Every other year, the Institute for Humanities Research (IHR) Book Award honors a book of academic nonfiction by an Arizona State University humanities faculty member on any campus. To be eligible, books must be written in English, published in 2019 or 2020, and written or co-written by a full-time ASU faculty member whose work reflects the finest contemporary humanities-based scholarship on any topic.*

The IHR welcomes submissions that are original and innovative contributions to a traditional humanities discipline as well as those that, while grounded in the humanities, employ interdisciplinary and/or transdisciplinary methods to advance knowledge in the author’s field. The IHR also welcomes books that are accessible to readers who are not specialists in the author’s field, and whose work has the potential to engage a diverse public.

Edited collections are not eligible, nor are books intended primarily for classroom use (e.g., textbooks), anthologies or translations; co-written monographs are eligible.

Books may be nominated by the author(s), their colleagues or their publishers (one book per author, please). For each nomination, complete the nomination form and arrange for the publisher to send four copies of the book to the Institute for Humanities Research (Ross-Blakley Hall 181, 1102 S. McAllister Ave., P.O Box 871601, Tempe, AZ 85287-1601; ihr@asu.edu).

Please note: acceptable versions of the published work include 1) the finished book in hard copy; 2) a digital version of the manuscript; and/or 3) a copy of the intro and first chapter in print or digital form. Any version of the book will not be circulated outside of the review committee.

NOMINATION FORMS AND BOOKS ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 15, 2021, 11:59 P.M.

The winning book will receive a cash award of $1500, advertisement in IHR materials and an award certificate. The author(s) will be featured at an awards ceremony in the fall semester of 2021 and asked to give a presentation and engage in a discussion of the winning book.

The winner will be announced in May 2021.


View previous IHR Book Award recipients at https://ihr.asu.edu/book-nomination. For questions or assistance with completing the nomination form, contact ihr@asu.edu.
The humanities entail the study of: languages and literatures; linguistics; history; philosophy; religion; ethics; the theory, criticism and history of the arts; jurisprudence and cultural theory; as well as those aspects of social sciences that have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods. The humanities also include the study and application of the humanities to the human environment and to contemporary life, with particular attention to race, class, gender and sexuality, as well as to diverse peoples and traditions. Humanities methods include (but are not limited to) the deep reading of texts and signs; the interpretation of meaning, symbols, signs and language; the exploration of material and visual culture and human practices; and the investigation of knowledge construction itself.