

McMaster School Associate Fellow Application – 2026-2027

Proposals are due **by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026**, and must be submitted electronically to the McMaster School at mcmasterschool@defiance.edu.

The McMaster School for Advancing Humanity was founded to serve as a focal point for teaching, service, scholarship, and action to improve the human condition worldwide. The mission of the McMaster School is

- To educate students for responsible citizenship;
- To produce committed global citizens and leaders who understand the importance of individual liberties in improving the human condition worldwide; and
- To encourage graduates to take an active role in addressing these issues in whatever professions they may choose.

The School serves as a catalyst for innovative, interdisciplinary, community-based work by creating and supporting opportunities for teams of faculty, students, and staff to use their academic and professional skills to address a community need. The McMaster Associate Fellows Program provides support for scholarly exploration and faculty/staff travel.

The McMaster Associate Fellows Program is an important element of the signature program of the McMaster School. Successful initiatives clearly address the goals of the McMaster School, which are

1. To critically examine the root causes of human suffering through community-based research that addresses systemic factors that impede human progress;
2. To give students the knowledge and capacities to be active world citizens and to view themselves as members of the world community;
3. To contribute actively through sponsored scholarship and service to the improvement of the human condition worldwide;
4. To exchange, create, and disseminate knowledge about successful models of active citizenship and public service; and
5. To create at Defiance College one of the nation's premier undergraduate educational programs with a focus on scholarship and service, with a special emphasis on developing an innovative approach to teaching.

Expectations of Associate Fellows

All applications should be developed in collaboration with the McMaster Fellow(s) leading the learning community of interest. The primary purpose of the Associate Fellow is to support the student scholars with their research projects and provide support to the trip.

All Associate Fellows are expected to:

1. Actively participate in and contribute to a productive learning community throughout the academic year
2. Work to support the success of the initiative pre-trip, on-site, and post-trip;
3. Explore and document potential scholarly projects for future scholars' and fellows' applications.
4. Participate in the learning community presentation at the McMaster Symposium.
5. Attend a summer seminar that includes topics on principles and best practices of leading learning communities, conducting community-based research, directing undergraduate research, managing a budget, and traveling with students abroad.
6. Assist with continuing campus activities sponsored and hosted by the McMaster School for Advancing Humanity.

McMaster School Associate Fellow Application Form

Name:

Proposed Learning Community:

Statement of Interest:

Please provide a statement of interest in the McMaster School program for the region your application addresses. Specifically and clearly address the goals of the McMaster School.

Contribution to the Learning Community:

Please provide a statement of how you will support the learning community by addressing the following:

1. Your ability to provide support to the students in the learning community pre-trip, post-trip and on the ground,
2. Your ability to support the Fellow to run an effective learning community and trip,
3. Your specific and unique contributions to enrich the learning community and
4. Your ability to apply your interests or area of expertise to contribute to the learning community.

Personal Qualifications:

Traveling with students requires certain characteristics and qualities. Please address your abilities and relevant experiences to support the learning community in an off-campus setting.

Additional Information:

Associate Fellows are chosen based on the content of the application, the recommendation of the Fellow, and budgetary constraints.

All proposals **MUST** be submitted as a Word document email attachment to mcmasterschool@defiance.edu.

Questions can be directed to Bridgette Winslow at bwinslow@defiance.edu or x2395.