



Five Talents Book Fund

Proposal for the Department of History and Political Studies

Proposal Information

Sponsor(s)	Heidi Burke
Endorser(s)	Dr. Bowery, Dr. Diller, Department of History and Political Studies
Proposal Details	The Department of History and Political Studies (HPS) requests funding for a \$1,000 "Five Talents Book Fund" to support HPS students who require financial assistance to purchase course materials. Drawing inspiration from the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)—which emphasizes the importance of investing resources to foster growth and multiplication—our proposal directly benefits students by providing financial support as they seek to multiply their blessings through education. As majors in disciplines that heavily engage with academic monographs and published texts, HPS students often bear a substantial financial burden in acquiring books for classes or research. Book costs exacerbate the already significant financial strain associated with pursuing higher education at a Christ-centered institution. By providing additional funds for book purchases to students with demonstrated financial need, we can tangibly improve their lives and make it easier for them to continue their studies at Southern. Allocation of Funds: All funds will be directly disbursed to students on a first-come, first-served basis, eliminating unnecessary overhead and ensuring that resources directly benefit the target population.
Timeframe	Implementation Timeline: Throughout the Fall 2025 semester, HPS will establish eligibility criteria for the Five Talents Book Fund and publicly announce the initiative to students. Beginning in Winter 2026, students may begin applying for funding to purchase materials for one of their classes
Others involved	Department of History and Political Studies