

## 2026 Sorensen Center Fellowship

### Frequently Asked Questions

*This is the first year of this fellowship program. The inaugural class of Hunter College Sorensen Center Fellows will have a unique opportunity to create the fellowship together with the Sorensen Center.*

#### **What are the benefits of the Sorensen Center Fellowship?**

The Sorensen Center Fellowship is a cohort-based experience that will create opportunities for learning and action around issues of international peace and justice. Fellows will gather weekly in Spring and Fall semesters, alternating small group seminars with meetings with leaders in government, civil society, and international organizations, and visits to institutions and sites connected with peace and justice around New York City, such as the United Nations Headquarters. The seminars will be a space for Fellows to create a shared vocabulary and framework as we discuss critical issues of peace and justice and to explore tools to overcome conflict on internal, interpersonal, and communal levels. Fellows will also receive mentorship, advising, and career counseling.

#### **Who is eligible?**

The Sorensen Center Fellowship is open to all currently enrolled Hunter College students who:

- Are taking at least six credits per semester
- Will be enrolled in Spring 2026 and Fall 2026
- Have completed at least one semester at Hunter College

Students must have earned at least 15 credits in Hunter classes and must have earned at least 45 credits by the time they begin the program. There is no minimum GPA requirement. \*Priority will be given to students who are not in their freshman year.

#### **How much funding does the fellowship provide?**

Fellows will receive up to \$1,500 per semester in compensation in recognition of the time commitment (2-4 hours per week). Individual awards may depend on student financial aid packages.

#### **Will the Sorensen Center provide other opportunities for students?**

Yes! In Spring 2026 the Center will have a regular “Lunch and Learn” series with early- to mid-career professionals working in the international peace and justice space. These informal discussions will be an opportunity to engage individuals about their personal paths and will be held in partnership with Hunter institutes, centers, and academic departments.

The Sorensen Center is new to Hunter College and we are still developing all of our student offerings. We have bi-weekly open office hours, which is a time for students to come by and share feedback and ideas for programming. If office hours do not work for your schedule, please reach out to [sorensencenter@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:sorensencenter@hunter.cuny.edu) and we'll find a time to connect. Please [sign up for the Center's newsletter](#) to learn more!

#### **What is the estimated time commitment?**

Sorensen Center Fellows will meet weekly and should expect to dedicate 2-4 hours per week to the fellowship. Fellows will not have homework and any experiences or opportunities outside of 2-4 hours will be optional.

**How do I know these meetings will work for my schedule?**

We recognize that student availability and schedules vary. Meeting times will be determined once the cohort has been finalized.

**Can I receive course credit for this?**

No. The Sorensen Center Fellowship is not eligible for course credit.

**What are “issues of peace and justice”?**

The Sorensen Center’s work is interdisciplinary and inclusive and we strive to incorporate many different perspectives from local to global. We understand “issues of peace and justice” as those connected to: promoting peaceful and inclusive societies; providing access to justice for all; ensuring that institutions are accountable at all levels and that people are free of fear from all forms of violence; promoting respect and protections for individual civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights, as well as the right to privacy, freedom of expression, and access to information; ensuring that communities are not marginalized or mistreated; and enabling social and economic development.

**Does the Fellowship have any requirements over Summer 2026?**

No. There are no requirements for Summer 2026. The Sorensen Center will be available as a resource throughout this period but there will not be any weekly meetings.

**What happens if I have to miss a meeting?**

The Sorensen Center Fellowship is a cohort-based experience and relies on the consistent and active participation of all involved. The meeting schedule will be arranged with Fellows after the cohort is selected. Our expectation is that Fellows will do everything possible to attend all meetings.

**What is the mission of the Sorensen Center?**

The Sorensen Center for International Peace and Justice advances peace and justice at home and around the world. We develop the next generation of leaders; foster deeper understanding of complex challenges; and address critical issues with creative thinking and strategic action.

The Sorensen Center pursues our mission of advancing international peace and justice through a range of activities:

- *Fellowships and other opportunities* give students working in different fields first-hand experience with leading organizations.
- *Workshops and intimate gatherings* bring experts into dialogue with students and each other, encouraging interdisciplinary exchange and helping students understand possible career paths.
- *Public events* elevate timely issues, bringing attention to critical challenges and creating a forum for broader community engagement.
- *Private roundtables* for experts, scholars, and practitioners to enable dialogue on sensitive matters in a non-public, academic setting.
- *Scholarship, research, and writing* by faculty, students, and visiting researchers advance our understanding of relevant issues in both academic and popular discourse.

By working in New York City, across the United States, and around the world, the Center encourages students’ ability to draw connections between the challenges faced by communities at home and abroad and equips them to share lessons across borders. Learn more at [www.sorensencenter.org](http://www.sorensencenter.org).