

FUNDAMENTALS: ISSUES AND TEXTS

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR – Autumn 2021

- Due Date: **Monday, November 15, 2021**
- Submit completed applications by email to fundamentals@uchicago.edu

You are heartily encouraged to e-mail any questions to the Program Coordinator at fundamentals@uchicago.edu. Meeting by Zoom, Skype or phone is possible as well.

I. Please fill out the following information:

Name:

College ID#:

Email Address:

College Advisor:

Local Address and Phone:

Permanent Address and Phone:

II. Part I: Academic History

Date you entered U of C: Quarter: _____ Year: _____ Expected graduation date: Quarter: _____ Year: _____

Complete the table below with your course history at the University of Chicago. For additional quarters, please expand the tables or add an additional sheet.

Autumn 2020			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Winter 2021			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Spring 2021			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Autumn 2021 (in progress)			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

List any Advanced Placement credits:

List transfer credits from other institutions (attach an extra page if necessary):

Explanations that you think may be necessary or helpful concerning the grades above:

Provide the names of two University of Chicago faculty members who may be consulted about your work:

Name the Fundamentals faculty members with whom you might particularly like to work. Faculty profiles can be found on our website. Please check that none of the faculty you list are emeriti.

III. Part II: Application Statements

Please write two separate statements of one single-spaced page each. In both statements, be

direct, be clear, and be honest; these are to be not “academic exercises,” but thoughtful expressions of your own interests and concerns. We are looking for essays that show your passion for your inquiry and ability to write cogently.

A. Statement #1

Articulate a question that you would like to investigate thoroughly in the Fundamentals program. Not all questions are suitable—bear in mind that your means of investigation will be the close, careful reading of more or less canonical texts of diverse time periods, including at least one pre-modern text. We recognize your question will evolve (sometimes dramatically) over the course of your studies, but do your best to articulate it robustly and specifically. *Be sure to discuss why Fundamentals is the best program in which to ask your question.* Finally, please use the one-sentence version of your question as the title for your statement.

Things to consider when preparing this statement might include:

1. What driving interest will animate your reading of texts?
2. How does this differ from related concerns? What are the limits to your question?
3. What makes your topic an interesting one to explore—both for you and in general?
4. What are your current views on the topic? What remains unclear to you about?
5. Where would you like to turn to deepen your understanding of your topic? Please be specific in terms of authors and texts you would like to consider in your investigation.

B. Statement #2

Choose a text that has influenced you and explain its potential connections to the question you have proposed in your previous statement. The text can be, but does not have to be, one

read at the University of Chicago. With attention to textual detail, explain an idea or feature of the text that you find significant and meaningful to your application to the program.