The Mershon Center for International Security Studies is requesting proposals from Ohio State graduate students for research projects related to international and national security. Funds for student grants may be used to support travel costs, food and lodging expenses, interview or library fees, survey costs, and other expenses related to research. Students with dissertations underway are encouraged to apply.

Proposals will be evaluated by an interdisciplinary review committee of faculty who will make recommendations to the Mershon Center director. Past committees have included faculty from departments across campus, including Political Science, Sociology, History, Law, and Economics, and others.

The criteria for evaluation of proposals are:

- The academic quality of the project
- The project’s applicability to one or more of the Mershon Center’s three main research themes, listed below
- The student’s academic performance at Ohio State
- The likelihood that the project will fundamentally enhance a student’s academic experience or produce an academic product such as a master’s thesis, doctoral dissertation, or publishable article

The Mershon Center is interested in these three themes:

1. The use of force and diplomacy
2. The ideas, identities, and decisional processes that affect security
3. The institutions that manage violent conflict

We are also interested in projects that emphasize the role of peace-building and development initiatives globally, in addition to projects that strengthen the global gateways in China, Brazil and India. We will also consider projects that are related to campus area studies centers and institutes, or projects that address the university’s Discovery Themes in health and wellness, energy and the environment, and food production and security.

For more information regarding Ohio State’s Discovery Themes and Global Gateways, please visit https://oia.osu.edu/global-gateways.html and http://discovery.osu.edu/.

Proposals must contain four parts:

1. Standard coversheet including a 500-word abstract (available below). In a paragraph, explain to an interdisciplinary audience how your project will advance the understanding of international and national security, broadly defined.
2. Three- to five- page double-spaced proposal detailing the project or dissertation.
3. Detailed, itemized budget. Proposals involving international travel must budget for health insurance each month of travel outside of the United States. For more information, please contact simmons.541@osu.edu at the Office of International Affairs.
4. A letter of recommendation from the project advisor or dissertation committee chair.
5. Official copy of student’s college transcript or advising report.
Proposals must be submitted electronically by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

All application materials should be sent as one email attachment to mershon.student@osu.edu.

For questions regarding the application process, please contact Steven Blalock, Program Coordinator at the Mershon Center, at blalock.33@osu.edu or at (614) 688-5944.

Graduate students with winning grant applications will be informed in March or early April. Funds will be available for a full academic year.
2018-19 Mershon Center Graduate Student Research Grant Proposal
Coversheet

Student’s Name (Last, First):

Current Rank (please indicate below):
   Graduate or Professional

Home Department:

Project Title:

Project Abstract (500 words or less):

Total funds requested from Mershon:

Are you interested in having office space at Mershon (yes/no):

Total funds requested from other sources (list the sources and indicate whether or not funds have already been received):

Expected products: