Affordable Materials Grants, Round 18:

Continuous Improvement Grants

(Fall 2020 – Fall 2021)

Proposal Form and Narrative

# Notes

* The proposal form and narrative .docx file is for offline drafting and for our review processes. Submitters must use the online Google Form for proposal submission, including uploading this document.
* The only way to submit the official proposal is through the Google Form. The link to the online application is on the [Round 18 RFP Page](https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/rfp_r18).
* The italic text provided below is meant for clarifications and can be deleted.

# Applicant and Team Information

*The* ***applicant*** *is the proposed Project Lead for the grant project. The* ***submitter*** *is the person submitting the application (which may be a Grants Officer or Administrator). The submitter will often be the applicant—if so, just leave the submitter blank.*

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| --- | --- |
| Requested information | Answer |
| Institution | Georgia Highlands College |
| Applicant name | Jayme Akers Feagin |
| Applicant email | [jfeagin@highlands.edu](mailto:jfeagin@highlands.edu) |
| Applicant position/title | Professor of History |
| Submitter name |  |
| Submitter email |  |
| Submitter position/title |  |

Please provide the first/last names and email addresses of all team members within the proposed project. Include the applicant (Project Lead) in this list. Do not include prefixes or suffixes such as Ms., Dr., Ph.D., etc.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Team member | Name | Email address |
| Team member 1 | Jayme Akers Feagin | jfeagin@highlands.edu |
| Team member 2 | Bronson Long | blong@highlands.edu |
| Team member 3 |  |  |
| Team member 4 |  |  |
| Team member 5 |  |  |

If you have any more team members to add, please enter their names and email addresses in the text box below.

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# Project Information

| Requested information | Answer |
| --- | --- |
| Type of Project | Revision of open educational resources (OER) used in existing courses |
| Requested Amount of Funding  *$10,000 maximum total award per grant* | $4,000 |
| Course Titles and Course Numbers | HIST 1111 & HIST 1112 |
| Final Semester of Project | Fall 2021 |
| Currently Existing Resource(s) to be Revised/Ancillaries Created  *Please provide a title and web address (URL) to each of the currently existing resources that you are revising, creating new ancillary materials for, or replacing. If replacing, please include a title and web address (URL) to the new OER as well.* | <https://ghcworldhistory.weebly.com/> |

# Project Goals

Since the 2018 fall semester, many historians at Georgia Highlands College have utilized a series of video lectures as their textbooks for World Civilization I and World Civilization II. These videos were filmed as part of the Open Educational Resources (OER) materials created for these classes with round ten ALG funding. Although student reaction to this cutting edge, free and easily accessible series of videos for World Civilization has been largely positive, a minority of students have noted that they would prefer a traditional textbook. These students have remarked that they find it easier and more comprehensible to read a textbook than to watch a series of video lectures.

Because we strive to serve all students who use OER materials, we propose to take the transcribed texts of the World Civilization video lectures to construct a traditional written textbook. In order to give the transcribed texts of our video lectures the true appearance of a written textbook, we plan to add a table of contents, section breaks, key terms, guiding questions and images to the text of each video, effectively transforming each video into a short textbook chapter. This written textbook in turn will accompany the video lectures and will serve as an option for students who prefer to read instead of watch videos. Converting the video lectures into a written textbook will significant augment the quality of the OER materials for World Civilization. Moreover, it will align World Civilization OER materials at Georgia Highlands College with the educational principals of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). These principals stress equal opportunity for all students as well as flexible, accessible materials that remove obstacles to student success. In addition, UDL encourages instructors to offer course materials in multiple formats to appeal to diverse learners. This provides students with more than one way to interact with the materials and thus increases their motivation to learn.

If approved, we anticipate that a written textbook will increase student engagement with our OER materials for World Civilization. Besides the minority of students who have mentioned their preference for a written textbook, it is quite likely that many students who currently appreciate the video lectures will find a written textbook to accompany the videos a welcomed addition. It will also make the unique video lectures for World Civilization at Georgia Highlands College even more innovative. In the end, a textbook in multiple formats, both video and written, will benefit all students who take World Civilization classes at Georgia Highlands College. Our goal to broaden the accessibility of OER materials in World Civilization classes at Georgia Highlands College will likewise assist the college’s efforts to attract, retain and graduate students.

