

Model Study Abroad
Curriculum Development Project
Proposal Abstract
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William C. Baurecht

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh College of Letters and Science requests funding for curriculum development in order to add substantive comparative Canadian content to University courses offered in its innovative Canada-US Studies program.

With assistance from the Institute for Global Studies, the UW Oshkosh Canada-US Studies program seeks to diversify its curriculum and strengthen the students' educational experiences by sponsoring interdisciplinary colloquia of scholars from UW Oshkosh and the University of New Brunswick. We request support for three UNB scholars and three UW Oshkosh scholars to plan and present a colloquium dealing with New Brunswick history and culture at UW Oshkosh in October 2000.

The interdisciplinary effort of UW Oshkosh and UNB scholars will involve

1. planning, via distance education, the Colloquium;
2. offering the Colloquium (Phase One) in Wisconsin, October 2000;
3. reassembling via distance education to critique and refine presentations; and
4. presenting the Colloquium (Phase Two) at UNB in March 2001.

The proposed project will utilize established distance education resources at the two institutions, beginning with two interactive workshops in May 2000 that will initiate cooperative planning between the UW Oshkosh and UNB campuses. Participants will become involved in collaborative curriculum development related to Canada-US Studies, focusing on the structure of Colloquium Phase One, to be offered in October 2000. Phase Two will also be planned via distance education and then presented at the UNB in March 2001.

The planning process, itself, will not only provide new insights into Canadian culture but will utilize an expert resource -- our three Canadian colleagues -- to help us infuse substantial Canadian content into three existing courses that will be taught in either the Spring or Fall semesters of 2001-2002. The two campus colloquia will offer opportunities for a broad audience of students, faculty and other interested individuals to share their understanding of the relationships, historical and cultural, between the two cultures. This strategy will further encourage the development of linkages, pedagogical and scholarly, between two university faculties committed to Canada-US Studies.