

# The Graduate Archer Fellowship Program at The University of Texas Permian Basin

## ABOUT THE ARCHER CENTER

Founded in 2001 by Congressman Bill Archer as he retired from 30 years of service in the U.S. House of Representatives, the Archer Center serves as the Washington, D.C., campus of The University of Texas System. The Archer Center seeks to educate the next generation of leaders from Texas and instill in them a love of public service. More than 1,800 alumni have graduated from the Archer Center's programs and are now making a difference in communities around the world.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW: LIVE, LEARN, AND INTERN IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Graduate Archer Fellowship Program provides graduate students from across The University of Texas System institutions with a unique opportunity to live, learn, and intern in our nation's capital during the summer. Home to many government, media, research, and cultural institutions, Washington, D.C., offers unparalleled opportunities for career development and cultural enrichment. While in D.C., students earn in-residence UT Permian Basin credit for their coursework and gain hands-on work experience in an internship. Through a shared cohort experience, Archer Fellows build lasting friendships and professional connections with each other. The Graduate Archer Fellowship Program is tailored to students' own personal and intellectual interests, which allows them to connect their developing expertise to policy and public service.

## ELIGIBILITY

The Graduate Archer Fellowship Program is available to graduate students of all areas of study, and we welcome a diverse array of student interests and backgrounds. Federal policy touches many aspects of peoples' lives in the U.S. and around the world. For this reason, the Archer Center believes it is important for students from any discipline to understand the policy process and how to be an effective policy advocate.

Students must meet the following eligibility requirements in order to apply:

- Applicant must be pursuing a graduate degree (masters, Ph.D.) at The University of Texas Permian Basin
- GPA of 3.0 or greater at The University of Texas Permian Basin (first year students must meet this requirement by the end of the fall 2023 semester)
- Previous professional or internship experience
- Experience serving and/or providing leadership to campus or community

If selected for the Graduate Archer Fellowship Program, students must meet the following requirements by the beginning of the summer they will be in Washington, D.C.:

- Nine hours of in-residence credit completed at The University of Texas Permian Basin
- GPA of 3.0 or greater

## COURSES

UT Permian Basin Archer Fellows take courses housed in Political Science, which are taught by faculty from UT Dallas and policy experts from the Washington, D.C., community. Students earn nine hours of graduate-level credit:

### Inside Washington: Policymaking from the Ground Up

(3 credit hours)

### Archer Center Washington Internship

(3 credit hours)

### Archer Center Independent Study and Research

(3 credit hours)

Students are strongly encouraged to consult their academic advisors to learn how these in-residence classes will fit into their degree plans.

## POLICY WORKING GROUPS

As part of the coursework, Archer Fellows will participate in a specialized working group in one of several topic areas: General Domestic Policy, Education Policy, Health Policy, and National Security and Global Affairs Policy. These working groups enable Archer Fellows to connect with policy leaders in their field through policy roundtables and tailored academic research projects. In addition, these working groups foster research and policy collaboration between Archer Fellows.

## INTERNSHIP

All Archer Fellows participate in a full-time internship that aligns with their academic and professional goals. Archer Fellows are responsible for researching and applying for internships, while Archer Center staff provide guidance and assistance throughout the process. The Archer Center has a vast network of connections in a variety of fields in the nation's capital, and Archer Fellows have developed a fantastic reputation as high quality interns.

While many internships in Washington, D.C., offer financial compensation (e.g., stipends, hourly pay, etc.), some opportunities remain unpaid.

For that reason, students should not expect to earn an income while in D.C. Visit [archercenter.org/internships.html](https://archercenter.org/internships.html) for a non-exhaustive list of potential internship sites.

## PROGRAM COST AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Archer Fellows pay a program fee in place of UT Permian Basin tuition. The current Graduate Archer Fellowship Program fee is \$3,900 and is subject to change in future years. Students typically fund their fellowship through existing financial aid, designated campus funding, Archer Center need- and merit-based scholarships, and personal resources. Thanks to generous funding, the program is more affordable than ever. Students are encouraged to visit [archercenter.org/funding-your-fellowship.html](https://archercenter.org/funding-your-fellowship.html) for more information on program expenses.

The Archer Center and our supporters are committed to making the Graduate Archer Fellowship Program affordable by removing financial barriers that may prohibit a fellow from achieving their educational goals. The Archer Center's need- and merit-based scholarship provides up to \$8,000. With a variety of scholarships and funding resources, many Archer Fellows receive comprehensive funding for their fellowship. Please reach out to the Archer Center if you'd like to discuss your individual financial circumstance.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Lin Crowson

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### The Archer Center

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# ARCHER FELLOW SPOTLIGHT

## Ifeoma Okoli, Summer 2022 Archer Fellow

**DEGREE:** M.A. in Clinical Psychology

**D.C. INTERNSHIP:** The John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress

**CURRENT JOB:** Graduate Student

*"My time as an Archer Fellow opened me up to a world of learning and endless opportunities. I had the privilege to work with top thinkers from around the world, initiate and negotiate policy issues with policymakers, and build networks that are relevant to my professional goals. The Graduate Archer Fellowship Program is a University of Texas System student's window to global leadership."*

