



INTERNATIONAL AND  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE  
EDUCATION

# FULBRIGHT HAYS

## Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program



International and Foreign Language Education  
Office of Postsecondary Education  
U.S. Department of Education





## **PROGRAM PURPOSE**

The Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad (SA) program provides short-term study abroad opportunities for groups of U.S. educators in the arts, social sciences, and humanities for the purpose of improving their understanding and knowledge of the peoples and cultures of other countries. The program is open to educators and administrators who have teaching, administrative, information resource, or curriculum development responsibilities at their respective schools and desire to enhance their expertise by engaging in overseas study and exploration. All seminars focus on the humanities, area studies, and foreign languages related to a given country or countries. Participants engage in broad but in-depth experiences, beginning with well-planned and informative pre-departure orientations.







## ABOUT THE PROGRAM



### WHO

K-12 educators, administrators, librarians, museum educators, and faculty/ administrators from institutions of higher learning who work in the fields of the arts, humanities, and social sciences, including foreign languages, are eligible to apply.



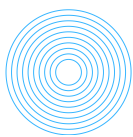
### WHERE

The host countries of the seminars and the topics vary from year to year. For 2024, seminars will be hosted in Finland, Thailand and Colombia.



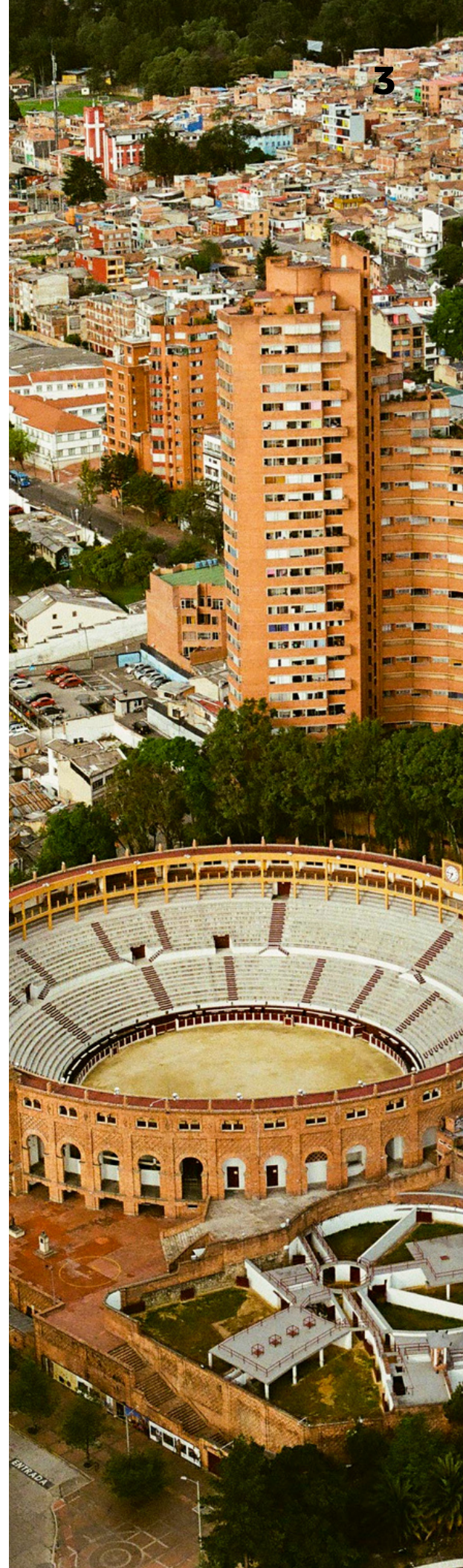
### WHEN

Seminars run for four weeks over the summer.



### HOW

Applications must be submitted online through [g5.gov](https://www.g5.gov). For more information, please visit <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/>







# FISCAL YEAR 2024 SEMINARS

## **Demystifying the Infrastructure of Happiness in Finnish Society**

- Open to elementary and middle school educators and administrators
- Examines how education, nature and sustainable development, and functionality contribute to Finland's overall 'happiness'
- Participants will explore phenomenon-based learning at a nature school in a national park, explore the history and culture of the sauna, experience the Baltic Sea, and visit organizations involved in environmental protection

## **Transformational Thailand: Toward a Sustainable and Inclusive Economy and Society**

- Open to secondary school educators and administrators
- Promotes an understanding of how government initiatives are driving innovation in the private, public, and educational sectors
- Participants will connect with the next generation of leaders while exploring different regions of Thailand, including Bangkok, Chiang Mai, and Songkhla

## **Climate Change and Sustainability in Colombia**

- Open to faculty and administrators from higher education institutions
- Examines the work being done in this geographically diverse nation to provide for a more sustainable future
- Participants will travel to Bogotá, Leticia, Cali, Medellín, and Barranquilla to meet with university leaders and to participate in knowledge exchange





# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## Professional Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree
- At least three years of full-time K-12 or postsecondary experience by the time of seminar departure
- Currently employed full-time through a K-12 school/U.S. accredited institution of higher education, educational agency, library, or museum
- An educator in the arts, humanities, or social sciences. Educators in the sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer sciences are welcome to apply if their proposed curriculum projects integrate arts, humanities, or social sciences content related to the seminar

## Other Qualifications

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Psychologically and physically fit to take part in all activities
- Able to adapt to other cultures and experiences





## TESTIMONIALS

**JOHN GIVENS**  
**TAIWAN**

The Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad trip not only broadened my horizons academically but also emotionally. The warmth and hospitality of the Taiwanese people left an indelible mark on my heart. Their genuine interest in sharing their culture and learning from us reaffirmed the value of international educational exchanges in fostering mutual understanding and goodwill between nations. As an educator in international studies, I am excited to share my newfound knowledge and experiences with my students, colleagues, and peers. The first hand exposure to Taiwan's democratic values and achievements in areas like gender equality and LGBTQ+ rights will serve as a potent non-Western example for our students to contemplate and learn from.

Beyond the academic and cultural aspects, the camaraderie formed among the participants was exceptional. The vibrant exchanges of ideas and perspectives from participants coming from diverse backgrounds (particularly with so many faculty from HBCUs) further enriched the learning process, fostering a network of scholars and educators from across the US.

The Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad trip has undoubtedly been a life-changing experience, and I am deeply grateful for this opportunity. I am confident that the lessons learned, and the connections made during this trip will continue to shape my perspective as an educator and researcher in the field of international studies at Spelman College.

**AMY PERKINS**  
**ARGENTINA & BRAZIL**

In Brazil we met with teachers who serve marginalized communities from the remote regions of the Amazon to the densely populated favelas of Rio de Janeiro. I was inspired by each one of these educators. The challenges they face, be they political, social, economic, or a mix of all three, seem insurmountable to an outside observer. And yet these educators keep showing up for their students. Meeting with them and witnessing firsthand their commitment to their students reinvigorated my own dedication to the profession and my long-standing faith in the ability to inspire change through quality education. Our experience in Latin America helped me see how the challenges I face in the classroom are not unique and how a global community of educators can collaborate to empower students, safeguard democracy, and inspire the next generation of global citizens.





## TESTIMONIALS

The Fulbright-Hays Seminar was the opportunity of a lifetime. We gained firsthand experiences learning about each country's culture and history by interacting with incredibly qualified and dedicated people. We made contacts with public ministers, tour guides, school officials, and most importantly, other teachers. With these contacts, I have been able to pursue deeper investigations into the history, literature, and culture, from people with rich knowledge of context and resources. In addition, these contacts allowed me to set up cultural exchanges between students from schools in both countries and my own students to engage in online and virtual discussions about civics, history, and literature.

Words cannot describe how inspiring it is to meet and share ideas with so many amazing educators who sacrifice and dedicate their lives to making real change against incredible adversity. From the Fulbright-Hays experience, I have been able to enrich my classes' readings, histories, and methodologies to include more diverse and marginalized voices, more subtle and intersectional contexts, and more activities that connect to my students' families and communities. From the five week program I gained years worth of professional development and a lifetime of personal growth.

**ERIK SZABADOS**  
**ARGENTINA &  
BRAZIL**

**ANGELA ANTRIM**  
**JORDAN**

The Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad program was fun, challenging, tiring, exciting, interesting, AND so worth it! Not only did I learn so much, I made friendships to last a lifetime with other Fulbrighters. It was exhilarating to experience so much, but it was made more special experiencing it with a like minded group who shares the same values. I would definitely encourage anyone thinking about participating to go for it.





## SEMINARS ABROAD FACTS AND FIGURES



Seminars  
since 2008



Countries since  
2008



Seminars  
participants  
since 2008

## Seminar locations by world region since 2008







# APPLICATION COMPONENTS

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. International/Intercultural Experience Essay
  - Applicants discuss previous intercultural or travel experiences, including how those experiences influenced their teaching, curriculum, or professional development, and also prepared them to participate in the program.
3. Demonstrated Need Essay
  - Applicants discuss the needs of their students, school, and community, highlight gaps in curricula or professional development, and discuss the potential benefits of their participation in the seminar.
4. Project Plan and Implementation Essay
  - Applicants discuss their project plan, which will be the outcome of attending the seminar. They outline the curricula they will develop, as well as dissemination activities they will implement in their classroom, school, or community.
5. Letters of Support
  - Each applicant must submit two letters of support in their applications.

**Competitive preference priorities**  
Applicants from any of the following categories can receive extra points on their application:

- K-12 faculty at Title I schools and faculty at minority-serving institutions
- Faculty members at community colleges
- New applicants





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## How will applicants be selected?

Applicants will be selected based on their responses to the selection criteria described in the application package. Preference may be given to applicants who have not already received a Fulbright-Hays award.

Applications will be evaluated and scored by a technical review panel of international education experts and former Seminars Abroad participants. Final selection for the program is made by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, which takes into account the recommendations of the U.S. Department of Education, availability of funds, and other program requirements.

## What expenses will the program pay for and what will I be expected to provide?

The program will pay for airfare, room and board, and program-related travel within the host country or countries. Participants should be prepared to pay \$750 for orientation costs, passport/visa fees, inoculations, and other personal expenses.

## What are my responsibilities as a Seminars Abroad participant?

Participants must read, sign, and agree to the "Terms and Conditions of the Award" contained in the application. They must complete and submit a curriculum project 90 days after their seminar ends. Participants are required to share their curriculum projects and experiences with their students, colleagues, and communities upon return to the United States.

## Where will I stay during the seminar?

Accommodations will be provided by the administering agency (often the host country's Fulbright Commission) at mid-range hotels for most of the seminar. In some cases, university housing or 1-3 day home stays will be arranged. Participants should be prepared to share a room throughout the seminar.

## Can I participate in just part of the seminar, extend my stay, or take independent side trips?

No. Seminars are short-term group trips in which participants must travel together to and from the host country and fully engage in the planned itinerary of educational, social, and cultural activities as a group.

For more frequently asked questions, visit  
<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/faq.html>.







## CONTACT US

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International and  
Foreign Language  
Education (IFLE) Office

