

Announcing a Signature Research and Publication Opportunity for 2016-17 Writing 101 and First-Year Seminar Students...

## The 2017 Rigel Scholars Program

The Thompson Writing Program invites proposals from Fall 2016 Writing 101 and First-Year Seminar students for a signature opportunity. Winners receive a grant to conduct research over Summer 2017 and/or Fall 2017 under the mentorship of a Duke faculty member in a related discipline, and then develop a writing project for guaranteed publication. This selective Rigel Scholars Program also provides W and R curricular codes.

**Program Details:** The 2017 Rigel Scholars Program includes the following:

- Research Proposal: Rigel Scholars will identify an aspect of their Writing 101 or First-Year Seminar research, or alternate topics, that they would like to research over Summer 2017 and/or Fall 2017.
- Research Planning: Rigel Scholars meet with a Faculty Research Mentor—a faculty member in a related department or discipline who will serve as a project advisor and mentor—and a Research Services Librarian to define research goals for the coming summer and/or fall.
- Grant-Funded Research: Students receive up to \$500 to conduct research at Duke or elsewhere, over Summer 2017 and/or Fall 2017. Funds, payable against receipts, can be used for approved research-related expenses such as travel, supplies, food, books, conference/webinar participation, and equipment.
- Small-Group Research & Writing Independent Study (Writing 293) for Drafting and Revising: Rigel Scholars will enroll in a signature small-group research independent study (Writing 293, which carries W and R curricular codes, and will be facilitated by a TWP faculty member) in Fall 2017 to draft and revise a written document (article, proposal, field report, website, etc.) based on their research and that contributes original knowledge to at least one discipline. Rigel Scholars will also meet individually with their Faculty Research Mentors to get feedback about their research.
- Publication: Rigel Scholars' writing projects will be published in an exclusive special online issue of *Deliberations* in Spring 2018. (Rigel Scholars can instead choose to submit to another publication.)

**Eligibility:** Anyone enrolled in Writing 101 or a First-Year Seminar during 2016-17; all disciplines considered.

**To apply:** Prepare a proposal (*created as one pdf, 1-2 pages, single spaced*) containing the following elements:

1. Project title, your name, your email;
2. Current Writing 101 course title and professor;
3. Brief project overview (50-100 words);
4. Primary research question(s);
5. Anticipated research plans, methods, or activities (50-100 words);
6. Itemized budget;
7. The name, department, and email address for *three* potential Duke faculty members with whom you would like to work, in preferential order. (You do not need to contact faculty in advance; connections will be facilitated for you.)

Send completed proposals to Dr. Denise Comer, Director of First-Year Writing and Director of the Rigel Scholars Program, at [comerd@duke.edu](mailto:comerd@duke.edu).

- Deadline for *Fall 2016* Writing 101 or First-Year Seminar students: **5:00 p.m., March 31, 2017.**
- Deadline for *Spring 2017* Writing 101 or First-Year Seminar students: **5:00 p.m., May 4, 2017.**

For proposal writing tips, examples, and prior Rigel Scholars' projects, see

<http://twp.duke.edu/students/undergraduate/baker-scholars>

**Questions:** Dr. Denise Comer: [comerd@duke.edu](mailto:comerd@duke.edu).