Graduate Fellowship Preparation Course

General Information:

Meeting Times: F 9:10 – 10:00 am
Location: Physical Sciences Room 111

Lead by: Prof. Tyler Robinson

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 Office: Physical Sciences 225 B
 Office Hours: By appointment.

Course Description: The National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) and the NASA Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology (FINESST) program provide up to three years of fellowship support to high-achieving, early-career scientists. Winning a GRFP or FINESST gives you the freedom to pursue your own independent research program, and is an extremely prestigious fellowship to have to your name. This seminar series will help you to assemble a strong application for the GRFP and/or FINESST awards.

Course Objectives: This seminar series will help students understand the GRFP and FINESST funding calls, and will help students get an early start on their fellowship writing. We will workshop ideas for proposals, and will discuss writing and figures. As a group, we will perform mock panel reviews of draft proposals, thereby giving students ample feedback on their proposals prior to submission.

Course Topics Outline:

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	Aug 27	Timeline; Overview of NSF GRFP Program; Funding Calls
2	Sep 03	Discussion of Funding Call; Review Exercise; Update Advisor
3	Sep 10	Class Mock Review Panel
4	Sep 17	Idea Pitches
5	Sep 24	First Draft Proposal Due; Group Feedback
6	Oct 01	Second Draft Proposals Due; Group Feedback; Draft to Advisor
7	Oct 08	Class Mock Review Panel
8	Oct 15	Fastlane Summary Due; Group Feedback; Department Panel
9	Oct 18-22	GRFP Due (5:00 pm Local Time) (link) (no class)
10	Oct 29	GRFP Letters Due (5:00 pm Eastern); internal break (no class)
11	Nov 05	Introduction to NASA FINESST Program
12	Nov 12	FINESST Idea Pitches; Feedback
13	Nov 19	FINESST Draft Personal Statements Due; Group Feedback
14	Nov 26	Thanksgiving Break (no class)
15	Dec 03	FINESST Draft Research Statement Due; Group Feedback