

Section 4.6

**National Endowment for the Humanities
Criteria for Evaluating Applications**

Applications for all kinds of grants are subject to three general criteria of evaluation: 1) intellectual quality, 2) quality of design, and 3) potential for significant impact. Within these three general criteria, more detailed questions are applied insofar as they pertain to the specific proposal under consideration.

o Is the intellectual quality of the project excellent?

Is the intellectual rationale clear and persuasive? Does the project engage significant humanities topics or texts? Does it draw on sound humanitarian scholarship? Are the study plans thoughtful and stimulating? Does the project address effectively the pertinent issues of teaching and learning in its content area?

o Is the project well designed?

Will the activities achieve the goals of the project in thoughtful and creative ways? Are the activities well planned and described in adequate detail? Are the personnel qualified to carry out their proposed responsibilities? Do letters from scholars, other consultants and prospective participants demonstrate interest and commitment? Are the plans for administration sound? Is there evidence of commitment and support among the participating institutions? Will the project include appropriate and informative evaluation?

o Will the project have significant results?

Is the project likely to result in better humanities learning for American students? Will it serve as a pioneer or model, generate nationally significant resources and materials, or lead to extensive opportunities for enhanced humanities teaching and learning? Is the project budget reasonable in view of likely results? Will the project results be disseminated to those who will find them most useful? Will its impact be lasting?