Graduate Seminar on Global Transformations
2010-2011 Call for Applications

The Center for International and Comparative Studies (CICS) announces a not-for-credit seminar for master’s students and doctoral students at the pre-candidacy level intending to pursue field-based research outside the United States.

ELIGIBILITY
This seminar is open to students in the early stages of graduate training with interests in international and area studies who can demonstrate goals of completing training and research through the doctorate. Graduate students from across disciplines are invited to apply.

PURPOSE
The Graduate Seminar on Global Transformations offers students the opportunity to develop theses projects, pre-dissertation proposals, and dissertation prospectuses with their peers, in an interdisciplinary setting. The goals of the seminar include:

- Increasing students’ capacity for understanding research designs and systems of evidence developed in other professions and disciplines
- Examining issues of ethics and values in the development and conduct of cross-cultural and cross-national research
- Encouraging high-level critical discussion of methodology and epistemology
- Discussing different qualities and characteristics of data in international research.

ORGANIZATION
The seminar explores epistemological connections and dissonance among disciplines and professions involved in global transformations. It meets approximately seven times a term for two-hour sessions, which are organized around the discussion of presentations by participating students. Several sessions will also be devoted to the discussion of papers, research proposals, and faculty and visitor presentations.

Each student admitted to GSGT will have access to a restricted research fund of at least $4,000, to be used for a preliminary visit to the prospective foreign research site and for specialized language training necessary for dissertation research.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
Students must commit to participating in the seminar for three terms, and will be expected to make a presentation to the group following their research trip, and to discuss methodology, challenges, and results with seminar participants. A one-page report on findings must be submitted to CICS within six weeks of return from the research trip. This report may be used in CICS publications.

APPLICATION
4 hard copies of the following items must be delivered by the deadline:

- Completed CICS funding request cover sheet
- Two- to three-page letter that addresses the purpose of the seminar
- Two letters of support from a faculty advisor and/or departmental director of graduate studies
- Official transcript of grades

Members of the CICS advisory board will determine admission to the GSGT program.

DEADLINE
Applications are due by Wednesday, March 17, 2010 by 5pm (for admission to the seminar in September 2010)

CONTACT AND DELIVERY INFORMATION
Contact Folaké Graves at Tel: 734.764.3149 or Email: fograves@umich.edu
Deliver applications to: Center for International and Comparative Studies (CICS)
International Institute, 1080 S. University, Suite 3659