The Obermann Graduate Institute is a one-week interdisciplinary institute in which participants explore how civic engagement can enhance teaching, research, and creative work. Participants discuss theories of engagement and meet with experts, including graduate colleagues, faculty members, and potential community partners. They also develop their own engaged projects, reconceiving their art, scholarship, and teaching to address community needs.

**ELIGIBILITY:**
UI graduate students in all fields and at all stages of their studies are eligible. Applicants may already have a project underway that they wish to develop, or they may use the Institute to develop a project that will be launched in the future. In either case, the applicant should carefully describe plans and objectives for an engaged project in the application letter.

*These grants are supported by the Graduate College and the Obermann Center.*
**APPLY**

The application requires a letter of interest and vitae from the candidate, a letter of support from a faculty member, and a checklist available at the URL below, signed by the departmental graduate director.

[www.uiowa.edu/obermann/gradinstitute](http://www.uiowa.edu/obermann/gradinstitute)

**INSTITUTE DIRECTORS**

Rachel M. Williams, Associate Professor  
School of Art and Art History, Department of Gender, Women’s, & Sexuality Studies

Charles Connerly, Professor  
Director of the School of Urban & Regional Planning

**AWARD**

Each Institute participant receives a $500 stipend and is named an Obermann Graduate Fellow.

**SCHEDULE**

The Institute will meet daily from 9:00am -5:30pm, Tuesday January 10 through Friday January 13, 2012 and from 9:00am-1:00pm the morning of January 16. Students should plan for advance readings, nightly assignments, and some evening commitments. Fellows are expected to focus fully on the Institute during this week.

“*The Graduate Institute was vital in helping me to organize my dissertation proposal and to apply for – and receive! – a National Science Foundation dissertation grant. It also helped me to frame my discussions about public engagement, which was critical in obtaining an academic position after graduation.*”

- Kirsten Beyer

Assistant Professor, Institute for Health and Society,  
Medical College of Wisconsin; 2008 Obermann Graduate Fellow;  
MPH in Global Health and PhD in Geography, The University of Iowa