



SUMMER 2014 STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTES FOR SCHOLARS

Application deadline: **December 15, 2013**
Send your nomination to: **SUSI-Poland@state.gov**

The U.S. Department of State is pleased to invite candidate nominations for the Summer 2014 Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars for multinational groups of experienced university faculty, scholars, and other related professionals.

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.

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 2014**. Each Institute includes a four week academic residency component and up to two weeks of an integrated study tour. Please visit the following website page to obtain general information about the Institutes: <http://exchanges.state.gov/susi>

The following six Institutes are offered:

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 (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 host will be determined at a later date.

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 will be hosted by Ohio University.

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 and society. The Institute host will be determined at a later date.

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 will be hosted by New York University.

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.

The Institute on U.S. Political Thought 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. It will explore the shaping of American identity and the intersection and interplay between that identity and U.S. history and politics. It will cover a broad range of American experiences that have shaped and been shaped by our national identity including, but not limited to, the colonial period, the constitutional founding, the Civil War, industrialization, the Great Depression, the Cold War, and the Civil Rights movement. The Institute will also use this lens to explore contemporary U.S. political and social debates and topics relating them back to the formation and development of U.S. political thought. The Institute host will be determined at a later date.

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. In addition, the State Department makes every effort to have both a geographic and gender balance in the makeup of the Institute.

Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated, 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.

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 posts and Commissions nominate only persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule.

OTHER ESSENTIAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Housing and Meal Arrangements: When possible, each participant will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the residency 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.

Care will be taken to ensure that any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care are satisfied.

Health Benefits: All participants will receive the Department of State's coverage of \$100,000, with a \$15 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 usdos.sevencorners.com.

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.

APPLICATION FORM

Summer 2014 Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars

Please submit your application to SUSI-Poland@state.gov
No later than December 15, 2013

Please provide all of the following information in English:

- 1. Nominee's Full Name:** Nominee's names should match his/her passport and should be presented in the following order: Prefix (Prof., Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms.), Last Name(s), First Name, Middle Name.
- 2. Date of Birth** (please spell out Month, Day, Year)
- 3. Birth City**
- 4. Birth Country**
- 5. Country(ies) of Citizenship:** Primary and, if applicable, secondary country
- 6. Country of Residence**
- 7. Medical, Physical, Dietary or other Personal Considerations, Impairments, Disabilities:** 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.
- 8. Candidate Contact Information:** Home Address (street, mailing code), Province, Home Country, E-mail, and Cell Telephone.

9. Current Position Type, Title, Institution Name, and Country

For "Position Type," please select one from among the following:

- 1) University Official – ex. Dean, Director, Senior Professor;
- 2) University Teacher or Lecturer;
- 3) Teaching Assistant or Instructor;
- 4) Researcher or Think-Tank Fellow;
- 5) Secondary School Teacher;
- 6) National Curriculum/Exam Developer;
- 6) Teacher Trainer;
- 7) Textbook Writer;
- 8) Other - describe the type of position.

10. Work Experience, including previous positions and titles: exact dates of employment, title/position, institution – please specify if position is part-time.

11. Education, and Academic and Professional Training, including all degrees earned and fields of specialization. Please list them beginning with most recent. Degrees listed should reflect the closest U.S. equivalent. List in the following format: Degree Earned (Ph.D./J.D., Doctoral Candidate/Postgraduate, MA, BA), Year Earned, Specialization, Institution.

12. Active Professional Memberships independent of current professional responsibilities. Include: Position, Title, Organization. These should not include university committee work or other professional duties directly related to current employment.

Please select from among the following position types to describe the level of the candidate's involvement with the organizations listed:

- 1) President, Board Chairperson, Director;
- 2) Board Member;
- 3) Editorial Staff, Officer;
- 4) Contributing Member;
- 5) Member.

13. Publications related to the Institute Theme in the following order: Type of Publication (listed below), Year, Title Publisher. All foreign titles should be translated into English. Maximum 10 publications.

To identify the publication type, please choose from among the following options: 1) Book; 2) Edited volume (as primary or co-editor); 3) Book chapter; 4) Journal article; 5) Newspaper/online article; or, 6) Conference/ University/ Government working paper.

14. Previous Experience (only professional) in the United States in the following order: purpose, include exact dates and the description/reason for travel.

To identify the purpose please choose from the following options: 1) earned Ph.D; 2) earned M.A./M.S.; 3) earned B.A./B.S; 4) other USG visiting grant; 5) Non-degree study in the U.S.; 6) English Language Training; 6) Professional Short-term Travel.

15. Family/Friends Residing in the United States: Please list any immediate family members who currently are residing in the United States, including city and state. For example: John Doe – Chicago, IL

16. Evidence of English Fluency (e.g. personal interview, test score, etc.)

17. Professional Responsibilities: Please discuss your professional responsibilities in greater detail, including research interests, administrative responsibilities (ex. curriculum design) and/or other pertinent information.

18. Current Courses Taught in the following order: course title, level of student (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), classroom hours per semester, number of students, and the estimated percent of U.S. studies content.

19. Current Student Advising: advising is not the same as teaching. We are looking for the number of students, their level, and hours you spend providing assistance in helping students clarifying personal and career goals, and evaluating progress towards those goals. This section can also include those that supervise PhD and graduate students. Please describe the above in the following order:

- Number of students advised studying US-related topics,
- level of students (Ph.D., Masters, Undergraduate, High school),
- hours advising per student per year.

20. Other Potential Outcomes - Please select all of the likely potential outcomes that might result from the candidate's participation in this program:

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.

21. Personal Essay (up to 250 words)

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