

## **At Center for Indic Studies, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth**

### **Overview**

India is an ancient civilization with widespread social, political, linguistic, cultural, philosophical, artistic, religious, spiritual, and natural diversity. It is taking a center stage in recent decades with its global economic and political roles. Teaching India in classrooms is becoming more interesting and important, but its complexity and diversity poses a challenge to any teacher in grade schools. The presence of over 3 million Indian-Americans, and others who are connected to Indian heritage in a variety of ways, makes it more important not only to teach India in classroom but teach it properly. There are aspects of geography, history, sociology, literature, cuisine, art and music, cultural and philosophical practices, business, religions, etc. that can be richly covered in the classrooms. Experiences from past training sessions, we have learned that teaching materials, immersion learning, and answers to questions help teachers immensely.

Dharmic cultural traditions consist of traditions originated from the Indian Subcontinent over several millennia, which have developed and evolved. Currently practiced by over a billion people throughout the world. Dharmic traditions represent more than religious studies, and they grow from Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism. Coverage of Dharmic traditions in American schools is limited primarily because of the lack of appropriate teaching material, and of course, teacher content knowledge and training. The Uberoi Foundation has provided the Center for Indic Studies at UMass Dartmouth with funding to provide 12-15 Uberoi Foundation Fellowships for school teachers, which will be held on August 1st-August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 at UMass Dartmouth.

### **Training Program**

Participants will be required to attend the two-day training session, on August 1st-August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at UMass Dartmouth. This will be an immersion program with cultural events in the evenings. Participants will be required to attend a complete session (day and evening cultural events) of the five day training program. Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in the four Dharmic Traditions: (Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism) have created training materials and teacher training modules for the recipients of these fellowships. Those conducting the training modules will include university professors and other scholars, and the program will be coordinated in part by the faculty in the Teaching and Learning Department at UMass Dartmouth. As an outcome of the training, participants will also be required to create a comprehensive unit for their classrooms, which articulate Dharmic traditions in connection with the State Curriculum Frameworks. These standards/frameworks are mainly found in History I and II of the State Curriculum Frameworks, but other related subject areas are welcome incorporate the material provided during the training. Participants will also be required to make a report on their experiences in teaching the Dharmic traditions by the end of the following school year.

### **Support**

Teachers selected for the Uberoi Foundation Fellowship can choose to get either Professional Development Points (PDP) only OR a \$200 stipend. Selected applicants will also be provided with a set of

training materials and an honorary certificate from the Uberoi Foundation Fellowship. Local housing will be made available to teachers traveling long distances for attending the program.

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## **UBEROI FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP**

**For Teaching Dharmic Traditions**

**August 1-August 2, 2013**

**At Center for Indic Studies, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth**

### **Selection process**

Teachers will be selected based on their interest, experience and need for the training to enhance their ability to use the training and the material for classroom teaching. To apply for the fellowship, please submit the following materials in either of the two ways: via e-mail (using Microsoft Word attachments) by midnight on April 20th, 2013 or post hard copies postmarked by April 20th 2013. The recipients will be announced by April 20th, 2013.

Please provide the following materials in order to apply:

1. Basic information of the applicant and the courses the applicant is teaching.
2. A short essay (2-3 paragraphs) outlining the applicant's interest in Dharmic traditions and how this program will help him/her teach them effectively.

E-mail applications (by midnight on April 20th 2013) should be sent to: [uff@umassd.edu](mailto:uff@umassd.edu)

Hard copies (postmarked by April 20th 2013) should be sent to:

Dr. Maureen Hall, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Center for Indic Studies, Violette Building, Room 211, 285 Old Westport Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747.

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**APPLICATION FORM**

Note: Completed application form and the related materials must be sent by e-mail by midnight on April 20th 2013 .E-mail applications should be sent to: [uff@umassd.edu](mailto:uff@umassd.edu)

Hard copies (postmarked by April 20<sup>th</sup> 2013) should be sent to: Dr. Maureen Hall-UFF, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Center for Indic Studies, Violette Building, Room 211, 285 Old Westport Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the School: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject(s) taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Level(s) taught: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information of the School Principal:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_