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**Mershon Center for International Security Studies**

**Graduate Student Research Grant Competition**

**Proposal Form and Instructions**

**2020-2021**

The Mershon Center for International Security Studies is pleased to invite applications for [Graduate Student Research Grants](https://mershoncenter.osu.edu/grants/research-grants/student-grants.html). The mission of the Mershon Center is to advance interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to international, national, and human security. Our understanding of international security draws from a wide range of perspectives, approaches, and substantive foci. Consequently, successful applicants may come from a variety of disciplines, including anthropology, communications, economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, political science, public affairs/administration, public policy, psychology, sociology, and other disciplines that engage international security broadly conceived.

The center places an especially strong emphasis on supporting interdisciplinary research. Applicants are encouraged to develop collaborative interdisciplinary proposals that include a statement on how their project will contribute to the interdisciplinary development of knowledge. Interdisciplinary teams should strive to become more than the sum of their parts. The strongest team proposals will imagine a breakthrough that might come from active conceptual, methodological, and epistemological engagement across disciplines. Toward this end, promising teams will have a plan for their collaborative process. (For suggestions, see R. Bendix et. al., *Sustaining Interdisciplinary Collaboration: A Guide for the Academy*, University of Illinois Press, 2017.)

To learn more about the types of projects being funded, please see faculty project summaries on the Mershon Center website under [Research](https://mershoncenter.osu.edu/research.html) and past [Annual Reports](https://mershoncenter.osu.edu/publications/annual-reports.html).

**Proposals must contain five parts:**

1. Standard coversheet including a 500-word abstract (available below). **In a paragraph, explain how your research contributes to the development of an interdisciplinary 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 see [Travel Insurance](https://oia.osu.edu/health-and-safety/traveler-insurance.html) on the Office of International Affairs website
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 Friday, March 13, 2020.**

All application materials should be sent as **one** email attachment (word doc) to [mershon.student@osu.edu](mailto:mershon.student@osu.edu).

For questions regarding the application process or any budgetary or disbursement of funds, please contact **Kyle McCray, Business & Operations Manager at the Mershon Center**, at [mccray.44@osu.edu](mailto:mccray.44@osu.edu) or at (614) 292-3810.

Students with winning grant applications will be informed in March or early April.

**2020-2021 Mershon Center 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**:

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

**Expected products**: