

Zagorin Fellowship

Description

Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation and the Department of History at the University of Rochester through the Zagorin Memorial Fund seek undergraduate applicants for competitive fellowships for archival training and research in University of Rochester Special Collections and at other research institutions. The fellowship is offered in memory of the eminent University of Rochester Professor of History Perez Zagorin.

Through the Zagorin Fellowship, students will be provided guidance in the background and practical use of physical and digital archives by both a designated faculty member and a library professional from RBSCP. Students who have enrolled in HIST 299H and successfully proposed a research project with a faculty member supervisor are eligible to apply.

Students will be awarded up to \$2,500 to defray the cost of research at the University of Rochester and at other research collections from the summer of application until completion of their senior projects. Funds may be used to cover the cost of travel, lodging, material duplication, or other necessities for the research project.

Required Qualifications

Only undergraduate students in the History Department or related disciplines may apply. Students must be enrolled in or have previously completed HIST 299H and have an approved project with a faculty supervisor.

If selected as Zagorin Fellowship recipients, students will be required to meet with an archival and curatorial staff member of Rare Books and Special Collections for three experiential sessions. This is in addition to regular meetings with their faculty advisor for the project. The sessions with RBSCP will cover: 1) how archives are created, processed, and some best practices for approaching them as researchers; 2) an extended one-on-one guided reference session where students will receive instruction on relevant collections at University of Rochester and what archives might be beneficial to consult at other institutions. The curatorial staff members will give guidance in how to best approach using these collections as a new researcher; 3) after research has begun, a meeting to check in on the archival research process and talk through questions the Zagorin Fellow may still have.

These sessions will be scheduled to best fit the research project timeline and are required to receive funding. It is encouraged that the first and second meetings take place in April or May after notification of

the award. \$1000 will be disbursed after the first and second meeting and \$500 after the third.

Following the completion of his or her research project in the senior year, the Zagorin Fellow will present their work as part of the Zagorin Fellowship portion of the History Department's End-of-Year Colloquium.

Students may not hold two research fellowships (e.g. the Schwarz Discover Grant and the Zagorin) simultaneously.

To Apply

Students should submit **a statement of no more than 250 words** that details the research the Zagorin Fellowship will support, the faculty member who has agreed to supervise this research, and an initial set of archival resources the student would like to consult, with the understanding that this may change in conversation.

Students should submit a separate document containing a budget to request up to \$2,500 in funding to support the project.

These applications should be submitted to eensley@library.rochester.edu by **March 31, 2026**. The selection committee will comprise the director of undergraduate studies for the history department, the director of RBSCP, and a third committee member from RBSCP or the history department.