

BENJAMIN MENSCHEL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

THE COOPER UNION



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

2025-2026

- Answer the questions listed on page two of this document and upload your responses as a single Word (.doc) or PDF (.pdf) file to the Menschel application form.
- Number each answer to correspond with the question.
- Adhere to the specified word count ranges for each question.
- At the top of each page, include the following information:
 - Name/Names all of Team Members
 - Project Title

For any questions and/or concerns:
Buck Wanner
Director, Benjamin Menschel Fellowship Program
menschel.fellowship@cooper.edu

BENJAMIN MENSCHER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION QUESTIONS 2025-2026

1. Research Framework

(700-900 words)

Articulate the specific question or problem driving your research. Describe what draws you to this particular inquiry, revealing the intellectual or creative impulse behind your project. Explain how you plan to investigate this question, detailing your research methods with concrete specificity. Consider what form your discoveries might take—whether physical artifacts, documented experiments, theoretical frameworks, or other modes of understanding.

2. Context & Contribution

(300-500 words)

Trace the connections between your specific inquiry and broader intellectual, social, or creative concerns. What larger questions or conditions does your project engage?

You might also reflect on the potential impact of your research. How might your work create new pathways for thinking or making? What might others—at Cooper Union and beyond—learn from your investigation? Consider not just the immediate findings, but the broader implications of your approach, the questions you open, the conversations you might provoke.

3. Practical Considerations: Timeline

(200-400 words)

Map the key phases of your research, creating a clear progression from initial investigation to final presentation. Identify critical deadlines and time-sensitive elements of your project. Account for both research documentation and exhibition preparation, showing how you will transform your inquiry into a shareable experience.

4. Budget

Provide an itemized list of anticipated expenses:

- Materials and supplies necessary for your research
- Costs associated with travel or site access
- Exhibition materials and installation expenses

Include quotes or references for any substantial expenses to demonstrate the feasibility of your budget. Best estimates are fine for initial submission.

5. Exhibition Approach

Consider which elements of your research process will be most important to share. Reflect on how you might make your inquiry visible and accessible to others. Explore what form of documentation will best capture the journey of your research, creating a presentation that invites viewers into your investigative process. You are welcome to describe this narratively, visually, or some combination thereof.

6. Advisory Relationship Statement

Attach your Advisory Relationship Statement. Make sure it is signed/agreed to by your advisor.