

**STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTES**

**A. Title of Institute:**  Contemporary American Literature

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars (SUSIs) are intensive post-graduate level academic programs that provide foreign university faculty and other scholars the opportunity to deepen their understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions. The program goal 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 academic institutions throughout the United States over the course of five-to-six weeks beginning in or after June 2024. Each Institute includes a four-week academic residency component and, if possible, up to two weeks of an 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>.

The Institute on **Contemporary American Literature** will provide a multinational group of 18 experienced and highly motivated foreign university faculty and practitioners with a deeper understanding of U.S. society and culture, past and present, through an examination of contemporary American literature. The Institute will examine how major contemporary writers, schools, and movements reflect the U.S. literary canon. The Institute will also explore the diverse communities and voices that constitute the American literary landscape and expose participants to writers who are establishing new directions for American literature. The Institute will cover a variety of contemporary American writers and writing and suggest how the themes explored reflect larger currents within contemporary U.S. society and culture. The **University of Montana** (UM) in Missoula, MT will administer and host this Institute.

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 education 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 from their participation in the Institute is equally important. Ideal candidates will have little or no prior experience living in or visiting the United States.

Program Requirements and Restrictions: 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. ECA/A/E/USS encourages posts to strive to recruit diverse nominees including candidates from disadvantaged groups, individuals with disabilities, and women. While senior faculty members and new professionals to the field are eligible applicants, ECA/A/E/USS urges posts and commissions to give first consideration to mid-career professionals with little or no prior experience in the United States.

All participants are expected to participate fully in the program. Candidates 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. If the program is conducted virtually, the same participation requirements apply. Note that Institute curriculum will not formally address teaching methodology and pedagogical methods.

SECTION A: CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please provide information exactly as it appears in your passport.

1. Surname (Last Name):
2. Given Name(s):
3. Sex:

Female

Male

Non-binary

Other:

1. Date of Birth:

Format: MM/dd/yyyy

1. City of Birth:
2. Country of Birth:
3. Citizenship:
4. Primary Citizenship:
5. Country of Residence:
6. Secondary Citizenship (if applicable):

## Candidate Contact Information:

1. Street Address:
2. City:
3. State/Province:
4. Postal Code:
5. Country:
6. Phone Number (please, include area code):
7. Email Address:
8. Medical, Physical, Dietary, or other Personal Considerations:

This will not affect a candidate's selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations. Please indicate if the candidate has a disability.

1. Please indicate if you have a disability: \*

None

Blind or Visual Impairments

Deaf or Hearing Impairments

Learning Disability

Physical Disability

Psychiatric Disability

Systemic Disability

Other:

1. Please describe any pre-existing medical conditions, including any prescription medication required, dietary restrictions, or personal considerations:

## Experience in the United States:

1. Have you traveled to the United States before? \*

Yes

No

1. If yes, please list any previous travel to the United States for the purposes of tourism/vacation, conferences, educational study, or previous ECA related grants. Provide dates/duration, purpose of visit(s), and location. (Example: July 4-14, 2019 Tourism to Washington, D.C.; December 1-15 2018, Short Term Study Abroad to New York City, NY.)
2. Family Residing in the United States (if applicable):

Please include relation information, city, and state. (Example: Jane Doe, sister- Denver, CO)

# SECTION B: CANDIDATE BACKGROUND

1. Education: \*

Please list all earned degrees beginning with the most recent. Each entry should include the following information:

Degree Earned (Degrees should reflect the closest U.S. equivalent.) Year Awarded

Specialization Institution

(Example: Master's; 2019; International Relations; American University)

1. Additional Academic/Professional Training/ Workshops: \*
2. Current Role/Job Title:
3. Institution/Organization Name:
4. Institution/Organization Country:
5. Work History:

Please limit work experience to the FIVE most recent job positions. Please provide the following information for each entry:

Institution

Dates of Employment (Month/Year-Month/Year) Title/Position (please specify if part-time)

(Ex. American University; 01/2019-01/2020; Professor of International Relations)

1. Professional Responsibilities:

Nominees should discuss professional responsibilities in greater detail, including research interests, administrative responsibilities (example: curriculum design), and/or other pertinent information not included in the section above.

1. Current Courses Taught:

If you are not currently teaching courses, please indicate NOT APPLICABLE.

Please include the following information for each course:

Course Title

Indicate Level of Students (Secondary School Students/Undergraduate Students/Graduate Students) Classroom Hours per Semester

Number of Students

% of U.S. Studies Content

Current Student Advising:

Advising is not the same as teaching. If you advise students, please input 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 Ph.D. and graduate students.

Please include the following information:

Number of Students Advised Studying U.S. Related Topics

Indicate Level of Students (Secondary School Students/Undergraduate Students/Graduate Students) Hours of Advising Per Student Per Year

1. Publications Related to the Institute Theme:

Please list all foreign titles in English, including whether the publication was a book, chapter, journal article,

newspaper article, etc. Please only list publications within the last five years.

1. Active Memberships in Professional Associations:

Please limit to three most relevant. Provide the position and organization. (Example: President, Washington Educational Professionals Association.)

1. Other Leadership Positions Beyond Professional Duties:

Please provide the activity, position/title, year started, year completed, and the description of duties.

1. Potential Outcomes: \*

Please select any likely potential professional outcomes of this program:

Create New Course

Create New Degree Program

School Curriculum Redesign

National Curriculum Redesign

New Research Project

New Publication

Professional Promotion

Government or Ministry Policy

New Professional Organization

New Institutional Linkages

Raise Institutional Profile

1. Candidate Personal Statement: \*

As part of the SUSI application process, candidates should submit a personal statement about their background and goals. In up to 500 words, the candidate should address the following questions and any other pertinent information:

Why are you interested in participating in the Institute? What do you hope to gain from the Institute?

What will you contribute to the Institute?

How will you leverage the experience to achieve "other potential outcomes" checked in the above section?

How will you amplify the impact of the program beyond your research and knowledge?

Please write your personal statement below.

# **CANDIDATES SHOULD NOT COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS**.

# SECTION C: TO BE COMPLETED BY POST

1. Does the candidate display evidence of English fluency? \*

Yes

No

1. Please indicate the level of their English language fluency and if the interview was in person, over the phone, or through virtual conferencing (Zoom, Skype, Teams).
2. Statement by Post Justifying Participation of Nominee in the Institute: \*

This is one of the most important components of the nomination and we kindly ask you to provide a substantive answer. After having interviewed the candidate, in your statement, please address the following questions:

Can you please tell us about this individual and why Post feels that they are well suited for the Institute?

What makes this candidate unique?

What, in particular, will this candidate contribute to the Institute and upon their return home? What is their multiplier effect?

Why is this a priority nomination for Post?

1. How many applications did Post receive for this particular Institute?

## Post Action Officer:

The person whom the Study of the U.S. Branch should contact with all inquiries about the nomination.

1. U.S. Embassy or Consulate:
2. Post Country:
3. Post Region:

AF

EAP

EUR

NEA

SCA

WHA

1. Post Contact Name:
2. Post Contact Email:
3. Backup Contact Name:
4. Backup Contact Email: