The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) is designed for outstanding students who are strongly interested in pursuing a doctoral degree in selected fields and a career as a college or university professor. For seven quarters while they are at UCLA, Mellon Mays fellows work closely with their faculty mentors and our team of MMUF graduate mentors. Through workshops and one-on-one sessions, fellows sharpen their skills in research, writing, and public speaking. They are also coached through the graduate school application process: they take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) preparation courses and learn how to write successful statements of purpose.

MMUF benefits do not end when fellows graduate from UCLA. When they enter doctoral programs in Mellon-designated fields, fellows become eligible for workshops, retreats, and other professional development opportunities designed for each stage of their academic career. Furthermore, fellows are eligible for repayment of up to $10,000 of undergraduate and graduate loans.

The MMUF program is named in honor of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays (1894-1984), educator, scholar, college president, and civil rights activist. The goal of the program, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, is to diversify the professoriate by increasing the number of faculty from underrepresented groups and also to support those with a demonstrated commitment to eradicating racial disparities in higher education. For more information about the MMUF program, see http://www.mmuf.org/.

UCLA MMUF SELECTION CRITERIA
The UCLA MMUF program includes intensive undergraduate research, completion of a senior thesis project, and preparation for graduate school. Students interested in applying to MMUF must meet the following criteria:

- Junior standing (at least 90 units), and a spring or summer 2021 Degree Expected Date. Transfer students are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Minimum 3.25 GPA (transfer students without an established UCLA GPA are exempt from this requirement)
- US citizens, permanent residents, AB 540, DACA, and undocumented students are eligible to apply
- Commitment to research and intention to enroll in a PhD program
- Superb scholarly promise in a major that includes work in one of the following Mellon-designated fields at UCLA:
  
  **HUMANITIES:**
  Art History  
  Classics  
  English/Comparative Literature  
  Foreign Languages and Literatures  
  Linguistics  
  Philosophy and Political Theory  
  Religion and Theology
  
  **ARTS (THEORETICAL FOCUS ONLY):**
  Film, Cinema and Media Studies  
  Musicology and Ethnomusicology  
  Performance Studies  
  Theater
  
  **SOCIAL SCIENCES:**
  Anthropology and Archaeology  
  Area/Cultural/Ethnic/Gender Studies  
  Geography and Population Studies  
  History  
  Sociology

Other areas of study may be eligible if they have one or more Mellon fields at their core. Please consult with our staff if you have questions regarding this requirement.

HOW TO APPLY:
All application materials must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on November 15. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Submit an Undergraduate Research Fellows Program (URFP), Mellon Mays Research Fellows (MMUF), and McNair Research Scholars Program application (available in early to mid-October), and check the “Mellon Mays” box. Applicants may also apply to URFP and McNair. The application includes four components:

1. Research proposal
2. Personal statement
3. MMUF prompt
4. Letter of recommendation from your UCLA faculty mentor

Visit our website for detailed instructions on how to approach each aspect of the application, and attend an info session in fall quarter for more information.

AWARD INFORMATION: Fellows receive quarterly research stipends totaling $3,600 junior year and $3,600 senior year, as well as $3,900 each summer (see pg. 2 for more information on summer enrollment requirements). Fellows must maintain full-time status during fall, winter, and spring quarters to remain eligible for funding and the program. Fellows are eligible to receive additional funding for activities during their time in the program (see pg. 2). Fellows enrolling in PhD programs in Mellon-designated fields within 39 months after graduating from UCLA are eligible for repayment of up to $10,000 of their undergraduate loans.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID: The MMUF will be part of your overall financial aid package. This means that if you receive an award, the Financial Aid office will adjust your financial aid package to ensure that you do not exceed your financial aid eligibility. If such an adjustment is made, loans and work-study award are reduced first, prior to grant or other scholarship reductions.
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<th>Year 1 – Junior Year</th>
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| **Summer/Fall Quarter** | - Determine research discipline, interests, and possible focus  
- Identify a faculty mentor  
- Meet with MMUF graduate mentor(s) to discuss MMUF program, and attend an info session  
- Apply for Departmental Honors Program, if offered by your department (deadlines vary by department)  
- Apply for MMUF by 11:59 p.m. on November 15  |
| **Winter Quarter** | - Begin faculty-mentored research through the Student Research Program (SRP 99 contract course) or upper-division research course (198 or 199)  
- Enroll in the research methods course Honors 101I: Research Today: Sources, Tools, and Strategies  
- Enroll in Honors 101J: Mellon Mays Research Seminar (2 units, 2 hours per week)  
- Apply for off-campus summer research programs  |
| **Spring Quarter** | - Enroll in and complete an SRP 99 or an upper-level research course (198 or 199) with faculty mentor  
- Enroll in Honors 101J: Mellon Mays Research Seminar (2 units, 2 hours per week)  
- Write proposal for senior thesis  
- Attend UCLA Graduate Division seminar on applying to graduate school  
- Attend Undergraduate Research Week  
- Take the GRE preparation course (course can also be taken at UCLA in summer)  
- Submit to the *Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Journal*  
- Submit application for continued funding  |
| **Summer Session** | - Attend off-campus summer research program  
- Correspond regularly with graduate mentor(s) and program coordinators  
- Prepare for and take the GRE  |
| **Year 2 – Senior Year** |  |
| **Fall Quarter** | - Enroll in and complete an upper-level research course (198 or 199) with faculty mentor  
- Enroll in Honors 101J: Mellon Mays Research Seminar (2 units, 2 hours per week)  
- Work on senior thesis  
- Complete applications to graduate school  
- Apply to and present at MMUF West Coast Regional Conference  |
| **Winter Quarter** | - Enroll in and complete an upper-level research course (198 or 199) with faculty mentor  
- Enroll in Honors 101J: Mellon Mays Research Seminar (2 units, 2 hours per week)  
- Work on senior thesis  |
| **Spring Quarter** | - Enroll in and complete an upper-level research course (198 or 199) with faculty mentor  
- Enroll in Honors 101J: Mellon Mays Research Seminar (2 units, 2 hours per week)  
- Present research at Undergraduate Research Week (May 2022)  
- Attend MMUF program senior dinner at UCLA  
- Complete and submit senior thesis  
- Apply for SSRC's Graduate Student Summer Conference  
- Graduate with B.A. degree! (Note: If you are graduating in Summer 2022 to receive the summer scholarship disbursement, you can still walk with your class in June)  |
| **Summer Session** | - Enroll in and complete an SRP 99, or a 198 or 199 research contract course with faculty mentor and declare a Summer 2022 Degree Expected Date to receive the summer stipend  
(Note: Students who do not enroll in summer session are ineligible to receive the year 2 summer stipend)  
- Meet regularly with graduate mentor(s) and program coordinators  |

MMUF participants receive additional funding including $600 to attend conferences in both junior and senior years ($1,200 total), $600 total for GRE-related expenses, and a $400 Senior Book Award for research materials in their senior year.

**Note:** Fellows entering PhD programs in Mellon-designed fields within 39 months of graduation from their undergraduate institutions are eligible for repayment for their undergraduate loans up to a maximum of $10,000. The Loan Payment schedule will be coordinated with the UCLA Financial Aid Office in accordance with Mellon guidelines.

See our website for further information about MMUF at [http://hass.ugresearch.ucla.edu/mmuf](http://hass.ugresearch.ucla.edu/mmuf).