Developing Area Studies Certificate Programs for Educators

Breeanna Elliott
Outreach Specialist, Boston University African Studies Center
The Outreach Program at BU’s African Studies Center seeks to recognize and help train those individuals committed to African studies.

**The Teaching Africa Teacher Certification Program exists to increase the number of teachers competent in African area studies.**

The Program incorporates into the curriculum both university-level coursework related to the continent and teacher workshops sponsored by the ASC.

In doing so, students enrolled in the Program will be equipped with not only content knowledge, but also the methods by which they can translate their coursework into integrative classroom lessons.
Certification Program Requirements (16 credits)

**Content Knowledge** - 12 credits must be graduate-level course work. Courses are submitted to the Program Director for approval (syllabi, final assignments, etc.).

**Teacher Workshops** - 4 credits must be from teacher workshops sponsored by the BU African Studies Center.

**Program Mentorship Assignment** – Two meetings are required per semester.

All courses taken for credit in the program must have a primary focus on Africa and at least one course must have a predominantly historical perspective on a topic in African studies.
Program Application Guidelines

Only students who have successfully completed a B.A. or are in the process of completing a B.A. will be considered as applicants.

All applicants must submit:
- application form
- official transcripts from the highest degree conferred
- a personal statement (1000 word limit)
- Resume
- English proficiency exam results if necessary
Opportunities for Collaboration & Innovation

- Schools of Education
- Departments of Education
- Public School Districts
- Non-Profit Educational Organizations
- Online Course Component
PDP Provider Approval Process

Continuing Education or Professional Development is required for educators.

Professional Development Points (PDPs)

- PD must be at least 10 hours per topic.
- PD must include an assessment of learning.

Generally, 1 credit = 15 hours = 1.5 CEUs = 15 PDPs.

Institutes of Higher Education have an easier process applying, generally: if DOE PD standards are met, then you need to fill out the PDP provider registration form for Institutes of Higher Education, which are usually reviewed monthly.
Program Marketing

The Outreach Program at Boston University's African Studies Center has created a new Teacher Certification Program as part of our longstanding commitment to promote the teaching of Africa and the African diaspora in U.S. schools.

Students accepted into the program will complete a minimum of 16 credits in university-level coursework and teaching workshops. Courses may be taken at any accredited university but must have a primary focus on Africa, including one class with a predominantly historical perspective. Teaching workshops will be sponsored by the African Studies Center and taught on the Boston University campus.

Application Requirements:
All applicants must submit the following: official transcripts from the highest degree conferred; a personal statement (1000 word limit); resume; English proficiency exam results, if necessary. Official transcripts must be mailed directly to the ASC Outreach Program.
All other application materials should be submitted to bmello@bu.edu.
For further information, please see our website: http://www.bu.edu/africa/outreach

Application Deadlines:
- Fall 2016: September 1, 2016
- Spring 2017: February 1, 2017
- Summer 2017: June 1, 2017

Log in to like or comment.
PD Provider Registry Search Results (Tuesday, November 29, 2016)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Content Areas</th>
<th>Regions Served</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston University: African Studies Center</td>
<td>Arts, English Language Arts/Literacy, History/Social Science</td>
<td>Greater Boston</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PD Provider: Boston University: African Studies Center**

**Contact Information**

Boston University: African Studies Center  
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Boston, MA 02215

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**Provider Details**

Organization: Institution of Higher Education  
Type(s):  
PD Format(s): Course, Mentoring/Coaching, Training Session/Workshop  
Audience(s): Teachers, Teacher leaders, School Admin: principals, asst serviced: principals, curriculum directors etc., Advocates/community partners or leaders  
PD mode(s): Blended (Hybrid)  
interaction available:  
# of PD in an 10 events or fewer  
average year:  
Years of: Over 25 years  
experience providing PD in  
MA:  

**Brief Description of Services**

The Outreach Program at Boston University's African Studies Center is a Title VI-funded program with a simple overarching priority—we aim to promote the teaching of Africa in U.S. schools. Annually, we host and co-sponsor a number of professional development opportunities that focus on teaching Africa in all subjects, from music to public health to literature. For more information, please see our website (bu.edu/africa/outreach) or contact us at the information listed.
PD descriptions and information on the provider is listed on the DOE’s searchable website. The more information and relevant tags included, the higher the likelihood interested educators will be able to find your program offerings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Area(s)</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Grade Levels</th>
<th>Educator Evaluation Standards</th>
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</table>
| **Arts**        | Our annual workshops and courses differ from year to year, based on participant demand and scholar interest. PD offered on the arts often explores the diversity of material culture throughout the continent of Africa and explores the importance of music, dance, art in defining regional histories and identities. | Lower Elementary (Pre-K, K, 1, 2)  
Upper Elementary (3, 4, 5)  
Middle School (6, 7, 8)  
High School (9, 10, 11, 12) | |
| **English Language Arts/Literacy** | Our annual workshops and courses differ from year to year, based on participant demand and scholar interest. PD offered in English language arts/literacy highlights the value of global literature and global connectedness in ELA classrooms and seeks to expose students to literary traditions (in all their diversity) outside of the euro-centric curriculum. | Lower Elementary (Pre-K, K, 1, 2)  
Upper Elementary (3, 4, 5)  
Middle School (6, 7, 8)  
High School (9, 10, 11, 12) | |
| **History/Social Science** | Our annual workshops and courses differ from year to year, based on participant demand and scholar interest. PD offered in history/social science seeks to integrate Africa into the historical timeline of global and American history and highlight African contributions to various disciplines. | Lower Elementary (Pre-K, K, 1, 2)  
Upper Elementary (3, 4, 5)  
Middle School (6, 7, 8)  
High School (9, 10, 11, 12) | Not Applicable |
Why develop your own area studies certificate?

Aligns with professional needs of educators

A recruitment tool for workshop and seminar participation

Opportunities for wide-scale collaboration and innovation

Source of teacher-created and classroom-ready curriculum development

Relevant marketing opportunity for outreach goals
For more information

Contact Breeanna Elliott
(bmellio@bu.edu)

or visit us online at
http://www.bu.edu/af
rica/outreach.