

Center for Contemporary Arab Studies K-14 Education Outreach Program



Title VI Technical Assistance Workshop
U. S. Department of Education Convening

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September 20, 2017

Overview: CCAS K-14 Education Outreach



- CCAS's teacher outreach program is over 30 years old, serving the DC/MD/VA region and beyond for over three decades.
- Annually, 8-10 seminars, summer institutes, curriculum consulting, classroom speakers, resource lending library, and resource development.
- Partnerships with schools, museums, cultural institutions, colleges and universities
- Curriculum development and academic standards for public and private schools, and consultations nationally.
- Public & private school teachers (elementary, secondary, community college, (regular, special ed, AP & IB teachers) 2016-17 attendance = 750)
- Subjects: social studies, interdisciplinary; world history/ geography, humanities, global studies, EFL, literature/librarians

Summer Institute 2016 “Experiencing and Teaching about World Religions”



CCAS Education Outreach program, as a National Resource Center on the Middle East, offered help with a topic that is required but highly challenging content for educators, far beyond the borders of the Middle East. From August 1-9, 2016, 37 teachers attended the Title VI Summer Teacher institute for public and private secondary teachers provided attendees on teaching about the world religions that are part of nearly every middle and high school curriculum in world history and geography. The attendees teach world history, world cultures and geography, and electives in world religions and humanities. Some were veterans, others seeking help with the topic. Participants received books and electronic resources on teaching about world religions. Georgetown faculty from departments of history, theology, philosophy and area studies contributed their knowledge and teaching approaches on the five major global traditions and others. The three Abrahamic traditions—Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and two Asian traditions—Hinduism and Buddhism, were explored, from the basics of beliefs and practices, internal diversity, value systems, mystical traditions, and modern challenges. Speakers included faculty specialized in religious studies, history, art history, anthropology, psychology and other fields; members of the clergy.

The institute opened the Knight Conference Center in the Newseum, co-sponsored by the Religious Freedom Center, in order to provide understanding of the constitutional guidelines for teaching about religion in US public education. A teacher panel on “What Works in the Classroom” jump-started an active discussion. Melody Fox Ahmed presented resources from the Berkeley Center on Religion, Peace and World Affairs. A day at the National Museum of African Art and a vault tour of the the Kislak Collection of indigenous American art at the Library of Congress introduced less familiar religious traditions. Altogether, some 20 speakers shared their ideas and scholarship, and held discussions with each other and the teachers on applying this knowledge in the classroom. The summer institute concluded with two days of site visits in the Washington D.C area. After viewing east Asian religious art at the Arthur

Global Studies Collaboration with TRHS & GU-SFS



Teachers confer on curriculum at CCAS/SFS Area Studies Workshop

- Georgetown's School of Foreign Service launched a multi-pronged collaboration with Theodore Roosevelt H S in DCPS
 - mentorship program with Georgetown students
 - Model UN participation, and
 - Support for TRHS centerpiece Global Studies curriculum
 - TRHS teachers paired with SFS faculty in Asian, Middle Eastern, African and Latin American studies via in-person meetings, phone, email
 - Summer curriculum development has produced several course outlines, for SFS faculty and teachers to build upon
- A Fall 2016 workshop included SFS speakers on challenges of teaching area studies, and trans-regional comparisons.
- We opened the workshop to experienced, interested MD/VA/DC global studies teachers to network and share experiences with teachers new to these courses. Annual workshops are planned.

Georgetown's School of Foreign Service launched a multi-pronged collaboration with Theodore Roosevelt H S in DCPS

Education Outreach involves a mentorship program with Georgetown students, Model UN participation, and help with the Global Studies curriculum that is the centerpiece of the school

We paired global/regional studies teachers at TRHS with faculty in Asian, Middle Eastern, African and Latin American studies to work on curriculum.

This summer, curriculum development has outlined several of these courses, and SFS faculty will work with the teachers to implement their plans

In Fall 2016 we held a workshop that included speakers from these centers to explore the challenges of teaching area studies, and the comparative possibilities across regions. SFS faculty included those already collaborating with TRHS teachers.

We opened the workshop to experienced, interested MD/VA/DC global studies teachers to network and share experiences with teachers new to these courses

This year, we have committed to making the gathering annual, and focusing on desirable themes across regions.

Contact:

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