



Boston University Pardee School of Global Studies
Center for the Study of Asia

Visiting Researcher and Affiliated Fellow Programs

The Boston University Center for the Study of Asia (BUCSA) invites applications from highly motivated scholars, artists, literary figures, journalists, and teachers from around the world with well-conceived projects to conduct self-supported scholarly, artistic or literary activity under the guidance of or in collaboration with BU Asian Studies faculty. **Visiting Researchers** receive a formal university appointment for a fixed period of time, as approved by the Dean. **Affiliated Fellows**, normally residents of the New England area, receive an informal affiliation with BUCSA as approved by the BUCSA Board. Both Visiting Researchers and Affiliated Fellows can pursue their work and exchange ideas with our faculty, other visiting scholars, and with BU's significant body of Asian Studies-related graduate and undergraduate students.

Application Process and Selection Criteria

Visiting Researchers and **Affiliated Fellows** enjoy access to Boston University libraries to pursue their projects, and are invited to observe classes (with prior approval), and to regularly participate in BUCSA workshops, lectures, and other academic or artistic events.

The Center for the Study of Asia invites only a limited number of researchers or artists to be in residence at any given time. In reviewing the applications, we take into account each prospective visitor's educational and experiential background, scholarly/professional achievements, area of academic or artistic interest, specific proposal, other institutional affiliations, and English language skills. Availability and strong interest of a Boston University Asian Studies faculty member to supervise ongoing work, collaborate in the proposed project, or otherwise mentor the visitor are necessary. Prospective visitors are encouraged to initiate contact with appropriate faculty members significantly in advance to submitting their application to ensure a

suitable relationship is arranged. The relationship between a Visiting Researcher and a faculty mentor can range from close collaboration to general oversight. It is important that the parties involved work out the nature and scope of the relationship, as well as the specifics of the prospective visitor's project, before we take final action on the application.

Visiting Researchers are expected to arrange for their own funding to cover transportation, housing, and other expenses incurred during the period of affiliation.

VISITING RESEARCHERS

Prospective **Visiting Researchers** should send the following materials to the Assistant Director of the Boston University Center for the Study of Asia (contact information is provided below):

1. An updated résumé or curriculum vitae, in both English and your native language
2. Two recent representative publications, writing samples, or artistic samples (creative writing, exhibits, performances) in electronic format, submitted in English and/or as published in a foreign language
3. A description of the proposed project, including a statement explaining why the BUCSA is an appropriate setting for the work
4. A letter of support from at least two BU faculty members agreeing to serve as a mentor/collaborator.
5. A letter of recommendation from an academic colleague or supervisor from the visiting researcher's home institution
6. The proposed length and dates of the visit
7. If the prospective visitor is interested in observing a particular course or courses, a statement indicating the course(s) and the reasons for the interest

Because a high level of English competence is necessary to derive the maximum benefit from your research stay at Boston University, the language skills of non-native speakers of English are an important criterion for the selection process. English language proficiency can be demonstrated through a recognized language test such as TOEFL or IELTS; documentation from an academic institution; in-person, Skype, or telephone interview; or other means. Please indicate in your application your preferred demonstration of English proficiency so that the necessary arrangements for an interview can be pursued.

Applications:

The usual **Visiting Researcher** appointment is for one year beginning on September 1 each year, and is potentially renewable. The **application deadline is 9 months prior to**

the proposed period of residency. Since the US visa process itself for successful applications can take many months, please be sure that your application materials arrive by this deadline. For details about visas and other issues, see <https://www.bu.edu/globalprograms/engage/international-collaboration/practical-infofor-visiting-scholars/>

Unfortunately, we do not have the facilities to accept all qualified applicants to the Visiting Researcher Program. Selection and notification of Visiting Researchers will normally be made by **May 1** each year.

Visas and Fees

Visiting Researchers working with faculty and auditing classes within the College of Arts and Sciences are not assessed fees. If a scholar or artist has a faculty mentor in another school or college at Boston University or wishes to take classes outside the College of Arts and Sciences, fees may be assessed by the school or college wherein the mentor resides or courses are taken. Please check directly with the school or college in which the courses are held.

Most visitors are supported by funding sources from their home countries or through sabbatical leave salaries from their home institutions. No financial aid, stipends, or housing subsidies are available for visiting researchers with BUCSA. Given the general cost of living in the Boston area, prospective visitors should carefully plan their short-term housing and other living expenses. Visiting researchers must demonstrate adequate self-funding as part of the visa procurement process. Some general information about Boston's various neighborhoods can be found at Boston University's [Getting to Know Your Neighborhood guide](http://www.bu.edu/admissions/admitted/the-city-of-boston/getting-to-know-yourneighborhood) (<http://www.bu.edu/admissions/admitted/the-city-of-boston/getting-to-know-yourneighborhood>).

Successful Visiting Researcher applicants will be provided with information about visas and other important details. They will also be asked by BU's [International Students and Scholars Office](http://www.bu.edu/isso) (<http://www.bu.edu/isso>) to supply requested paperwork to support their visa applications, including financial documentation. Such documents must be originals, in English, which certify US dollar financial sufficiency to cover expenses during their stay in the US.

AFFILIATED FELLOWS

BUCSA invites New England-based scholars, writers, performers, and teachers to apply to become an **Affiliated Fellow** of the Center for the Study of Asia. Affiliated Fellows regularly take part in the projects and events sponsored by BUCSA, and in some cases take a leading role in developing and organizing those events, often with other

collaborating institutions. Our Affiliated Fellows are seen as close colleagues and members of our Asian Studies community at Boston University.

Affiliated Fellows enjoy an informal association with BUCSA, normally running from Sept. 1 to Aug. 30 each year. Interested applicants are invited to apply at any time by sending the following materials to the Associate Director of BUCSA (contact information is provided below). The BUCSA Board will review the applications as soon as possible.

1. An updated résumé or curriculum vitae, in English
2. Two recent representative publications, writing samples, or artistic samples (creative writing, exhibits, performances) in electronic format, submitted in English and/or as published in a foreign language
3. A description of interests, including a statement explaining why an affiliation with the Boston University Center for the Study of Asia is appropriate and beneficial
4. A letter of support from three BU faculty members.

All application materials for **Visiting Researcher** and **Affiliated Fellow** should be submitted as a single PDF file, attached to an e-mail sent to Dr. Maria Elena Rivera-Beckstrom. Confidential letters of recommendation can be e-mailed separately to the same address.

Inquiries, applications, and supporting materials should be sent by e-mail to:

Dr. Maria Elena Rivera-Beckstrom
Assistant Director
Boston University Center for the Study of Asia (BUCSA)
Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies
121 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215 USA

e-mail: meprb@bu.edu