Interdisciplinary Research Incubator for the Study of (In)Equality (IRISE)
Grant Program
Request for Proposals

In supporting research, scholarship, and creative works, IRISE follows the principle that it is not enough to study (in)equality, but it is our responsibility to use the knowledge we acquire to promote changes leading to increased social justice and equality. The IRISE Research/Creative Work Grant aims to facilitate interdisciplinary research, scholarship, and creative works that seek to deepen our understanding of inequalities (including but not limited to race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation) that impact the quality of life for historically marginalized communities and/or to promote equality in historically underrepresented communities.

What do we mean by “(in)equality”?
In 2005 the University of Denver aligned itself with the work of Inclusive Excellence and Diversity. IRISE is a further extension of this commitment by creating an intellectual home for the faculty and students whose research and creative works aim at the exploring, interrogating, dismantling, and analyzing systems of power, prejudice, and discrimination that continue to oppress and marginalize historically excluded groups in the United States, in order to transform society. As such, IRISE employs a broad definition of diversity, consistent with Inclusive Excellence, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, age, disability, national origin and religion. Proposals thus must address how the research/creative work engages thinking about at least one of the above social identities in connection to (in)equalities.

Grant Purpose
To encourage and support the work of DU faculty and students in the development of research/creative works that further engage DU, the academy, and/or local communities in the study of (in)equality.

Grant Eligibility
IRISE research/creative work grant are open to faculty and students at DU. Interdisciplinary research teams are highly encouraged, as is research conducted between faculty and students.

Please see below for specific grant requirements based on affiliation.

Faculty Grants
IRISE may fund research up to $5,000 per project per academic year. As appropriate to various applicants’ disciplines, IRISE funds are intended to support either:
1. Pilot Projects, that is, small-scale preliminary studies likely to demonstrate the viability or help improve the design of corresponding full-scale research endeavors;
2. Short Term or Case Studies that can be completed within the award period;
3. Creative Projects.
**Graduate Student Grants**
IRISE may fund research up to $2,000 that supports graduate research and scholarship related to the study of (in)equality. The grant may fund expenses associated with a clearly defined research project or with a conference paper presentation.

Activities that will be considered for research project funding include, but are not limited to, travel-related expenses associated with field or primary archival research, transcription costs, the purchase of data sets for quantitative analysis, or other research services. Preference will be given to dissertation-related research.

**Undergraduate IRISE (In)Equality Scholar Program**
IRISE is interested in encouraging engaged student research on inequality. In particular, we hope to help students move from critical thinking to critical action by providing the opportunity for students to take their BIG IDEA to address an (in)equality issue, focus on promoting equality for domestic historically marginalized communities on campus, and make this idea a reality.

IRISE (In)equality Scholars Program will provide the support and structures that empower students to turn their big ideas into reality. Each scholar will follow a project structure that includes: research; development of a project plan in conjunction with faculty mentor, IRISE colleagues, and other DU students; and implementation, documentation and evaluation of their public project.

IRISE inequity Scholars will receive $2,000 annual fellowship on June 1 to complete their research over the summer. In addition, each scholar is eligible to receive a $1000 annual project stipend to implement community work. Faculty mentors will receive $500 in recognition of their intensive mentoring role.