# Action Plan

To carry out our plan of improving the World Civilizations video textbook to offer an increased number of learning modalities to students, we plan to convert our current transcripts into a sort of mini-textbook that students can read if they prefer not to watch the videos. To do so, we will adopt the following plan of action:

1. **Edit the Transcripts for Clarity:** The transcripts are currently verbatim transcriptions of the spoken word. This includes mistakes and corrections that were made during the live recording. To improve clarity, we will revise these transcripts to remove mistakes and to ensure that they follow the conventions of Standard American English. We have transcripts for 140 videos, so the SMEs will divide the workload in half.
2. **Create Topic Headings:** The transcripts will be divided into sections based on subject, identified by topic headings, to allow students to navigate the text more easily.
3. **Identify Key Terms:** We will highlight (bold + blue) key terms in the text. For clarity, these key terms will match the key terms listed the video web page. We will also provide a key term list in each section.
4. **Questions to Consider:** Each transcript will include questions to consider to help guide the student’s reading.
5. **Add Maps and Images:** We will add creative-commons-licensed maps and images to the mini-textbook to ensure that students don’t miss important visuals from the video, if they prefer to read.
6. **Add Primary Source Reading List**: Finally, we will add a list of primary source readings to each module in the video textbook, so that instructors can use them in class.

You can see a model of one fully revised transcript here: [The Classical West, Part I](https://georgiahighlands2.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/ghcworldhistory/EdDhKt8OYUBIm60cbQ8-rb8B3FrMM4yZ_56AkYK7NBvpeQ?e=6ZY1qa)

After completion, the mini-textbook will be hosted on the current GHC World Civilizations Video textbook website: <https://ghcworldhistory.weebly.com/> It will be available to all. It will maintained and adjusted as necessary by the GHC history team

# Timeline

* **Fall 2020** – Final Planning and Division of Labor
* **Spring 2021** – Revision of Transcripts + Creation of Mini Textbook
* **Summer 2021** – Initial Pilot (1 section of each course)
  + HIST 1111 taught by Dr. Long
  + HIST 1112 taught by Dr. Feagin)
* **Fall 2021** – Tweaking of Material based on student feedback + Wider Rollout of Material, Final Report

# Budget

* $2000 – Jayme Akers Feagin SME Compensation
* $2000 – Bronson Long SME Compensation

# Creative Commons Terms

I understand that any new materials or revisions created with Affordable Learning Georgia funding will, by default, be made available to the public under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY), with exceptions for modifications of pre-existing resources with a more restrictive license.

*Initialed: JAF/BL*

# Accessibility Terms

I understand that any new materials or revisions created with Affordable Learning Georgia funding must be developed in compliance with the specific accessibility standards defined in the [Request for Proposals](https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/rfp_r18).

*Initialed: JAF/BL*

# Letter of Support

*The Department Chair from the corresponding project, or the Department Chair’s direct report such as the Dean or Provost, must provide a signed Letter of Support for the project. This letter should acknowledge the following:*

* *The department will provide support for fund disbursement in correspondence with the Grants/Business Office.*
* *The department approves of the work on the proposal by the applicant(s).*
* *The department acknowledges the sustainability of these affordable resources after the grant work is complete.*

*In the case of multi-institutional affiliations, all participants’ institutions must provide a letter of support.*

*Please provide the name and title of the department chair (or other administrator) who provided you with the Letter of Support.*

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| Dr. Alan Nichols  Dean, School of Social Sciences and Education Professor of Philosophy Georgia Highlands College 706-368-7615 |

# Grants or Business Office Letter of Acknowledgment

*Institutional Grants/Business Offices will be responsible for fund disbursement, often in correspondence with the Department Chair, including expense and travel reimbursement. Applicants will need to provide a short Letter of Acknowledgment stating that the Grants/Business Office knows about the applicant’s intent to apply for an Affordable Materials Grant. Either the Department Chair or the Project Lead can work with the Grants/Business Office to get this signed letter.*

*In the case of multi-institutional affiliations, all participants’ institutions must provide a letter of acknowledgment.*

*Please provide the name and title of the grants or business office representative who provided you with the Letter of Acknowledgment.*

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| --- |
| Krissy Shanahan  Grants Administrator, Academic Affairs  Georgia Highlands College  [kshanaha@highlands.edu](mailto:kshanaha@highlands.edu)  Office: (706) 295-6332  Mobile: (770) 546-4472 |