



Summer Institute 2019 (6-20 July) Pakistani and Indian Student Application Form

Directions:

This form is to be completed by the student applicant and emailed to iwp-summerinstitute@uiowa.edu. Only complete student applications will be considered. For questions, contact Peter Gerlach, the Summer Institute Coordinator, at iwp-summerinstitute@uiowa.edu. **DUE DATE: 15 March, 2019.**

Description of Program:

The Summer Institute (<https://iwp.uiowa.edu/programs/summer-institute>) is a new immersive two-week creative writing and cultural exchange program held in Iowa City, Iowa, for participants aged 18-22 from Pakistan, India, and the U.S. This interdisciplinary program, fully funded for selected participants, focuses on creative writing and the power of narrative, and is designed to forge intercultural communication and understanding between Pakistani, Indian, and American participants; and address misconceptions and sociocultural conflict between participants, with a focus on conflict resolution and cultivating lasting notions of diversity, empathy, and community through person-to-person relationships. Students of all academic interests – the arts, humanities, sciences, and everything in between – are welcome to apply!

Central to this program is an intent to shape young people who are, or can become, critical thought- and opinion-makers in their societies. To this end, Summer Institute participants will be approached as future leaders in any number of fields, and programming will be developed based not only on creative writing teaching methods, but The Social Change Model of Leadership Development, which promotes the values of equity, social justice, self-knowledge, personal empowerment, collaboration, citizenship, and service, and is designed to enhance the development of leadership. Participants will come to see their writing as a form of action—a skill that can be employed for social change. Session programming will also embolden participants to consider specific ways their writing can further the human rights and social issues they wish to affect in their home countries.

During the two weeks of Summer Institute programming, mornings will be spent in master classes led by experts in various fields with a focus on creative writing and narrative (master classes are two-to-three hour sessions on a particular aspect of writing, identity, communication, or study). Afternoons will be reserved for generative writing sessions led by faculty mentors, as well as panels and discussions designed to work through conversations of identity and cultural biases, and promote team-building and collaboration. Evening programming may include literary readings, open mic nights, movies, and special workshops, as well as free time to write and socialize. As part of mid-session programming, participants will spend an afternoon at Lake Macbride State Park, where they may swim, paddle boat, share a picnic lunch, and enjoy the outdoors together.

Importantly, this program is designed to be a two-week exploration of self and the other, of participants' identities and their relations with one another, of personal and national histories and lived realities. This may be accompanied by moments or extended periods of discomfort, confusion, and even personal trial. On the other hand, such exploration can be a growth experience and a learning opportunity. It could even be transformative. All these possibilities are normal and, in many ways, to be expected. It is important that you, as an applicant, be aware of the kind of program to which you are applying.

Your Information:

First Name Middle Name

Family Name Gender Male Female Hijra

Date of Birth (month/date/year)

City of Birth Country of Birth

Country of Current Residence

Country of Permanent Residence

Country of Citizenship

Other Cultural Ties
(if applicable: ethnicity, etc.)

Home Primary Address
Please enter the address where you can receive mail by courier. Remember to include the postal code.

Home Phone Mobile Phone

Email Address University Grade Level

University (School Name and Address)

English Language Proficiency
Excellent Good Poor None

Previous Travel (including U.S.)

Other Summer Experiences or Exchange Programs the Applicant has Participated in

Awards and Honors

The following questions are for record-keeping purposes only and will not influence the application review.

Has the applicant been to the U.S. in the past 2 years as a J-1 exchange visitor?

Yes No

Has the writer ever been a University of Iowa student or scholar?

Yes No

Applications due Friday, 15 March, 2019

A completed application must include the following:

- Application Form
- Possession of a valid passport is a requirement for participation in this program. However, passports and/or copies of passports should not be included in the materials submitted with your application. Those selected to participate in the Summer Institute will be asked for a digital copy of their passport.
- 6-8 pages of creative work in English. Essays or other forms of nonfiction will not be accepted.
- The 2019 Summer Institute session will include discussion of identity as it relates to creative writing and the life of a writer. Please include 3-5 pages in response to the following:
 - In our daily lives, we navigate many different roles—student, sibling, daughter, son, peer. We negotiate family, friends, religious groups, as well as class, gender, race, country, and so many other groups, adjusting the way we speak or behave to fit the demands of each encounter. As we move through the day, we work through how and why we occupy each particular role. What do you consider to be the strongest, most central aspects of your identity? What does it mean to you to be a member of (or be seen as a member of) a particular group? In what way does your identity influence you as a creative writer and reader?
- The 2019 Summer Institute session will include discussion of the personal, national, and cultural/social impacts of the India-Pakistan partition and relations between these two nations. Please include 2-3 pages on the following:
 - Conflict is a part of the human condition, and oftentimes is unavoidable. How have you been shaped by conflict (interpersonal, generational, national, international, or another), personally or vicariously? Describe the impact of this conflict on, for example, your worldview, your values, how you relate to others, your growth as a person. Finally, in a few sentences, please share how, if at all, the historical and contemporary India-Pakistan conflict affects you.

- Optional: A video statement of purpose (2 minutes maximum, in English) including each of the following:
 - Introducing yourself
 - Describing why creative writing is important in your life
 - Sharing what you hope to learn at our program in Iowa

- The video statement should not be emailed as an attachment; rather, it should be uploaded to YouTube, Vimeo, or comparable sites and be emailed as a viewable link to iwp-summerinstitute@uiowa.edu with the application.