

2016 Study of the United States Institutes Announcement

The U.S. Embassy in Ukraine is pleased to announce a competition for the **2016 Study of the United States Institutes**. This program is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State.

The highly competitive Study of the United States Institutes are rigorous post-graduate-level academic programs with integrated study tours which will provide a group of educators from throughout the world with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of American life and institutions, past and present, in order to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the U.S. in colleges and universities. Each program is designed for a multinational group of 18 educators and professionals and focuses on a particular American Studies discipline or theme, and is planned and conducted by a U.S.-based host institution (typically a college or university). Participants are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and complete all assigned readings. The institutes should *not* be viewed as research programs.

The *2016 Study of the United States Institutes* will take place during various six-week periods between early June and early August. **One institute** will be offered for **secondary educators and six (6) institutes for university instructors and scholars**. Brief descriptions of each institute follow.

Applications are available at the U.S. Embassy's website (<http://ukraine.usembassy.gov>) or by email to ShyloLP@state.gov.

Deadline for receiving applications at Public Affairs Section is January 1, 2016.

Study of the United States Institute for Secondary Educators

Eligibility: The candidate should be a mid-career, highly-motivated, and experienced faculty member from an institution of higher education or teacher training institute, curriculum developer, textbook writer, or Ministry of Education official, who speaks English fluently and is between the ages of 30-50. He or she should be a specialist in the field related to the institute title, have a graduate degree and be in the position to introduce aspects of American Studies into school curricula, develop new courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars for secondary educators.

The ideal candidate will have little or no prior experience in the United States.

Study of the United States Institute for Secondary Educators will provide participants with a more comprehensive understanding of U.S. politics, culture, and society. Through a variety of traditional, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, the program will elucidate the history and evolution of U.S. institutions and values, broadly defined, and have a strong contemporary component. They illuminate contemporary political, social and economic debates in American society. Classroom lectures, presentations, and discussions will be integrated with relevant field trips (including school visits), and supplemented with intensive direct exposure to American life.

Study of the United States Institutes for University Faculty

Eligibility for all Institutes: University faculty and curriculum developers.

The candidate should be a mid-career, highly-motivated, and experienced faculty member from an institution of higher education who speaks English fluently and is between the ages of 30-50. He or she should be a specialist in the field related to the institute title, have a graduate degree and a substantial knowledge of the thematic area of the Institute.

The ideal candidate will have little or no prior experience in the United States.

The U.S. Embassy's nominee should be in a position to have a significant impact on curriculum development and should come from an institution that is seeking to enhance the teaching of U.S. Studies, by developing new courses, by improving and updating existing courses on the United States, and/or by offering specialized seminars/workshops for professionals. While the candidate's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance course offerings in U.S. studies at the candidate's home institution.

1. STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTE ON U.S. CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Designed for Specialists in: American History, American Studies

This 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 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.

2. STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTE ON AMERICAN POLITICS AND POLITICAL THOUGHT

Designed for Specialists in: Political Science, Political Theory, Sociology, and Philosophy who have substantial knowledge of the U.S. political system

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. 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, Charlottesville, and Washington, D.C. Pending final ECA grant approval, the Institute will be hosted by the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute located in Amherst, MA.

3. STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTE ON CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE

Designed for Specialists in: American Literature

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. Pending final ECA grant approval, the University of Louisville located in Kentucky will host this Institute.

4. STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTE ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Designed for Specialists in: Political Science, Government, History, International Relations, and American Studies who have substantial knowledge of U.S. foreign affairs

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.

5. STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTE ON JOURNALISM AND MEDIA

Designed for: Journalism instructors

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 examine pedagogical strategies for teaching students of journalism the basics of the tradecraft: researching, reporting, writing, and editing. The program will also highlight the impact of technology 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 that are transforming the profession.

6. STUDY OF THE U.S. INSTITUTE ON RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN THE UNITED STATES

Designed for Specialists in: History, Religious Studies, Sociology, and Political Science

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. Pending final ECA grant approval, the University of California, Santa Barbara will host this Institute.