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## **Short-term Study in the United States for Academics and Government Officials**

The U. S. Government is offering the opportunity for Australian academics and government officials to attend one of six fully funded six-week seminars on areas of study of the United States, commencing in June 2015.

The seminars are intended to promote a better understanding of the United States among foreign educators and government officials whose professional responsibilities center on study of the humanities and social sciences.

The ideal candidate will be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. Studies into its curriculum, to develop new courses on the seminar subject, to enhance and update existing courses on the U.S., or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for education professionals in U.S. Studies.

The programs include a four-week residency at a host campus followed by a two-week study tour to other U.S. venues. The U.S. Department of State will pay all costs associated with the program, including international travel and allowances.

Those interested in applying for the seminars should contact the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy at [cultural-exchange@state.gov](mailto:cultural-exchange@state.gov) to request an application form.

Program dates will be announced in mid-February but are expected to be from early June to August 2015.

**Applications must be submitted to the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy at [cultural-exchange@state.gov](mailto:cultural-exchange@state.gov) no later than Wednesday, January 7, 2015.**

## SEMINAR FACT SHEET

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### **The Institute on U.S. Political Thought**

The Institute will provide a multinational group of 18 experienced foreign university faculty and practitioners with a deeper understanding of major currents in U.S. political thought from the colonial period to the present. Drawing upon the American Political Development approach, the Institute will provide a full and diverse understanding of U.S. political thought its connection to U.S. politics and institutions by linking contemporary issues with historical debates. The Institute will explore particular themes including self-rule and limited government, liberty and freedom, individualism and identity, equality and inequality, and the American dream. The Institute concludes with an integrated two-week study tour to Boston, New York City, Gettysburg, Harrisburg, Charlottesville, and Washington, D.C. The Institute will be hosted by the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute located in Amherst, MA TBC.

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### **The Institute on Contemporary American Literature**

The Institute will provide a multinational group of up to 18 foreign university faculty and scholars with a deeper understanding of U.S. society and culture, past and present, through an examination of contemporary American (U.S.) literature. Its purpose is twofold: to explore contemporary American writers and writing in a variety of genres; and to suggest how the themes explored in those works reflect larger currents within contemporary U.S. society and culture. The program will explore the diversity of the American literary landscape, examining how major contemporary writers, schools, and movements reflect the traditions of the U.S. literary canon. At the same time, the program will expose participants to writers who represent a departure from that tradition, and who are establishing new directions for American literature. The Institute will be hosted by the University of Louisville located in Louisville, Kentucky TBC.

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### **The Institute on Journalism and Media**

The Institute will provide a multinational group of 18 journalism instructors and other related specialists with a deeper understanding of the roles that journalism and the media play in U.S. society. The Institute will examine the rights and responsibilities of the media in a democratic society, including editorial independence, journalistic ethics, legal constraints, international journalism, and media business models. The Institute will cover strategies for teaching students of journalism the basics of the tradecraft: researching, reporting, writing, and editing. This program will also highlight technology's impact on journalism, such as the influence of the internet, the globalization of the news media, the growth of satellite television and radio networks, and other changes in media that are transforming the profession. Pending ECA grant approval, the Institute will be hosted by Ohio University TBC.

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### **The Institute on Religious Pluralism in the United States**

The Institute will provide a multinational group of up to 18 foreign university faculty and practitioners with a deeper understanding of U.S. society and culture, past and present, through an examination of religious pluralism in the United States and its intersection with American democracy. Employing a multi-disciplinary approach and drawing on fields such as history, political science, sociology, anthropology, law, and others, the program will explore both the historical and contemporary relationship between church and state in the United States.

Participants will examine the following aspects of religious pluralism in the United States: the ways in which religious thought and practice have influenced, and been influenced by, the development of American-style democracy; the intersections of religion and politics in the United States in such areas as elections, public policy, and foreign policy; and the sociology and demography of religion in the United States today, including a survey of the diversity of contemporary religious beliefs and its impact on American politics and society. The Institute will be hosted by the University of California, Santa Barbara TBC.

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### **The Institute on U.S. Culture and Society**

The Institute will provide a multinational group of 18 experienced and highly-motivated foreign university faculty and other specialists with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions. The Institute will examine the ethnic, racial, social, economic, political, and religious contexts in which various cultures have manifested themselves in U.S. society while focusing on the ways in which these cultures have influenced social movements and American identity throughout U.S. history. The program will draw from a diverse disciplinary base, and will itself provide a model of how a foreign university might approach the study of U.S. culture and society. The Institute will be hosted by New York University TBC.

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### **The Institute on U.S. Foreign Policy**

The Institute on U.S. Foreign Policy will provide a multinational group of 18 experienced foreign university faculty and practitioners with a deeper understanding of how contemporary U.S. foreign policy is formulated and implemented. The Institute will include a historical review of significant events, individuals, and philosophies that have shaped U.S. foreign policy. The Institute will explain the role of key players in U.S. foreign policy including the executive and legislative branches of government, the media, the U.S. public, think-tanks, non-governmental organizations, and multilateral institutions. The Institute will be hosted by Bard College in New York TBC.

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**Updates on program dates and further details on the above seminars will be available on our website in mid-February or at:**

<http://exchanges.state.gov/susi>