

FUNDAMENTALS: ISSUES AND TEXTS

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR

Please consult the [Fundamentals website](#) for the application deadline. Submit completed applications, along with a copy of your most recent CV, by email to fundamentals@uchicago.edu. You are encouraged to direct any questions to the same email address.

Please read the entire application carefully and complete all sections.

I. Applicant Information:

Name:

College ID#:

Email Address:

College Advisor name and email:

Local Address and Phone:

II. 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. If you need to include additional courses or terms, see "notes on course history" below.

Autumn 2023			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Winter 2024			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Spring 2024			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Autumn 2024 (in progress)			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Additional Term #1 (if needed)			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Additional Term #2 (if needed)			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Additional Term #3 (if needed)			
Course #	Title	Instructor	Grade

Notes on course history above? (Use this space to note any courses or terms not listed):

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:

1.

2.

Name *at least* three Fundamentals faculty members with whom you would like to work during your time in the program. This individual need not be your Junior Paper advisor but should be someone with whom you have intellectual affinities. Please take the time to read our faculty biographies on the [website](#).

III. Application Statements

Please write **two** separate statements, **one** single-spaced page each, attached separately. These should be thoughtful expressions of your own interests and concerns. In both statements, please pay attention to clarity and cogency. The program is invested in your ability to write in a compelling way and clearly convey your ideas and arguments.

- 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 texts important to your research from diverse time periods—including at least one pre-modern text—and diverse cultures. We recognize your question will evolve (sometimes dramatically) over the course of your studies, but do your best to articulate it robustly and specifically here. *Be sure to discuss why Fundamentals is the best program in which to ask your question.*

The title of your statement should be the one-sentence version of your question.

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.

- 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. We want to see the passion and precision with which you analyze the text, so please ensure your writing is strong and cogent.