

*April 16, 2024*

### **Call for Applications**

ASU's Melikian Center for Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies invites applications for an online workshop on the craft of academic and professional writing, with a focus on peer review. Applications are invited from advanced PhD and master's students, post-doctoral researchers, and other early-career scholars and professionals interested in enhancing their own writing, and in building their capacities in editing and reviewing. Based in principles and materials from the University of Chicago's [Little Red Schoolhouse](#), the workshop will provide participants with professional and technical skills and tools, and the opportunity to apply those skills to refine their own journal or grant submissions, and to contribute to the 2024-25 iteration of [Writing Across Boundaries](#), which supports scholars from the region pursuing publication in English-language peer-reviewed journals. Participants who successfully complete the program and commit to serving as a peer reviewer for Writing Across Boundaries will receive an honorarium of \$400.

### **Program Description and Focus**

The online workshop will run in August 2024, and requires approximately 20 hours of work from participation (8 hours synchronous, 12 hours asynchronous). All participants should also include a first draft of a piece of academic writing in their application, which they are willing to commit time to revising and sharing during the program. The workshop is built around material drawn from the Little Red Schoolhouse, University of Chicago's widely-recognized course in Academic and Professional Writing which has been developed and refined over the past three decades. Participants are responsible for studying Little Red Schoolhouse materials (including recorded content, as well as handouts and case-studies); participating in online seminars based on those materials; and completing practical editing and reviewing exercises on their own and on other participants' writing. We anticipate the workshop will be of direct benefit to participants seeking to better understand the principles of effective writing for scholarly publication—including identifying and understanding the reader; engaging with the debate; building the argument; utilizing information-flow, and structuring sections and paragraphs. We hope that participants will complete the program able to rework their first drafts into submission-ready manuscripts; and ready to share their skills and insights with peer authors beyond the program, including through the ongoing Writing Across Boundaries program.

### **Logistics**

The synchronous sessions of the program will run in the week of Monday July 29 through Friday August 2 2024, 4pm-6pm AZ time (7pm-9pm Eastern time). All working sessions will be held on Zoom. The workshop will be led by Keith Brown, alum of the Little Red Schoolhouse program, and currently Professor of Politics and Global Studies at Arizona State University; with input from the Writing Across Boundaries team.

### **Requirements**

Applications are welcome from advanced master's and pre-doctoral students and recent postgraduates who received their advanced degree in 2021 or later). Former recipients of Title

VIII funding, and participants in Howard University's think-tank program, are especially encouraged to apply. Native or near-native English proficiency is strongly preferred. As part of their application, participants should submit a draft of a piece of writing intended for academic audiences, and include a cover note describing the context in which the draft was generated (term paper, chapter from a larger thesis, grant application); where they hope the writing might eventually go; and what general edits the author sees as necessary to achieve that).

### **Application**

To apply, please submit

- a cover letter, describing the focus of your research, and any experience you have had in editing, reviewing, or in teaching writing;
- a short CV/resume (up to two pages);
- a piece of unpublished writing; between 10-30 pages, with a cover note of up to 1 page (see above for examples of genre, and rubric for the cover note)

Please submit these documents as a single PDF file named YourLastName\_2024 Melikian Peer Reviewer Program by email to [melikiancenter@asu.edu](mailto:melikiancenter@asu.edu), with the file name in the subject line.

**Applications received by midnight mountain time on Sunday, May 26 will receive full consideration; offers to participate will be made by Friday, May 31.**

Questions can be directed to

Keith Brown

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