



U.S. Embassy Cairo

Study of the United States Institutes for Scholars

Description:

The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy is pleased to announce the 2013 Study of the United States Institutes (SUSI) for Scholars program for multinational groups of university faculty and other related scholars. This is a rigorous six-week post-graduate academic program held at university campuses throughout the United States. Study of the United States Institutes 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 American society, culture, and institutions. The ultimate goal is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in academic institutions abroad. The institutes will take place at various colleges and universities throughout the United States over the course of six weeks beginning on or after June 2013

The institute programs offered in summer 2013 are:

(1) American Politics and Political Thought

Institute will provide a deeper understanding of U.S. Political institutions and major currents in American political thought and 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 civil rights, women's rights, immigration, etc.) and the significance of public discourse in formulation of public policy. Institute will be hosted by the University of Massachusetts, Amherst

(2) Contemporary American Literature

Institute will provide 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. Institute will be hosted by the University of Louisville.

(3) Journalism and Media

Institute will provide a deeper understanding of the role of journalism and the media in U.S. society. It will examine major topics in journalism, including the concept of a free press, First Amendment rights, and the media's relationship to the public interest. The legal and ethical questions inherent in journalistic endeavors will be incorporated into every aspect of the institute. 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 addressing the influence of the internet, the globalization of the news media, the growth of satellite television and radio networks, and other advances in media that are transforming the profession. The Institute host will be determined at a later date.

(4) U.S. Foreign Policy

Institute will provide a deeper understanding of how U.S. foreign policy is formulated and implemented. The Institute will focus on United States Foreign Policy making through an exploration of domestic politics and players with emphasis on how each entity shapes U.S. perspectives and action on international issues. The four-week academic residency program will be complemented by two weeks of study tours of diverse loci of foreign policy-making: including Chicago and Washington, DC. The Institute program will also include day trips to Orlando, Tampa, Tallahassee, and historic St. Augustine. The Institute host will be determined at a later date.

(5) U.S. Culture and Society

Institute will provide a deeper understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions. The Institute will examine the ethnic, racial, economic, political, and religious contexts in which various cultures have manifested themselves in U.S. society, and the ways in which these cultures have influenced both social movements and historical epochs 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.

(6) Religious Pluralism in the United States

Institute will provide 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. Institute will be hosted by the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Experienced, mid-career between the ages of 30-50 years old, highly-motivated and experienced professionals generally from institutions of higher education or research focused organizations (non-profits, think tanks, etc.).
- Graduate degree and substantive knowledge of thematic area of the Institute required. PHD and/or Masters Degree (s) is/are an asset.
- Little to no prior experience in the United States
- Candidate's home institution should be 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.
- Fluency in English
- Candidates should be willing and able to fully take part in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour.

Application Instructions:

Completed applications must include:

- Application form (to download the application, please visit: <http://egypt.usembassy.gov/>)
- Copy of Egyptian National ID and/or passport
- Updated CV

Applicants may also include up to two letters of recommendation, but these are optional.

Please submit your applications and supporting documentation to CairoSUSI@state.gov with the subject line: SUSI Scholar and the name of the U.S. institute of interest

Deadline for Applications: November 28, 2012 - 4:30 p.m.