and reworked for relevance to this prize and its goals.					