

Guidelines for applicants for the Curran Fellowship

1. At the top of the application, provide your name, contact information, the title of your project, and a one- or two-sentence abstract.
2. Next, explain the nature and background of your project, the specific research you intend to do with the support of the Curran funds, the time frame for conducting that research, and how the Curran-enabled research contributes to the goals of the larger project. Be sure to explain how your research will help to advance scholarly understanding of the 19th-century British press more generally.
3. Indicate what printed and manuscript materials you want to explore, and why. Be as specific as you can: for example, if you propose looking at runs of certain periodicals, give specific titles and date-spans for them; likewise, if you want to work in a publisher's or author's archive, indicate what kinds of documents there you intend to inspect. Make sure that all the materials you mention will in fact be available to you at the time of your proposed visit: note, for example, that British Library Newspapers in Colindale is now transferring all of its holdings to Boston Spa or St Pancras before it closes completely in 2012.
4. Make sure that the materials you are proposing to travel to see are not already available to you in microfilm or digital form, or in a repository closer to home. Note that the archives you plan to visit with Curran Fellowship assistance need not necessarily be in the UK, as many libraries in other parts of the world have important collections that are of interest to students of Victorian periodicals.
5. Manuscript sources—letters, diaries, ledgers, drawings, etc.—are often overlooked by researchers today. Because the purpose of the Curran Fellowship is to encourage and support primary-source research in all its varieties, be sure to include manuscript materials in the proposal if they are available and appropriate for your project.
6. Identify how the results of your research will be made available to other scholars—as an article, chapter, or book, for instance, in print or online or both
7. Supply a budget, including projected costs of travel, food, lodging, and any other anticipated expenses (e.g., scanning or photocopying). Note that airfare and housing costs will vary depending on the time of year in which you conduct your research.
8. Send your referees the materials you submit for the fellowship and tell them that they may be contacted late in the judging process.
9. Provide a current c.v.