

First Year Research Award: English

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Marlo Starr

Position Title: First Year Research Scholar in English

Criteria: The Wittenberg University English Department will offer a First Year Research Award for the academic year 2024-2025 to an incoming student to work with Dr. Marlo Starr. This student will have a demonstrated academic ability and/or research interest in English literature, especially contemporary poetry, race, gender, and the environmental humanities.

Expectations: FYRA Scholarship recipients will devote between 6 and 8 hours per week across their first year to FYRA program and their research-related project, according to the FYRA Learning Contract agreed upon by the sponsoring professor and the scholarship recipient. Recipients will also be expected to participate in a regular meeting of FYRA recipients, present their results in an appropriate forum and submit a copy of their presentation to the appropriate university office. FYRA Scholarship recipients will also participate in an assessment of the FYRA program. (The FYRA Scholarship is not part of a student's work study award.)

Research Activity: The First Year Research Award recipient will assist Dr. Marlo Starr, Assistant Professor of English, on research as agreed upon in the FYRA Learning Contract. The FYRA Scholarship recipient will have the opportunity to be involved in various areas of Dr. Starr's research, which focuses on women's poetry from the Caribbean and Pacific Islands. The FYRA recipient will assist with conducting digital archival and historical research, participating in textual analysis, creating literature reviews and annotated bibliographies, and producing tables from data. The FYRA recipient will be mentored in humanities research methodologies and will be encouraged to use these skills to develop their own project for potential publication or presentation at an undergraduate research conference. Recipients should have strong reading, writing, and critical thinking skills and an interest in non-Western literatures in English and issues related to gender and environmental racism. Voracious readers encouraged to apply.