

## Position

Resident Fellow in Theology, Lumen Center

## Description

The Lumen Center ([thelumencenter.org](http://thelumencenter.org)), an initiative of the SL Brown Foundation, seeks applications for a full-time, permanent, Madison-based appointment as Resident Fellow in Theology to begin September 1, 2026.

As a community grounded in historic Christian belief and practice, located adjacent to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Lumen Center welcomes candidates with expertise in systematic theology, ethics (moral theology), public theology, or historical theology. Regardless of specialization, the successful candidate will possess broad knowledge of the Christian theological tradition. We are especially seeking applicants with demonstrated competence in (or promise of) communicating their specialist knowledge to diverse audiences in both church and academic settings. Candidates with competencies that will contribute to the Lumen Center's developing areas of specialization—American religion & culture and Biblical hermeneutics (see [Lumen's current Fellows here](#))—will receive special consideration.

The successful candidate's Christian, theological commitments will animate their demonstrable commitment to research, teaching, and service. The position entails:

- Active research, writing, and engagement profile representing both scholarly expertise and public scholarship (including but not limited to books, articles, and digital media).
- Teaching the rough equivalent of a 2-1 course load (combination of unaccredited continuing education classes, local church educational initiatives, and other SL Brown Foundation initiatives).
- Participate in the intellectual life of the center, including its public events and team life.

The salary for this position will be commensurate with experience and career stage. We encourage candidates with a range of experience levels, including those who are ABD, to apply.

Benefits include: medical, dental, parking, and research/travel budget.

## Job Requirements

- A Ph.D., Th.D., or D.Phil. in a theological discipline.
- Ability to affirm the Stephen & Laurel Brown Foundation's [Statement of Faith](#).
- Evidence of scholarly excellence and commitment to public engagement.
- Evidence of teaching and mentoring across diverse groups of students (e.g., university students, clergy, community members).

To apply for this position, email [jobs@slbrownfoundation.org](mailto:jobs@slbrownfoundation.org) and submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and names and contact information for three references (references will not be contacted until the final round).

Review of applications will begin January 2, 2026, and will continue until the position is filled.

For questions about this position, contact Susan Swanke at [sswanke@slbrownfoundation.org](mailto:sswanke@slbrownfoundation.org).

### **About the Lumen Center**

Launched in 2024, the Lumen Center is an experiment in public scholarship and Christian education. Located adjacent to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus at [Upper House](#), the Lumen Center is a community of scholars that brings academic disciplines to bear on Christian thought and practice. Lumen Fellows represent various academic disciplines and diverse ecclesial communities, united by their commitment to innovative scholarship with practical benefits for the church and the university.

### **About the SL Brown Foundation**

The Stephen & Laurel Brown Foundation serves the University of Wisconsin and Madison communities by leading Christian thought and formation to shape today's pluralistic university. SLBF gathers communities, educates for formation, and produces scholarship in dialogue with the university to achieve a greater Christian impact. SLBF comprises several initiatives: The Lumen Center, New College Madison, a student Fellows Program, and a Media Studio. The Foundation includes two physical properties: Upper House – based in University Square in the heart of the University of Wisconsin–Madison campus, and Dottie's Ranch – a retreat center located 15 miles outside Madison. Upper House is a member of the Consortium of Christian Study Centers.

Upper House, the home of SLBF (including the Lumen Center), is flanked by academic buildings and dorms in one of the busiest intersections on the campus of UW-Madison, a sprawling, national top-50 university with more than 50,000 students located on the scenic shores of Lake Mendota. Within a 10-minute walk of Upper House, there are dozens of restaurants (including nearly a dozen coffee shops), the sports venues of UW's basketball, football, hockey, and volleyball teams, and Downtown Madison, home of the Wisconsin State Capitol and numerous centers of culture, art, and religious life in the city.