

# SAR SEMINAR PROGRAMS

“There isn't any other force within anthropology today that has as much impact in moving the field forward and helping young scholars become established as SAR.”

—R. Brian Ferguson, 1989 Advanced Seminar  
Co-chair and SAR Press author

## Seminar Program

THE SEMINAR SELECTION PROCESS is guided by the School's commitment to supporting research that advances knowledge about human culture, evolution, history, and creative expression. Housed on SAR's historic campus in Santa Fe, New Mexico, seminar participants take advantage of the opportunity to develop their work in a unique learning environment. Seminars are held in the School's comfortable and fully-staffed Douglas W. Schwartz Seminar House, which has a meeting room, dining room, kitchen, private bedrooms for participants, and a spacious courtyard. The structure of the seminars allows participants to meet without interruption or distraction for discussion and peer review.

SAR encourages seminar chairs to include scholars representing a mix of perspectives—including different fields within anthropology and disciplines outside of anthropology. Competitive proposals will have a strong empirical dimension, will engage broad scholarly literature, and will situate proposed research topics within a specific cultural or historical context. Applicants should make a convincing case for the intellectual significance of their projects and their potential contribution to a range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences.



**School for Advanced Research**  
Post Office Box 2188, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2188  
(505) 954-7200 [www.sarweb.org](http://www.sarweb.org)

## ADVANCING SCHOLARSHIP THROUGH **COLLABORATION**

In 1968 the School for Advanced Research had a vision: choose an area of focus in the social sciences, gather committed scholars, host them in a welcoming Santa Fe-style home, and step back to let them work together in an immersive and collaborative environment. This process has become the heart of SAR's seminar programs. In the decades since, these gatherings have led to the development and publication of some of the most influential perspectives in anthropology today.

From the first conversation over morning coffee to late-night debates, a seminar in process ensures there is a meaningful dialogue in the works.



*Photos, above: "A World of Walls: Why Are We Building New Barriers to Divide Us?" 2016 Advanced Seminar participants, reverse: "Death Culture in the 21st Century," 2018 Advanced Seminar participants.*

# SAR SEMINAR OPTIONS



“It is intense, but not rushed. You really have time to talk about your work in a way that does not often happen after graduate school. . . . To have nine really smart people who are working on the same kind of thing that you are, and who are reading your work ahead of time, and then getting to actually workshop it and get feedback . . . I don't think there is any other place that you can really do that.”

—Shannon L. Dawdy,  
2018 Advanced Seminar Co-chair

## WHEN TO APPLY

Scholars at a critical stage of their research are encouraged to apply. Applications are due annually on the first of February. Application period opens on November 15. Awards are announced in April, and seminars are scheduled to meet six to eighteen months after the award announcement.

## HOW TO APPLY

Submit online: [sarsf.info/seminarapplication](https://sarsf.info/seminarapplication)

Applications require:

- Abstract
- Proposal
- Short bibliography
- Curriculum vitae

## Learn more [sarweb.org/seminars](https://sarweb.org/seminars)

All seminar options are for ten scholars, including one or two who serve as chair(s).

### Advanced Seminars

Advanced Seminars run for five days. Participants appraise ongoing research, assess recent innovations in theory and methods, and share data relevant to broad anthropological problems. Works often go on to be published through SAR Press in the Advanced Seminar series.

### Short Seminars

Short Seminars run for two to three days. Scholars exploring critical topics in human culture, evolution, history, and creative expression are encouraged to apply. These short sessions enable participants to assess recent developments and chart new directions on an anthropological topic, as well as to plan additional conferences, symposia, publications, and/or research proposals.

### Research Team Seminars

*Supported by the National Science Foundation*

Research Team Seminars run for two to three days. During their seminar, scholars collaborate to plan the successful completion of projects that pose a question of anthropological importance with an interdisciplinary approach and/or an international scope.



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