



## **Announcement: Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars 2013**

The American Center of U.S. Embassy, Dhaka is pleased to announce the Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars program. Deadline for receiving completed applications is **December 30, 2012**.

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, and institutions. The ultimate goal of these Institutes is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in academic institutions abroad.

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars will take place at various colleges, universities, and institutions throughout the United States over the course of six weeks beginning in or after June 2013. Each Institute includes a four week academic residency component and a two week integrated study tour. Posts and prospective applicants are encouraged to visit our website page to obtain general information about the Institutes. The website address is: <http://exchanges.state.gov/susi>.

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars will be held in the following themes in U.S. Studies: American Politics and Political Thought, Contemporary American Literature, Journalism and Media, Religious Pluralism in the United States, U.S. Culture and Society, and U.S. Foreign Policy.

### **Institute Themes:**

- The Institute on American Politics and Political Thought will provide a multinational group of 18 foreign university faculty with a deeper understanding of U.S. political institutions and major currents in American political thought. The Institute will offer an overview of political thought during the founding period (constitutional foundations) and the development and current functioning of the American presidency, Congress, and the federal judiciary. The examination of political institutions will include the electoral system, political parties and interest groups, the civil service system, media and think tanks, and the welfare/regulatory state. The Institute will address modern political and cultural issues in the United States (including but not limited to immigration and labor, women, environmental, and civil rights) and the significance of public discourse in the formulation of public policy. Pending ECA grant approval, the Institute will be hosted by the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

- The Institute on Contemporary American Literature 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 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 American 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 American 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. Pending ECA grant approval, the Institute will be hosted by the University of Louisville.
- The Institute on Journalism and Media 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. The 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. The Institute host will be determined at a later date.
- The Institute on Religious Pluralism in the United States 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. Pending ECA grant approval, the Institute will be hosted by the University of California at Santa Barbara.
- The Institute on U.S. Culture and Society 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 host will be determined at a later date.

- 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 host will be determined at a later date.

### **Program Requirements and Restrictions:**

All participants are expected to participate fully in the program. Candidates should be made 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. Please note that Institute curriculum will not formally address teaching methodology and pedagogical methods. Please make these requirements clear to all nominees.

### **Candidate Description and Qualifications:**

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.

Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and experienced scholars and professionals generally 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 the thematic area of the Institute or a related field.

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 the program theme. 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.

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, both for your participant and participants from other countries.

## How to Apply:

If you are interested in applying for any of the above institutes, please send an application with the required information given below:

- A. Title of Institute
- B. Nominee's Full Name: Nominee's names should match his/her passport and should be presented in the following order: Prefix (Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss), Last Name(s), First Name, Middle Name.
- C. Gender
- D. Date of Birth (please spell out Month, Day, Year)
- E. Birth City
- F. Birth Country
- G. Country(ies) of Citizenship: Primary and, if applicable, secondary country
- H. Country of Residence
- I. Medical, Physical, Dietary or other Personal Considerations:  
Please describe any pre-existing medical conditions, including any prescription medication the candidate maybe taking, or any other dietary or personal considerations. This will not affect candidate selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations.
- J. Candidate Contact Information: Home Address, City, Home Country, E-mail, and Telephone.
- K. Current Position Type, Title, Institutional Name, and Country.
- L. Work Experience, including previous positions and titles, and the approximate dates of employment.
- M. Education, and Academic and Professional Training, including degree earned and fields of specialization. Degrees listed should reflect the closest U.S. equivalent.
- N. Active Professional Memberships.
- O. Publications: Publications should include the publication year, type of publication, title, and publisher. All foreign titles should be translated into English (Maximum 10 publications). To identify the publication type, please choose from among the following options:
  - Book
  - Edited volume (as primary or co- editor)
  - Book chapter
  - Journal article
  - Newspaper/ online article
  - Conference/ University/ Government working paper.
- P. Previous Experience in the United States: Please list all trips the candidate has made to the United States and include approximate dates and the reason for travel.
- Q. Family Residing in the United States: Please list any immediate family members who currently are residing in the United States, including city and state.
- R. Evidence of English Fluency (e.g. personal interview, test score, etc.)

S. Professional Responsibilities:

- Current Courses Taught – Should include the course title, level of student (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), number of hours per semester, number of students, and the estimated percent of U.S. studies content.
- Current Student Advising – Should include the number of students advised who are studying U.S. related topics, level of students (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), and the number of advising hours.
- Other Potential Outcomes – Please select all of the likely potential outcomes that might result from the candidate's participation in this institute: 1) Update Existing Course; 2) Create New Course; 3) Create New Degree Program; 4) University Curriculum Redesign; 5) National Curriculum Redesign; 6) New Research Project; 7) New Publication; 8) Professional Promotion; 9) Government or Ministry Policy; 10) New Professional Organization; 11) New Institutional Linkages; 12) Raise Institutional Profile.

T. One Personal Essay (limit 250 words).

Please discuss how your participation would enhance your personal and professional goals, the current state of U.S. studies in your home country and the institute. Include how attending this Institute would help you achieve the “Other Potential Outcomes” you have checked above.

**You can send completed applications by e-mail or courier service to Ms. Parveen Elias at the American Center:**

Address:

The American Center,  
U.S. Embassy Annex  
J Block, Progati Sharoni,  
Baridhara, Dhaka-1212

Tel: 8855500-22, ext. 2815

Email: [EliasPX@state.gov](mailto:EliasPX@state.gov)

**Deadline for receiving completed applications is **Sunday, December 30, 2012.****