

2020 HOTCUS COVID-19 Mini Grant Application

Name	
Email address	
Institution (if applicable)	
Status (i.e. doctoral, early career)	
If early career, date of PhD award	
Project title	Non-white women and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the Southern United States.
Project abstract (200 words maximum)	<p>The Works Progress Administration (WPA) (1935) was an agency created under Franklin Delano Roosevelt's (FDR) New Deal, which aimed to reduce unemployment through a variety of programs, such as training and employment. Although it initially promised to be 'A New Deal for All' it often excluded several groups, including non-white women. This exclusion is reflected in the scholarship, with historians continuing to ignore salient questions surrounding the WPA and the ways in which it deprived opportunities for these women.</p> <p>Throughout the New Deal, non-white women continued to be disadvantaged. Racist and social barriers which were enacted after the Reconstruction Era, such as the Jim Crow Laws, continued to exist in the 1930s. Although non-white women made some small advances under the New Deal this was often limited to Northern States, such as New Jersey. Despite its limitations, it should also be considered a success in relative terms, as symbolically non-white women were recognised for the first time by the Federal Government since the Reconstruction Era.</p>
Proposed use of funds	Digitalisation of sources (WPA Material Collection) from the Arkansas State Archive.
Planned outputs (e.g. PhD chapter, publication, etc.)	The planned output of the resource is for four PhD Chapters, which will explore individual case studies (Adult Education, Health Projects, Sewing Room Projects and Agricultural Projects) of the WPA across the Southern states. Through addressing each of these individual case studies it will not only allow for comparing how the New Deal and the WPA aided non-whites across the South, but also raise further

	<p>questions, such as the extent to which non-white women gained real progress vs symbolic progress.</p>
<p>Breakdown of costs outlined above (be as detailed and accurate as possible)</p>	<p>Sources to be digitalised from Arkansas State Archives:</p> <p>Collection: WPA Material</p> <p>Box 46: Community Service Programs: Adult Education – 114 pages Box 47: Bulletins: Educational Programs – 113 pages Box 51: Activities: Women’s Work – 22 pages Box 72: African American: “An Evaluation of the survey of the Little Rock Negro” by Samuel Taylor – 7 pages Box 78: News-Clippings and Newspaper Articles: Indians – 5 pages Box 93: African American Leadership in Arkansas – 29 pages (over three folders) Box 135: Inventory of Federal Archives in the States: Works Progress Administration, Arkansas, Series XV, No. 4 – 79 pages</p> <p>Cost of \$0.25 per page, with a \$5 processing fee included with all orders:</p> <p>Total Pages: 369 pages Total Cost for digitalisation: \$92.95 Processing Fee: \$5 Total Cost including all fees: \$97.95</p> <p>Exchange Rate (5th November 2020): \$1 = £0.76 \$97.95 = £74.88</p> <p>Total Cost: £74.88</p>
<p>Please include a brief statement detailing how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected your ability to carry out your research plans</p>	<p>Covid-19 has affected my PhD research by restricting planned research trips. A number of archival visits had to be cancelled or postponed, including visits to the Roosevelt Institute of American Studies (Middelburg, The Netherlands) , the Franklin D Roosevelt Presidential Library (New York, USA) and the National Archives (Maryland, USA). This has meant that I have become reliant on digital collections in order to research my PhD. Most archives are not open to researchers outside the United States and require digitalisation in order to access them, which has been an unexpected additional cost, not foreseen at the beginning of my PhD project in 2018.</p>