

the SHELBY CULLOM DAVIS CENTER
for HISTORICAL STUDIES

<http://www.princeton.edu/dav/>



“Risk and Fortune”

Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies

During the academic years 2016/17 and 2017/18, the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies will focus on the topic of “Risk and Fortune.” Notions of risk have been important to human societies for centuries. Soothsaying, insurance, medical prognostication, financial investment, and gambling all contend with—or try to contain—possible losses. Conversely, good fortune has had its talismans and theorists throughout history. How have different cultures tried to tame chance, or comprehend its whims? To what degree have the practices of commerce relied upon, or alternatively reified, risk? Do technological systems generate hazards they are not capable of controlling? This two-year seminar will bring together scholars working on risk and fortune in historical societies around the world in all time periods, on topics including (but not restricted to) economics, science, religion, industry, statistics, and agriculture.

The Center will offer a limited number of research fellowships for one or two semesters, running from September to January and from February to June. Early career scholars must have their doctoral degrees in hand at the time of the application. Fellows are expected to live in Princeton in order to take an active part in the intellectual interchange with other members of the Seminar. Funds are limited, and candidates are, therefore, strongly urged to apply to other grant-giving institutions as well as the Center if they wish to come for a full year.

To apply please link to: <http://jobs.princeton.edu>, requisition #1500396. The deadline for receipt of applications and letters of recommendation for fellowships for 2016/2017 is December 1, 2015. Please note that we will not accept faxed applications. Applicants must apply online and submit a CV, cover letter, research proposal, abstract of proposal, and contact information for three references. For further information about the Davis Center, please go to <http://www.princeton.edu/dav>. Princeton University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Angela N. H. Creager
Director, 2016–2020

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