

# DR. SOFIA PATEL

## Postdoctoral Fellowship

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To Dr. Thomas Reinhart

University of Chicago

Dear Dr. Reinhart,

I am writing to express my interest in the Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities at the University of Chicago. I recently completed my PhD in Comparative Literature at Princeton University, where my research centered on diasporic identity and memory in contemporary Caribbean literature. I am excited by the opportunity to further develop my scholarship within a vibrant, interdisciplinary environment such as the Center for the Humanities.

My dissertation, *Fragments of Home: Language, Loss, and Reclamation in Caribbean Women's Narratives*, explores how linguistic hybridity and cultural dislocation shape narrative voice in works by authors including Edwidge Danticat, Dionne Brand, and Jamaica Kincaid. Portions of this work have been published in *Small Axe* and *Callaloo*, and I am currently revising the manuscript into a book that positions Caribbean literature within broader conversations around migration, trauma, and postcolonial identity.

I am particularly drawn to the University of Chicago's cross-departmental approach to humanistic inquiry. The fellowship's emphasis on collaborative scholarship aligns with my ongoing project examining multilingual literary expression across Afro-diasporic traditions. I look forward to engaging with faculty in Comparative Literature, African Studies, and Gender & Sexuality Studies, and contributing to interdisciplinary colloquia and workshops.

In addition to research, I have taught undergraduate courses in World Literature and Literary Theory at Princeton. I aim to create classrooms where students analyze global texts with intellectual curiosity and cultural sensitivity.

Enclosed please find my CV, research proposal, writing sample, and letters of recommendation. I would be honored to bring my work to the University of Chicago and contribute to the Center's dynamic scholarly community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,

Dr. Sofia Patel