



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

TASS²⁰¹⁶

TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION SOPHOMORE SEMINARS 2016 PROGRAM APPLICATION

June 19–July 30, 2016

Indiana University

June 26–August 6, 2016

Cornell University and University of Michigan

TO THE CANDIDATE

Telluride Association is pleased to invite you to apply for a place in the 2016 Telluride Association Sophomore Seminars! TASS aims to prepare students for a life of leadership and public service through an intense education in critical Black and ethnic studies, democratic self-governance, and communal living. All students attend our program on full scholarships. Additional need-based travel and work replacement scholarships are also available. While TASS welcomes applications from high school sophomores of all backgrounds, students from historically underrepresented groups—especially African Americans and those from financially disadvantaged backgrounds—are particularly encouraged to apply. You are receiving this mailing because a teacher, counselor, or someone else who knows you thinks that you meet the high standards required of those applicants admitted to our program.

The application asks about your background. It also asks you to write a series of essays and short answers, which are the most important part of your application. We hope you find the experience of writing the essays and short answers personally challenging and educationally rewarding. Your application will be judged not only on your demonstrated talents and abilities, but also on your potential for future development and how TASS can contribute to that development. We promise a careful reading of whatever you submit. Roughly one-quarter of those who apply are invited for interviews, and about half of the applicants interviewed will be offered places in our 2016 programs.

We encourage applicants to apply online, if possible. The online application and more information about the programs—including descriptions of the seminars offered this year—can be found at tass.tellurideassociation.org. Applications must be postmarked or submitted online by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on **Thursday, January 7, 2016**. Answers to some of the most common questions about the application and the program can be found at tellurideassociation.org/tass_faqs. If you have further inquiries, please direct them to tass-queries@tellurideassociation.org or call 607.273.5011 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. EST. We hope you will decide to apply for this life-changing educational experience!

Sincerely,

Lawrence Lee, Chair
Applications and Recruitment Committee

Ellen Baer, Administrative Director
Telluride Association
607.273.5011, telluride@tellurideassociation.org

Apply online!

tass.tellurideassociation.org

OR

Mail your

completed application!

Administrative Director
Telluride Association
217 West Avenue
Ithaca, NY 14850

PART 1

Your application will be photocopied and/or scanned and stored electronically for circulation among readers and interviewers. For that reason, your responses should appear dark and legible on the page.

Name: _____
last first middle

Name and address of current school: _____
school name street address
city state zip code country

Number of students in your sophomore class as precisely as you know it: _____

Type of school: ☐ Public ☐ Public magnet ☐ Private ☐ Parochial ☐ Charter ☐ Other _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Daytime phone number: _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Occupation: _____

Education: ☐ Some H.S. ☐ H.S. Diploma/GED

☐ 2-Year/Vocational/Some College ☐ Bachelor's

☐ Master's ☐ Ph.D. ☐ J.D. ☐ M.D.

☐ Other _____

Community activities _____

Brothers and sisters:

Name Age

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Daytime phone number: _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Occupation: _____

Education: ☐ Some H.S. ☐ H.S. Diploma/GED

☐ 2-Year/Vocational/Some College ☐ Bachelor's

☐ Master's ☐ Ph.D. ☐ J.D. ☐ M.D.

☐ Other _____

Community activities _____

Current level of education being pursued
or highest degree obtained

I certify that I will answer the following questions accurately and to the best of my ability and that all submitted essays and short answers are my own.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Gender: _____
last first middle

Address: _____
street address

city state zip code country

Type of community: ☐ Rural ☐ Suburban ☐ Urban ☐ Other _____

Telephone: home: _____ cell: _____

E-mail address: _____

Best way to reach you to schedule an interview: _____

Date of birth: _____ Place of birth: _____

Is English your primary language at home? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If no, what is your primary home language? _____

What languages other than English do you speak or read fluently? _____

Describe your race or ethnic identity in a few words (optional): _____

Select the closest corresponding category from the following list (optional):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African/Black | <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> Biracial/Multiracial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> European/White | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> South Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latina/Latino/Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Are you in a single-parent family? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you qualify for a Federal free or reduced-price lunch program? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How did you hear about our program?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mail | <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email | <input type="checkbox"/> Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PSAT | <input type="checkbox"/> Website |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> New Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Nominator Information: _____
name

relationship email address



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

TASS

TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION
SOPHOMORE SEMINARS

2016 PROGRAM APPLICATION

For Office Use Only

DB _____

Reading: _____

Officer: I _____ N _____

Program:

_____ Cornell I

_____ Cornell II

_____ Indiana

_____ Michigan

Please note:
When you photocopy this application, place this page on top. (over)

PART 2

These essays and short answers are the primary basis for our admissions decisions. Please ensure that your responses are thoughtful, complete, and concise. We will evaluate your essays primarily on the strength of the ideas presented within them. Although we hope you will show us your writing at its best, content is more important to us than polish. If you are selected to attend TASS, your essays and short answers will be shared with your faculty and factotums.

