



January 8, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce the sixteenth AERO:SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum) Workshops which will be held during the week of June 25-29, 2018. 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 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 Marymount University in Arlington, 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 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 Marymount University and participants will be accommodated at no cost in Marymount University housing in Arlington, Virginia, on the nights of June 24-June 28 (check out is Friday morning). (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 2, 2018. Participants will be informed of their selection during mid to late March.*** 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.

**AERO: SBC at Marymount  
University  
June 25-29, 2018**



**INSTITUTE APPLICATION FORM  
For American-Sponsored Overseas  
Schools**

School: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

This application is for the following workshop:

Mathematics                       English/ Language Arts                       World Language  
 Academic Leaders                       Science

**Individual OR Team Institute Members (Please see the invitation letter for participation requirements. Please 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 at no charge 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 24 and stay for the entire week.**

All workshops will be held at Marymount University. For non-workshop hours, there is easy access to Washington attractions by public transportation. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided at Marymount. **There will be a welcome orientation and dinner Sunday, June 24, beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

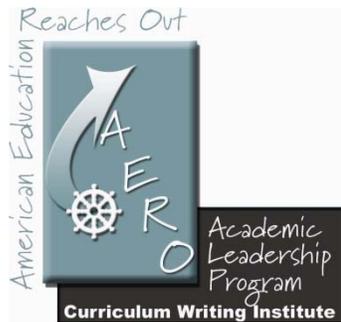
I/Our team plan(s) to stay in Marymount University housing on the following nights:

Sunday, June 24 \_\_\_                      Wednesday, June 27 \_\_\_  
Monday, June 25 \_\_\_                      Thursday, June 28 \_\_\_  
Tuesday, June 26 \_\_\_                      (check-out is Friday morning)

Signed (School Director): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**The application must arrive by March 2, 2018.** Please E-mail or FAX the completed form to:

Chen Lofton, U.S. Department of State  
Office of Overseas Schools, SA-1, Room H328  
Washington, DC 20522-0103  
E-mail: [loftoncc@state.gov](mailto:loftoncc@state.gov)  
Fax: ++ (202) 261-8224



**AERO: SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum)  
at Marymount University  
Academic Leadership Institute  
[www.projectaero.org](http://www.projectaero.org)  
June 25-29, 2018**

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 standards-based. The week will focus on leadership, the change process and implementation strategies. Participants will examine standards-based curriculum, instruction, assessment, and planning.

The work will be based on the standards developed by Project AERO. These can be viewed at [www.projectaero.org](http://www.projectaero.org).

Institute participants will:

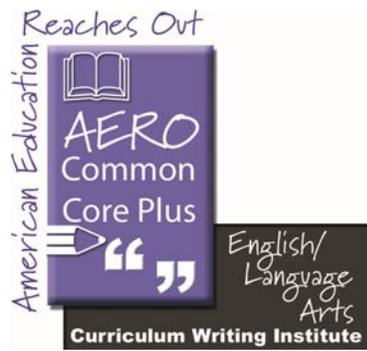
- Examine the relationship between standards and curriculum
- Review the principles of "backward design", moving from "starting with the end in mind" to evidence of student learning and designing aligned learning experiences
- Highlight the factors guiding instructional decisions, including student performance data
- Use a planning model to guide the 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
- Review representative current research and best practices on school leadership

Participants will leave the Institute with a developed plan for moving forward within the context of their school needs.

This Institute will be limited to 20 participants. Registration will be on a space-available basis. Schools are encouraged to send a team of academic leaders.

Please send, email or fax the completed registration form by **March 2, 2018** to:

**Chenique Lofton**  
U.S. Department of State  
Office of Overseas Schools  
SA-I, Room H328  
Washington, DC 20522-0103  
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**AERO/Common Core Plus  
at Marymount University  
English Language Arts Curriculum Design Institute  
[www.projectaero.org](http://www.projectaero.org)  
June 25-29, 2018**

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. It is a *foundational* course. 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.

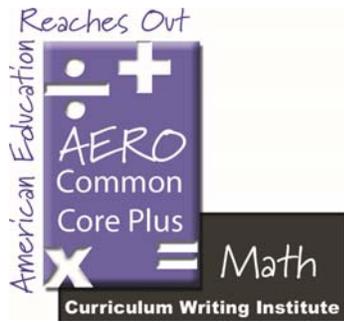
Workshop participants will:

- Review the AERO English 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

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 Marymount University  
Mathematics Institute  
[www.projectaero.org](http://www.projectaero.org)  
June 25-29, 2018**

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 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 assessments to make instructional decisions
- Explore different instructional models for teaching mathematics

This Institute will be limited to 20 participants. Registration will be on a space-available basis. Preference will be given to schools sending two-person teams. All participants are asked to bring summative assessments with at least 3 samples of student work for each of those assessments.

Please send, e-mail, or fax the completed registration form by **March 2, 2018** to:

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**AERO: SBC (Standards Based Curriculum)  
at Marymount University  
AERO/Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Institute  
[www.projectaero.org](http://www.projectaero.org)  
June 25-29, 2018**

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, NGSS is fundamentally changing the way science is taught, learned and assessed. Developing a solid understanding of NGSS is 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 NGSS and the resources available to assist in implementation of an NGSS based program. This week-long course will be an introduction to NGSS, not a curriculum writing workshop although curriculum issues will be discussed.

Institute participants will:

- 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 Crosscutting 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

The Institute will be limited to 20 participants. Registration will be accepted on a space-available basis. Preference will be given to schools sending two-person teams.

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Fax: (202) 261-8224



**AERO: SBC (Standards-Based Curriculum)**  
**at Marymount University**  
**World Languages**  
**Curriculum Design Institute – Tier 1**  
**[www.projectaero.org](http://www.projectaero.org)**  
**June 25-29, 2018**

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.

Institute 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

The Institute will be limited to 20 participants. Registration will be accepted on a space-available basis. Preference will be given to schools sending two-person teams.

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