

美國研究所 - 2016 暑期研習獎學金申請簡介

Religious Pluralism in the United States

美國宗教多元性

Host Institution: University of California, Santa Barbara
Program Dates: Six weeks beginning in or after June 2016
研習期間: 2016年6月底/7月初起6個星期

Deadline for Applications: January 8, 2016

申請報名截止日期: 2016年1月8日



1. Institute Objectives

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars are intensive post-graduate level academic programs with integrated study tours whose purpose is to provide foreign university faculty and other scholars the opportunity to deepen their understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions. The ultimate goal of these Institutes is to strengthen curricula and to enhance the quality of teaching about the United States in academic institutions abroad.

2. Program Description

The Study of the U.S. Institute on “Religious Pluralism in the United States” will provide a multi-national group of up to 18 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 way 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. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the following website to obtain general information about the previous year’s Institute: <http://exchanges.state.gov/susi>.

The Institute is tentatively scheduled for six weeks beginning in or after June 2016.

3. Housing and Meal Arrangements

When possible, each participant will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the resi-



gency portion (four weeks) of the Institute. However, private room accommodations cannot be guaranteed during the residency portion of the program. During the study tour (up to two weeks), participants will likely share a hotel room with another participant of the same gender. During the residency, housing will typically be in college- or university-owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own. Full details will be provided when available. It is important that applicants understand these arrangements, particularly sharing a hotel room with another participant for up to two weeks.

Care will be taken to ensure that any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care are satisfied. Please note that a portion of the program will take place during Ramadan. While the host institution will make every effort to accommodate participants who are fasting, participants should be aware of the rigorous nature of the Institute and the expectation that the success of the Institute depends on their full participation. Please note that the hours of daylight in the U.S. during summer are significantly longer than what participants may be accustomed to. Daylight may be longer than 15 hours per day.

4. Health Benefits

All participants will receive the Department of State's coverage of up to USD100,000, with a USD25 co-pay per medical visit, for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered. Information on the health benefit program may be found online at <http://usdos.seven-corners.com>.

5. Funding

The Study of the U.S. Institute will cover all participant costs, including: program administration; international travel; domestic travel and ground transportation in the United States; and book, cultural, housing and subsistence, mailing, and incidental allowances.

6. Program Requirements and Restrictions

All participants are expected to participate fully in the program. Applicants should be aware that they are applying for an intensive program and there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The Institute is not a research program. Participants must attend all lectures and organized activities and complete assigned readings. Family members and/or friends may not accompany participants on any part of the program [no exceptions]. Please note that Institute curriculum will not formally address teaching methodology and pedagogical methods. It is important that applicants understand and accept these requirements and restrictions.

7. Candidate Qualifications

(A) Study of the U.S. Institutes are highly competitive. Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component; who have no prior or limited experience in the United States; and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties.



(B) Candidates should be mid-career, highly-motivated and experienced scholars and professionals from institutions of higher education or research focused organizations (not-for-profits, think tanks, etc.). While the educational level of participants will likely vary, most should have graduate degrees and have substantial knowledge of religious studies.

(C) Ideal candidates are individuals whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the Institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for professionals in U.S. studies areas related to religious pluralism in the United States. While the nominee's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, the potential impact and multiplier effect of the Institute is equally important. Ideal candidates will have little or no prior experience in the United States.

(D) Candidates **must** demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to fully and actively participate in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the Institute.

(E) Candidates should be willing and able to fully take part in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. It is important that applicants are **comfortable with campus life (including campus-style accommodations)** and an active program schedule. While senior faculty members and new professionals to the field are eligible applicants, first consideration will be given to **mid-career professionals with little or no prior experience in the United States.**

8. To Apply for the Institute

Applicants should submit an application for this program by fax or e-mail. The application deadline is January 8, 2016. To request application form, please contact the American Center Office at (02) 2723-3959 ext. 224 or application@mail.ait.org.tw.

To submit an application or to request more program details, all interested educators are welcome to contact Cultural Affairs Specialist Rei-shang Wang, AIT American Center, Suite 2101, 21F, No. 333 Keelung Road, Section 1, Taipei 11012, Taiwan [11012台北市基隆路一段333號21樓2101室].
Tel: (02) 2723-3959 ext. 224; fax: (02) 2725-2644 e-mail: application@mail.ait.org.tw

Deadline for Applications: January 8, 2016

申請報名截止日期:2016年1月8日