



January 4, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce the fifteenth AERO:SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum) Workshops which will be held during the week of June 19-24, 2016. We will repeat the very successful workshops in the Standards Frameworks in Mathematics and English/Language Arts, which are fully aligned with the Common Core. Standards in Social Studies and World Language will be included as well as a workshop designed to assist schools making the transition to the Next Generation Science Standards. The popular Academic Leadership workshop, focusing on the particular needs of heads of schools, principals, curriculum coordinators or department heads who are responsible for the planning or implementing a standards-based curriculum, will be offered as well.

All of the workshops are practical in nature and provide the participants with both a “big picture” understanding of how standards-based schools operate as well as the opportunity to work to develop plans to implement upon returning to their respective school settings. In addition, the collaborative nature of the workshops fosters a high level of professional interaction among the participants.

AERO:SBC is hosted by the Madeira School in McLean, Virginia, and is supported by the Office of Overseas School (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, which will be used as a model.

The AERO:SBC workshops may be taken for university credit from SUNY Buffalo. Applications will be available in the spring. For course participants earning university credit, the cost is \$500. (For participants who are *not* earning university credit, there is no charge for the workshops.)

The number of spaces available in each workshop is limited, and we encourage schools to send teams of participants. Please see the attached workshop descriptions for more information. All workshops will be held in the classrooms at the Madeira School and participants will be accommodated at no cost in Marymount University housing in Arlington, Virginia, on the nights of June 19-23. (Extra nights may be available for a reasonable fee.) Meals will be provided. Costs to participants and/or schools include transportation, any meals not provided by the institute, incidentals, and any additional nights of accommodation.

Please ask each applicant to review the program and to complete a registration form. ***Registration forms should be received by the Office of Overseas Schools by March 4, 2016. Participants will be informed of their selection during early to mid-April.*** AERO:SBC 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bea Cameron'.

Beatrice H. Cameron
Regional Education Officer for East Asia
Office of Overseas Schools

Enclosures: As stated.



School: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Fax #: _____ Telephone #: _____

This application is for the following workshop (one workshop per application, please):

- _____ Mathematics _____ English/Language Arts _____ World Language
_____ Academic Leaders
_____ Social Studies
_____ Science

Individual Workshop/Team Workshop Members (Please see the invitation letters for participation requirements and print legibly.)

1. Name, subject, title or grade level: _____
Male___ Female___ Personal E-mail address: _____
2. Name and title or grade level: _____
Male___ Female___ Personal E-mail address: _____
3. Name and title or grade level: _____
Male___ Female___ Personal E-mail address: _____

Participants are expected to bring a lap top computer with them to use during the sessions.

Accommodations

Housing for all participants will be provided in dormitories at Marymount University from Sunday afternoon (3:00 check-in) through check-out on Friday morning. The workshop ends at 12:30 p.m. on Friday. **Please indicate if you would be willing to share a room with a colleague from your school. ___yes ___no**

Participants are expected to arrive by 3:00 p.m. on June 19 and stay for the entire week.

Transportation will be provided to and from the Madeira School each day. For non-workshop hours, there is easy access to Washington attractions by public transportation. Breakfast and dinner will be provided at Marymount. Lunch will be at Madeira School. **There will be a welcome orientation and dinner Sunday, June 19, beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

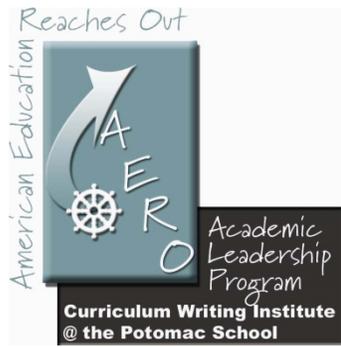
Our team will stay in Marymount University housing on the following nights:

- Sunday, June 19 _____ Wednesday, June 22 _____
Monday, June 20 _____ Thursday, June 23 _____
Tuesday, June 21 _____ (check-out is Friday morning)

Signed (School Director): _____ Date: _____

The application must arrive by March 4, 2016. Please E-mail or fax the completed form to:

Kristin Grasso
U.S. Department of State
Office of Overseas Schools
SA-1, Room H-328
Washington, D.C. 20522-0103
E-mail: grassoka@state.gov
Fax: (202) 261-8224



**AERO:SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum)
at the Madeira School
Academic Leadership Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 19-24, 2016**

The audience for this institute is academic leaders (heads of school, principals, curriculum coordinators, or department heads) in schools that are planning to, or are in the process of, adopting a standards-based curriculum. Participants will collaborate with academic leadership peers in examining processes and structures that support schools as they become more standards-based. The week will focus on the change process and will emphasize strategies to best meet the needs of school staffs. Participants will examine standards-based curriculum, instruction, assessment, and school-wide mapping and planning.

The work will be based on the standards developed by Project AERO. These can be viewed at www.projectaero.org.

Workshop participants will:

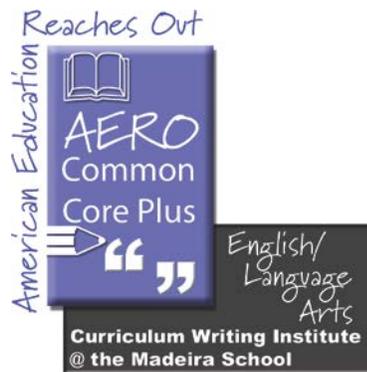
- Examine the relationship between standards and curriculum
- Review the principles of “backward design”, moving from “starting with the end in mind” to evidence of student learning and designing aligned learning experiences
- Use student data to guide instructional decisions
- Plan the long-term process of standards implementation
- Consider relevant professional development options
- Develop strategies to support faculty in the change process
- Work with protocols for team leadership and collaboration
- Acquaint themselves with the AERO Frameworks in the various subjects
- Expand skills to work with resistant staff
- Clarify the connection between AERO standards, data, and differentiated instruction

Participants may choose to take this course for university credit from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Applications will be available in the spring. For course participants earning university credit, the cost is \$500. (For participants who are *not* seeking university credit, there is no charge for the workshop.)

This workshop will be limited to 20 participants. Schools are encouraged to send a team of academic leaders.

Please send, email or fax the completed registration form by **March 4, 2016** to:

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**AERO/Common Core Plus
at the Madeira School
English Language Arts Curriculum Design Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 19-24, 2016**

K-12 teachers and curriculum specialists who would like to gain knowledge and understanding of the AERO English/Language Arts Common Core Plus Framework are the primary audience for this institute. The AERO Framework is aligned with the Common Core Standards and has been professionally validated. Many overseas schools have successfully adopted or adapted the Framework. Teams of teachers and curriculum coordinators from participating schools will collaborate to understand the Framework in depth, see its relationship to the Common Core Standards, and gain knowledge of how to fully implement it in their schools. Leadership training will be embedded in the workshop for the purpose of developing plans to share and support the implementation once they return to their respective schools.

In addition, participants will be introduced to developing aligned assessments for the Framework. Institute participants are asked to bring with them samples of student work, rubrics associated with the student work, and an explanation of each task.

Workshop participants will:

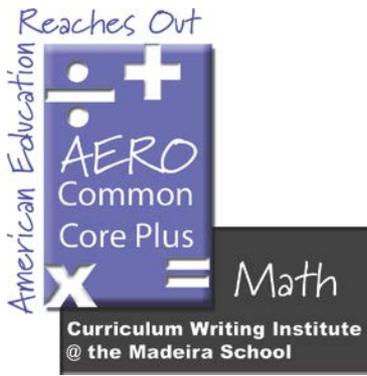
- Review the AERO English/Language Arts Framework: Common Core Plus
- Note the alignment of the AERO English Framework with the Common Core Standards
- Examine the vertical learning progressions in the Framework and how they differ at each grade level
- Examine assessments aligned with the ELA Framework performance indicators
- Plan with team members for work at respective schools for the next school year

Participants may choose to take this course for university credit from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Applications will be available in the spring. For course participants earning university credit, the cost is \$500. (For participants who are *not* earning university credit, there is no charge for the workshop.)

The workshop will be limited to 20 participants. Therefore, registration will be accepted on a space-available basis. Interested schools are asked to commit to sending a team consisting of either: 1) a curriculum coordinator and at least one teacher, 2) or a team of 2-3 teachers.

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**AERO/COMMON CORE PLUS
at the Madeira School
Mathematics Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 19-24, 2016**

The Mathematics Institute is designed to increase the capacity of elementary and middle school teachers to lead improvements in the teaching of mathematics in their schools by developing a deeper understanding of the AERO/Common Core Standards. The goals of the institute are that participants will increase their understanding of:

- The mathematical content and skills contained in the AERO Framework: Common Core Plus
- How mathematical conceptual understanding, knowledge and skills build from year to year
- Which areas of mathematics are most critical to student learning at each grade level
- How to best teach and assess students so that they become mathematically proficient

Institute participants will:

- Review and interpret the AERO standards, Common Core standards, and International Benchmarking, analyzing the relationship among them,
- Investigate how mathematical conceptual understanding, knowledge and skills build from grade level to grade level
- Examine the critical areas of instruction at each grade level and discuss strategies for ensuring student proficiency in these areas
- Analyze the mathematical practices and explore how to build these into daily instructional practices
- Review standards-based unit design and begin thinking about using this design to develop units for your students.
- Review depth of knowledge (Webb's D.O.K.) levels for the standards and critique assessments to determine what level of rigor they require.
- Explore how to use standards-based formative and summative assessment to make instructional decisions
- Explore different instructional models for teaching mathematics

Participants may choose to take this course for university credit from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Applications will be available in the spring. For course participants earning university credit, the cost is \$500. (For participants who are *not* earning university credit, there is no charge for the workshop.)

This workshop will be limited to 20 participants. Preference will be given to schools sending two person teams although individuals will be considered as well. All participants are asked to bring summative assessments with at least 3 samples of student work for each of those assessments.

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**AERO: SBC (Standards Based Curriculum)
at the Madeira School
AERO/Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 19-24, 2016**

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) were developed from the Framework for K-12 Science Education published in 2012 by the National Research Council. With a focus on the practice of science and engineering, the NGSS will fundamentally change the way science is taught, learned and assessed. Developing a solid foundation of understanding of the NGSS will be an essential first step to creating meaningful learning experiences in the classroom.

Through a combination of instruction and engagement in model activities, participants in this institute will gain a deeper understanding of the NGSS and the resources available to assist in implementation of an NGSS based program. This week long course will be an introduction to the NGSS and not a curriculum writing workshop, although curriculum issues will be discussed. Participants in this AERO NGSS institute will have the opportunity to:

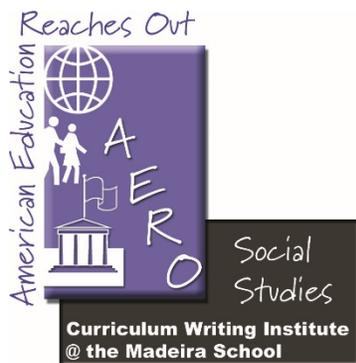
- Familiarize themselves with key ideas and features of the Framework for K-12 Science Education and the Next Generation Science Standards
- Explore the three dimensions of the NGSS: Disciplinary Core Ideas, Science and Engineering Practices, and Cross-Cutting Concepts
- Deconstruct Performance Expectations to understand their three dimensional foundation
- Engage in model NGSS activities and discuss what instruction might look like in an NGSS classroom
- Experience engineering tasks and discuss engineering instruction within the NGSS framework.
- Consider issues related to a school's transition to NGSS
- Develop a tentative plan for a school's transition to NGSS

Participants will gain a better understanding of the key ideas and organization of the NGSS, investigate NGSS resources, and discuss ideas for the transition to NGSS in their schools.

Participants may earn university course credit from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Applications for credit will be available in the spring; the fee is \$500.00 for those opting for the credit. (There is no charge for those not choosing credit.) The institute will be limited to 20 participants; preference will be given to schools sending two person teams.

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**AERO: SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum)
at the Madeira School
Social Studies Curriculum and Assessment Institute
www.projectaero.org
June 19-24, 2016**

The purpose of this week-long Institute is to help individual overseas schools refine and extend the principles of standards-based curriculum design. The AERO: SBC initiative brings teams of teachers and curriculum coordinators from participating schools together to review the principles of curriculum unit design and to examine in-depth principles and methods of student assessment and strategies for instruction aimed at assessments.

The workshop will follow a “flipped classroom” model, with teachers unfamiliar with the principles of backwards design to review certain materials online before the workshop or during the evenings prior to days when concepts are applied. The main ideas to be reviewed and applied include the relationship of standards and learning progressions to curriculum and the principles of “backward design.” In depth during the workshop we will focus on practical application of

- Effective assessments
- Instructional design for assessment

All participants should bring to the workshop either (1) a unit they would like to revise for improvement or (2) an idea and necessary materials to compose a new unit.

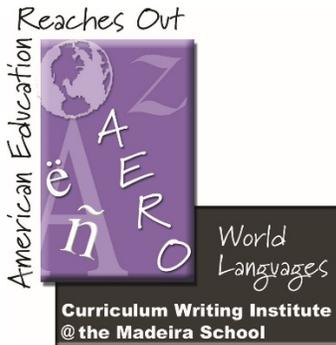
Participants will leave the Institute with the knowledge necessary to train colleagues at their schools in the design of authentic assessment and the processes of using student assessment to inform instructional planning. The work will be based on the AERO Standards.

Participants may choose to take this course for university credit from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Applications will be available in the spring. For course participants earning university credit, the cost is \$500. (For participants *not* seeking university credit, there is no charge for the workshop.)

The workshop will be limited to 20 participants. Therefore, registration will be accepted on a space-available basis. Interested schools are asked to commit to sending a team consisting of both a curriculum coordinator and at least one teacher, or a team of 2-3 teachers.

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**AERO: SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum)
at the Madeira School
World Languages
Curriculum Design Institute – Tier 1
www.projectaero.org
June 19-24, 2016**

The AERO SBC initiative brings together teams of teachers and curriculum coordinators from participating schools to collaborate in curriculum unit and assessment design.

The primary audience for this institute is World Language teachers who want to gain experience in standards-based unit and assessment design. It is intended for those with a beginning or moderate level of experience in the Understanding By Design approach to curriculum development. Participants will leave the institute with some completed units and the knowledge necessary to share World Language standards-based curriculum design with other colleagues at their schools. Participants will also gain knowledge in vertical curriculum alignment and cross-curricular themes that can support students' language arts development in general.

Participants are strongly encouraged to bring samples of units, curriculum maps and assessments with them that they would like to review and revise.

Workshop participants will:

- Review the ACTFL and AERO World Language Standards
- Review the Understanding By Design process for unit development
- Revise existing units or write new units
- Explore strategies to strengthen units' essential questions, culminating tasks, and rubrics
- Consider ways to improve assessments of language proficiency
- Develop components of curriculum mapping within the language curriculum and across school- based curricula
- Plan with team members for work at respective schools for the next year

Participants may choose to take this course for university credit from SUNY Buffalo. Applications will be available in the spring. For course participants earning university credit, the cost is \$500. (For participants who are not earning university credit, there is no charge for the workshop.)

The workshop will be limited to 20 participants. Therefore, registration will be accepted on a space-available basis. Multiple language teams are encouraged, but individuals are also very welcome to apply.

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