Indication of Interest

Curriculum Development: Social Sciences and Humanities
Draft Grade 12 U/C Course: *World Cultures*

The curriculum review process for curriculum policy documents in Social Sciences and Humanities, Grades 9 -12 began in September 2007. As part of this process, preparations for the development, writing, and piloting of a draft Grade 12 University/College secondary course in *World Cultures* is now under way. It is anticipated that this course will be included in the revised Social Sciences and Humanities document.

*World Cultures* is intended to be a generic course which considers the social and cultural institutions of a world culture and the contributions and experiences of the particular cultural group within Canadian society. This course could be offered with a focus on different world cultures from areas such as South East Asia, East Asia, South Asia, Latin America, Africa or the Caribbean depending on local needs and expertise. *

The Ministry of Education is looking for current secondary teachers and district school board coordinators or consultants who are interested in participating in this development process in some capacity. Potential activities being considered as part of the process include:

- Reviewing draft courses and providing detailed written analysis
- Participating in focus or feedback discussion groups
- Organizing and facilitating student input
- Participating in course writing teams
- Developing curriculum implementation support materials

**Timelines**

Course writing is scheduled to begin July, 6, 2009 with the possibility of course writing taking place up to July 25, 2009, with teams working Monday to Friday each week. (The **Lead Writer** will be responsible for coordinating the team for the World Cultures course and will be required for additional days for training during the week of June 29 –July 3 and possible follow-up work from July 27- 31, 2009). Participants must be available for all working days of the writing sessions from **8:30 am - 4:30 pm.** All writing will be done at 900 Bay Street, Toronto.

There may be opportunities to review draft prototype materials prior to summer writing. Other activities may take place in Fall 2009.

**Remuneration**

Secondary school teachers and school board staff participating on the summer course writing team will be paid a per diem rate of $300.00 plus expenses for meals,

* Note: This is a draft working description only.
accommodation (for those whose home address is a minimum 200km return from 
Toronto), and transportation according to government guidelines. Lead Writers will 
receive $350.00 per diem plus expenses as above.

Remuneration for other writing or research tasks involving secondary school teachers 
will not exceed the fee structure outlined above. Compensation for release time will be 
provided to district school boards for tasks taking place during regular school hours.

Confidentiality/Conflict of Interest

All participants receiving funds from the project will be required to sign a Letter of 
Agreement. This Letter of Agreement includes terms related to ownership of materials, 
fees, timelines, confidentiality and conflict of interest. Specifically, regarding 
Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest, all materials must remain confidential until such 
time that the documents are released.

All participants receiving funding from the project may not be involved in the writing or 
production of any teaching resources using information from the draft courses before the 
documents are released.

Background and Experience

Since this course represents new subjects areas not currently part of the Ontario 
secondary curriculum, we are looking for individuals with the following kinds of 
background and experience:

1. A post-secondary degree with a major or a specific cultural focus such as a Latin 
American Studies, African/Caribbean Studies, or Asian Studies.

2. Development of curriculum at the provincial level or the creation of learning 
resources to support the integration of equity, diversity, or social justice into the 
curriculum implementation process e.g. board resource documents, books or 
articles.

3. Teaching experience in the Social Sciences and Humanities or Canadian and World 
Studies in the following areas – Family Studies, General Social Science, World 
Religions, or World History. Applicants with teaching experience in an 
Interdisciplinary Studies or Locally Developed course with a specific cultural focus 
such as Black/Caribbean Studies will also be considered.

Next Steps

In order to indicate your interest in participating in this project in some capacity please fill 
out the accompanying “Indication of Interest” form. The form should be sent to 
josie.vite@ontario.ca.

Indications of interest should be received by the Ministry by May 29, 2009 if you are 
interested in being considered for the summer writing process.
Thank you for indicating an interest in this project. We will keeping all submissions on file, and will notify those being considered for summer writing teams by **June 8, 2009** with follow-up information. We will notify those who are under consideration for participation in other activities as specific tasks become available.

For more information please contact Karen Gill (416 325-5290), Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch.