



**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

**Call for Proposals:**  
**ISERP Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Seminar (IGSS)**  
**\$500 honorarium per presentation**

Interdisciplinarity has long been encouraged among the social sciences as a means of rethinking contemporary social questions that exceed the scope of traditional disciplinary approaches. Yet, there is still little consensus about what interdisciplinarity might look like and what its practical limits and possibilities might be. This yearlong seminar, sponsored by the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, seeks to foster a conversation across the social science communities at Columbia to discuss the diverse ways in which interdisciplinarity can be mobilized. The goal of the seminar series is to explore how interdisciplinary approaches can contribute to and enrich traditional disciplines and what such interdisciplinarity demands from them.

This Call for Proposals is open to graduate students in the social sciences and related disciplines at Columbia University. We seek contributions from scholars who are actively trying to incorporate interdisciplinary approaches and methods in their work, and who centralize the interdisciplinary component in their project proposal. Students have the opportunity to present papers on a range of topics and methods including, but not limited to, the social sciences, humanities, arts and culture, policy, and security. In addition to providing the opportunity to present works-in-progress, the seminar will foster discussion across disciplines and fields, creating opportunities for collaborative research.

This semester's theme is Inequality. The theme was chosen in order to highlight papers that are not only interdisciplinary but also relevant to today's most pressing social challenges. The first part of the Seminar Series this year will meet four times during Spring 2020; the seminars will take place at lunch during the weeks of February 7th, March 6th, April 3rd, and May 1st. Final dates, times, and locations will be announced closer to the start of the semester. Presenters will speak for the first half-hour, with questions and conversation for the remainder of the session. Food and drinks will be served at a small reception following each seminar.

The **2019-2020 submission guidelines** are as follows:

1. In order to qualify, papers should further the efforts of ISERP and the IIGSS to develop collaborative and interdisciplinary research and methods as well as be related to this year's theme. Collaborative projects by students in different disciplines are especially encouraged.
2. To apply, please email applications to the IIGSS Committee at [iserp-iigss@columbia.edu](mailto:iserp-iigss@columbia.edu) by **Sunday January 5th 2020, 5 PM (EDT)**. Final decisions for papers to be presented at the annual workshop will be announced by **Tuesday, January 21st**.
3. Applications should include:
  1. *A Research Proposal*. Research proposals (500-1000 words) should focus primarily on the interdisciplinary method at hand and include a brief description of how the project will enhance traditional disciplinary approaches and benefit from participation in the IIGSS. Research proposals will be judged by the IIGSS committee composed of doctoral students from 5 social science departments. Therefore, ensure that research proposals can be understood by those outside of your own field.
  2. *Curriculum Vitae* or *Resume*.

Selected presenters will be encouraged to emphasize in their presentations the way in which a need for interdisciplinarity emerged from the consideration of their object of study. In particular, they will be encouraged to discuss how specific analytical and methodological challenges were overcome and dealt with by recurring to methods and theories coming from allied disciplines different from their own.

Please format all filenames using "Lastname - Proposal" and "Lastname - CV" (e.g., "DiPrete - Proposal", "DiPrete and Connelly - Proposal", or "DiPrete - CV").

If selected, presenters are expected to send papers to the IIGSS committee one week before the workshop. The committee will circulate papers to other participants. A \$500 honorarium will be provided for selected presentations.

The **ISERP Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Seminar (IIGSS)** seeks to promote inquiry that crosses geographic, temporal, or disciplinary boundaries, by creating new opportunities for dialogue among graduate students in the social sciences, and by exploring new methodological and research approaches. The IIGSS is organized by a committee of doctoral students. The Committee consists of: Mireia Triguero Roura (Sociology), Wendy Morrison (Economics), Ki Young Kim (Political Science), Margaux Fitoussi (Anthropology), and Divya Subramanian (History).