

## Example Humanities-Creative Arts Project Proposal

*Present a plan for a project that you will pursue over the summer. Your proposal should describe the problem to be investigated, the hypothesis to be tested, the idea/initiative to be developed/evaluated, or the creative endeavor to be undertaken and include a timeline. Describe how you chose your supervising professor and how you expect to work with him/her (and community partner organization, if applicable). If you are doing a project in partnership with a community organization, the proposal should also outline the community organization's need and how your project will address this need, as well as the organization's willingness to have you execute the project.*

During this coming summer semester, I wish to work on translating poetry from English into Spanish and from Spanish into English. The first six weeks of the summer, under the supervision of Dr. James Kimbrell and Dr. Juan Carlos Galeano, both of whom have experience translating poetry, I will work on reading and translating the works of major Latin-American poets like Pablo Neruda, Gabriela Mistral, Octavio Paz, and Jorge Luis Borges (among others); in addition, I also plan to translate the poems of many English language poets—Frank O'Hara, William Carlos Williams, Kenneth Koch, and Walt Whitman (also among others)—into Spanish. These initial translations will provide a foundation for the work I will do in the latter half of the summer.

During summer C, I will then work on translating my own poems from English into Spanish. These poems will contribute to my current honors in the major project, which is a book length collection of poetry entitled *Reasons for the Dark to Be Afraid*. Both Dr. Kimbrell and Dr. Galeano are serving on my thesis committee. In the second half of summer, I will also be meeting with Dr. David Kirby, the supervising professor on my committee, and Professor Barbara Hamby, who is also on my committee, to work on constructing many of the poems that will contribute to my honors thesis and which I will translate. I chose Dr. Kirby as my supervising professor because, after only one semester of writing poetry seriously, he edited and critiqued my poems; his supervision prompted my revisions, which eventually won me the department award in poetry last year. After writing these poems and receiving feedback on them from Dr. Kirby and Professor Hamby, I will translate these poems into Spanish by myself. Then, I will consult Dr. Kimbrell and Dr. Galeano to receive feedback and criticism on the translations. By the end of the summer, I will have not only translated the major works of many of the most famous poets in the world, but I will have gained the skills necessary to translate my own

poems into my native language. This attention and acute observation of language differences would inspire the new poems that would contribute to my honors thesis and improve my overall writing skills in both English and Spanish. These translations take long hours of sifting through dictionaries and interpreting the poems I wish to translate, emphasizing context over diction, meaning that I will aim to accurately portray the meaning behind the poems, not just word-forward accounts of them. This grant would enable me to take a summer off from my job at Barnes & Noble and still live in Tallahassee—allowing me to meet regularly with all four professors on my committee—and would allow me to purchase copies of the collected or selected poems of numerous writers (some of whom I mentioned above). Because work in translation lasts for countless hours, and because the writing of my poems themselves also takes a long time, having a summer devoted to the writing and translating of the poems would grant me the necessary time to improve my skills as a writer and give my work my full attention, which, in turn, would improve the overall quality of my honors thesis project.