

Dear Educator,

Anyone who has participated in the NJCH Teacher Institute in the past knows how valuable the experience can be. I'm hoping you can pass the following information on to some of your colleagues so that they too might share in the experience. In days like these, when teachers and librarians are under siege, it's good to know that there's a place to go where your contributions are respected and your work is supported.

And given the times, perhaps the best part is that the Teacher Institute is tuition-free. All books, room, and board are also included. There is only a \$100 registration fee. Space is limited, however, so apply now to secure your position.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. And thank you for all you do for New Jersey's students.

Cheers,

Chris Scherer  
Program Officer  
New Jersey Council for the Humanities  
28 West State Street  
Sixth Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
cscherer@njch.org  
www.njch.org

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**The New Jersey Council for the Humanities Teacher Institute** is a six-day residential professional development program sponsored by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities for the state's K-12 teachers at the **Richard Stockton College of New Jersey**, in Pomona. Participants will take part in lectures and discussions led by an inspired faculty and enjoy lively exchanges with teaching colleagues. Coursework will explore new materials and methods that address New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards. Participants can earn **45 hours of Professional Development Credits, a \$250 stipend with completion of a curriculum project, and three graduate credits with completion of a research paper.**

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For more information or to submit an application, please do not hesitate to call Chris Scherer at 1-888-FYI-NJCH, or email at [cscherer@njch.org](mailto:cscherer@njch.org), or visit <http://www.njch.org/teacher.html>.

Topics for 2010:

### **Race in American History and Culture: New Perspectives**

*Sunday July 11 to Friday, July 16*

This seminar examines the centrality of race as an evolving concept and also as a tenacious challenge to the fulfillment of American democracy. Drawing upon recent scholarship in the humanities, including interrogation of the visual arts and popular culture, teachers will explore the complicated role that race has played as the organizing principle of the American Republic and the most formidable social construction of difference in our society.

### **Poverty, Affluence, and the American Dream: A Multi-disciplinary Seminar**

*Sunday, July 18 to Friday, July 23*

Beyond its obvious economic dimensions, poverty has displayed a wide variety of political and cultural meanings throughout American history. Through examination of works relating to poverty, wealth, and class from the 1860s to the early 2000s, this seminar investigates the historical, sociological, and literary ebbs and flows of the American Dream, as well as how poverty and poor people have been discussed and represented over the last 150 years.

### **America and the Politics of World Religions**

*Sunday, July 25 to Friday, July 30*

Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, the Chinese traditions—understanding the interactions among these global forces is crucial to understanding both the dynamics of global power and America's place on the world stage. This seminar is devoted to exploring the religious roots of American politics as well as the politics of the world's great religions, leading to a deeper appreciation of how these seminal forces relate to each

other, and to a greater sense of the possibilities for understanding and cooperation.

### **Narratives of Immigration - Latino/a Lives**

*Sunday, August 1 to Friday, August 6*

The United States, as a nation of immigrants, is increasingly defined by the narratives of its Latina/o population. This seminar takes up the novels, short stories, films and music that tell their stories of arrival and belonging.

Teachers will examine how Latino conceptualizations of national, racial and ethnic communities are formed, and how the idea of “community” relates to issues of immigration, colonialism, exile, integration and assimilation, political presence, religion, criminality, and “back home” nationalism.

### **Adolescent and Young Adult Literature**

*Sunday, August 8 to Friday, August 13*

Adolescents are multi-literate beings with rich and diverse cultural worlds and identities. This seminar encourages participants to think and talk about how their own personal connections with literature inform their evolving personal theory of and professional approach to literature instruction.

Participants will be invited to explore social and cultural issues around young adult and adolescent literature and consider the implications of these issues for their content-area classrooms.