Each essay should be no more than 1,500 words (approximately 3 single-spaced pages or 9,000 characters) in length. If you are submitting your application online, please be aware that you will need to copy and paste your essays and short answers into text boxes. Please insert an extra blank line between paragraphs and be aware that any special characters or formatting will not be preserved. We recommend that you write and proofread your work on a word processor before you print or submit your application online.

Essay Questions

1. Please explain why you want to attend and what you hope to gain from TASS. In addition, tell us what unique perspectives you will bring to TASS and how you will contribute to a diverse and inclusive community. Give specific examples.
2. At TASS, you will discuss texts and ideas in a college-style seminar. You should feel comfortable thinking deeply about an issue and taking a well-reasoned stance. To that end, discuss a specific question or topic in African American or Black politics, culture, or social life. Convince us that this problem or topic is important, and that your way of seeing the issue is the right one. Your essay should represent your own views and thoughts. It should not be a research paper.
3. TASS is comprised of small educational communities that rely greatly on the maturity of individual members. Tell us about a time you did something that upset or hurt someone in a community you were involved in. How did you respond to this situation? Reflect on your response, and evaluate it. What would you do the same, and what might you do differently? Why?

Short Answer Questions

In addition, please provide, in no more than 250 words (1,500 characters) per list:

- a. A brief explanation of why you are interested in each seminar and an order of your preference for attending them. If there is a seminar that you would definitely not attend, explain why. (If you are selected for TASS, we will use your answer to help place you into an appropriate seminar.)
- b. A list of your favorite books, films, exhibits, newspapers, magazines, lectures, music, and/or works of art. For each item, please include a very brief description of its importance to you.
- c. A list of your most relevant activities, work, or volunteer experiences, honors, and awards. For each, include a very brief description of its importance to you.

Optional: You may (but are not required to) submit up to 250 words (1,500 characters) of any other information you feel would help the committee understand your application: for example, any unusual patterns or anomalies in your academic record, such as gaps in education, or a poor semester performance.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION BY MAIL

If applying by mail, please follow these instructions carefully. We encourage you to apply online if possible.

1. Print your essays and short answers single-spaced in 12-point font on standard letter-size (8.5" x 11") paper, single-sided. Number the pages and put your name at the top of each page.
2. Assemble your application as follows:
 - If you received the application as a single sheet of paper, fold it so that your signature, name, and address are on top and place your essays in order inside.
 - If you printed your application, put the two pages labeled "Part 1" on top, starting with the page with your signature, name, and address, then put your essays and short answers in order. You do not need to enclose the pages with our letter to you or the "Part 2" instructions.
3. Mail your application in a large enough envelope so that you do not have to fold your essays and short answers to Ellen Baer, Administrative Director, Telluride Association, 217 West Avenue, Ithaca, NY 14850. It must be postmarked by **Thursday, January 7, 2016**.
4. **You are encouraged to keep a copy of both Part 1 and your essays to help you prepare for your interview, if selected.**

TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE, go to tass.tellurideassociation.org

If you apply online, your application is also due on **Thursday, January 7, 2016, 11:59 p.m. EST**. Please do not also submit a paper application.

Students who are selected for interviews will be notified in early March. These students will be asked to submit a transcript, a letter of recommendation, and a paper written for class. Further instructions will be given with the notification.



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

Telluride Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical disability.

Applicants who plagiarize all or part of their application will have their application returned to them and will not be considered for admission into the program. Telluride Association and its officers may also, at its own discretion, contact the staff of these students' respective schools in order to notify them of any instance of plagiarism.

It is the policy of Telluride Association not to grant any special consideration, positive or negative, to students who apply to summer programs when those students have a parent or sibling who has participated in or been employed by a TA program. Immediate family members of current TASS faculty are ineligible to apply.

Telluride Association occasionally shares applicants' names and addresses with our partner institutions for the purpose of informing them of scholarship and other opportunities.