



January 3, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce the twentieth AERO Summer Institute, which will be held during the week of June 25-30, 2023, at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. The AERO Summer Institute is supported by the Office of Overseas Schools (A/OPR/OS). The purpose of the institute is to provide teachers and administrators in overseas schools with the skills and knowledge needed to develop and implement standards-based K-12 curricula. The work will be based on the validated standards developed by Project AERO (www.projectaero.org) and the “Guidance for 2022-23”, also available on the Project AERO website.

Six of the workshops (Math K-5, Math 6-10, English/ Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and World Language) will focus on developing an accelerated curriculum based on “critical elements”; creating assessment strategies; and identifying appropriate resources to support implementation. For these workshops, priority acceptance will be given to school teams in a subject area who are working in schools that have adopted and implemented the AERO Standards Framework and have experience in the “Understanding by Design (UBD)” approach to curriculum development.

One additional workshop will be offered: Academic Leaders. This workshop is intended for Heads of Schools, Principals, and Curriculum Coordinators who are responsible for planning or implementing an American standards-based curriculum. The foci of the workshop will be: how to support the implementation of an accelerated curriculum; identify “critical elements”; design assessments; and review the role of the academic leader in the current environment.

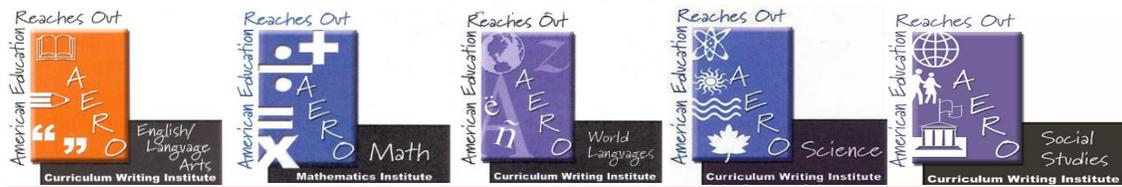
The number of spaces available in each workshop is limited. We encourage schools to send subject area teams. Please see the attached workshop descriptions for more information. All workshops will be conducted face-to-face from 8:30a.m.-4:00p.m. EST, Monday, June 26-Friday, June 30. The opening session will be at 6:00p.m. on Sunday, June 25. (Participants are expected to participate each and every day from Monday through Friday. Certificates will be awarded only to those completing each day’s session. There is no cost to participate in the 2023 AERO Summer Institute.

Please ask each applicant to review the program and to complete a registration form. **Registration forms must be received by the Office of Overseas Schools by March 6, 2023. Participants will be informed of their selection during mid to late March.** The AERO Summer Institute has been designed by educational practitioners for other educators. We hope that it meets the needs of your faculties and schools, and assists you in improving the educational opportunities and curriculum of your school.

Sincerely,

Beatrice H. Cameron
Regional Education Officer
Office of Overseas Schools
U.S. Department of State

Enclosures: As stated



The 2023 AERO Summer Institute will bring together educators from around the world to better understand the AERO Standards Framework and to explore the “Critical Elements”, emphasis will be placed on streamlining units, on assessment and on instructional strategies. The Institute will run from 8:30AM – 4:00PM Monday, June 26th through Friday, June 30th. **The primary audience for this institute is educators working in schools that have adopted and implemented the AERO Standards Framework and who have experience in the “Understanding by Design”.**

Outcomes:

Participants will leave the institute with a deeper understanding of the AERO Standards with a particular emphasis on accelerating instruction through a focus on the “Critical Elements” in each subject area.

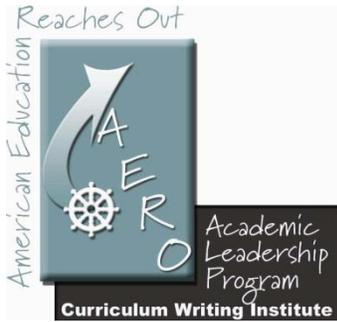
Institute participants will:

1. Review the AERO standards framework noting the alignment with other relevant frameworks (e.g., NGSS for science, ACTFL for world languages).
 - Examine the “Critical Elements” of instruction at each grade level and investigate how conceptual understandings, knowledge and skills of the critical areas build within and across grade levels.
 - Discuss strategies for assessing student proficiencies in these critical areas
 - Analyze practices of the discipline and explore how to build these into daily instruction and assessment.
 - Discuss strategies for engaging students in deeper learning.
2. Identify and recommend resources that support and enhance instruction and assessment of critical areas in the units that have been developed.
 - Review existing AERO resources aligned to critical areas
 - Identify and add new resources aligned to critical areas

Note: Preference will be given to schools that send teams to the Summer Institute.

