

UNIVERSITY OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROJECT

2008 TEACHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE

The Teacher Education Institute (TEI) is a highly intensive, 4-week teacher-training and cultural exchange program hosted annually in July by the University of the Middle East Project (UME). The TEI is one of the many programs the UME implements to provide higher education opportunities of the highest standard for all the peoples and communities of the Middle East and North Africa.

TEI courses are taught in English by professors from prestigious institutions on the beautiful campus of a top university in the United States. A combination of lectures, discussion sessions, workshops and field trips immerses participants in a wide variety of innovative teaching methodologies. The TEI allows participants to learn about new and creative pedagogical tools that incorporate critical thinking and constructive dialogue for practical application to secondary school classrooms. Technological tools such as internet-based learning and educational software programs also will be explored. The TEI is the first of several follow-on programs (see below) that build off the foundations of knowledge established in this preliminary course.

Lectures and Seminars

The 4-week TEI consists in part of more than 100 hours of classroom time. Classes are highly participatory and interactive in nature, covering a number of academic readings, and requiring the regular submission of coursework. The UME curriculum encourages active learning, with an emphasis on discussion and group work. Seminar and lecture topics include:

- Critical Pedagogy
- Cross Cultural Education
- Technology in the Classroom
- The Role of Education in Community Building
- Communication in Educational Settings
- Mentoring and Leadership Skills

Site Visits

Site visits are designed to provide valuable field experience on topics explored in the lectures and discussion sessions. UME coordinates group visits to American secondary schools and teachers associations, and arranges presentations given by various organizations engaged in civic education and community service.

Project Workshops

Working in multinational groups of four or five, TEI participants incorporate the various teaching methodologies and theories explored in TEI lectures and readings. With the guidance of a TEI core faculty member, each group completes a collaborative paper and a conference project presentation during the final week of the institute. The goal of the presentation is to demonstrate a coherent and critical understanding of the topics explored during the Teacher Education Institute and to share new methodologies and ideas with peers.

Continuing Education

The TEI is the first of several professional development programs that UME offers educators from the Middle East and North Africa. As an alumnus of the TEI, you have the opportunity to participate in UME's follow-on programs which provide further training and cross-cultural experiences both abroad and in your home-country. The following are program themes are ongoing:

- Education Leadership
- Negotiation Strategies
- Alumni Conferences
- Art and Education
- Civic Engagement
- Teacher Training Skills

For further information about UME and the 2008 TEI, please visit www.ume.org.
For answers to questions about TEI, email us at TEIquestions@ume.org or call 1-617-876-6361

****Please remember to include your full name and nationality for all written inquiries****