Please email or fax the completed registration form **by March 6, 2023**, to:

Stephanie Barnett
U.S. Department of State
Office of Overseas Schools
SA-1, Room H-328
Washington, DC 20522-0103
E-mail: BarnettSF@state.gov
Fax: +(202) 261-8224



**AERO Summer Institute
at Marymount University
Academic Leadership Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 26-30, 2023**

AERO Academic Leaders

Supporting and Sustaining a Standards-Based Curriculum Which Enables Responsive Teaching

Academic Leadership starts with a commitment to developing, implementing, and sustaining a ‘guaranteed and viable curriculum’ (GVC). The premise of a Guaranteed Viable Curriculum (GVC) is all students have an equal opportunity (time and access) to learn rigorous content. A GVC is the focus of a standards-based learning system (SBLS), the belief that every student can reach higher levels of achievement if certain criteria are met. To this end, a SBLS integrates teaching, learning, assessing, and reporting in an ongoing teaching/learning cycle that guides students towards meeting grade-level learning targets. Learning is the focus: a well-implemented SBLS creates a culture where learners and teachers view teaching as a means for achieving proficiency, rather than points or grades.

Transforming a school to a standards-based culture of learning can be messy. To succeed on the journey, three elements are required: **Standards Literacy** (a deep understanding of the structure of the standards); **Standards Alignment** (curriculum, instruction, and assessment are in alignment); and **Responsive Teaching** (planning, assessing learning and responding to student academic, social, and emotional needs).

The Summer Institute is designed for all those in academic leadership roles (Heads of School, Principals, and Directors of Learning). The goal of the institute is to equip academic leadership with strategies to focus on their core purpose – to ensure that responsive teaching is effective in every classroom, every day.

Participants will:

- Build clarity around **standards-based learning**.
- Explore educational best practices that create **curricular coherence** (alignment of standards, curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional learning) to impact student success.
- Examine examples of how teaching through the lens of **responsive teaching** influences instruction, curriculum, and assessment and ultimately improves student performance.

Please email or fax the completed registration form by **March 6, 2023** to:

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Email: BarnettSF@state.gov
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**AERO Summer Institute
Marymount University
June 25-30, 2023**



Application Form: print clearly and complete in full

Please review the invitation letter for participation requirements/expectations. Preference will be given to school teams that are participating in the same subject area workshop.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

School: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

School Fax #: _____ School Telephone #: _____

Current teaching assignment: _____

Personal e-mail: _____ Work e-mail: _____

Important: please put an asterisk (*) next to your preferred e-mail to receive communications from AERO

Does your school use AERO? Yes _____ No _____ Do you have experience writing units? Yes _____ No _____

This application is for the following workshop (*choose one*):

_____ Mathematics _____ English/Language Arts _____ Science _____ Academic Leaders

_____ World Languages _____ Social Studies

Participants are expected to bring a laptop computer with them

Accommodations

Housing for participants will be provided free of charge in single rooms at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. Check-in is on Sunday, June 25th after 9 a.m.; check-out on Friday is at 1:00p.m. (The workshop ends at 12:00p.m. on Friday.) Participants are expected to arrive by 3:00p.m. on June 25th and stay for the entire week.

Please indicate the nights for which you need accommodations at Marymount.

Sunday _____ Monday _____ Tuesday _____ Wednesday _____ Thursday _____

Please indicate gender (*for room assignment purposes*): Male _____ Female _____

Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided in the university dining room. There will be an Institute orientation and welcome dinner Sunday, June 25, beginning at 6:00p.m. Please indicate dietary restrictions if any:

Signed (Applicant): _____ Date: _____

NB: Signing affirms your commitment to attend all five days of the Institute; certificates will only be given to those who complete the entire week. Signing also affirms your agreement to present proof of vaccination upon check-in at Marymount and to wear masks in closed spaces.

Signed (Head of School): _____ Date: _____

The application must arrive by Monday, March 6, 2023. Please Email or FAX the completed form to:

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