



MUSLIM WOMEN AND THE MEDIA TRAINING INSTITUTE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: EARLY CAREER JOURNALISTS

Application Deadline: Oct 30, 2019 | First Seminar: March 2020 | Second Seminar: November 2020

REPRESENTING MUSLIM WOMEN IN THE MEDIA:

The media is the most powerful vehicle for (mis)representing Islam, Muslims, and Muslim women in particular. Distorted images of Muslim women circulate widely in many media outlets. The past several years has witnessed a massive escalation of Islamophobia and anti-Muslim racism in the U.S. and Europe. Most Islamophobic media representations focus on Muslim women. Muslim women in traditional dress are the most frequent target of Islamophobic hate crimes in the U.S. and Europe.

THE TRAINING INSTITUTE:

This program brings together leading academic experts on women and Islamic cultures and experienced journalists from the United States, Europe, and the Middle East, to engage participants in the diverse and global histories and cultures of women and Islamic cultures. The goal is to foster accurate reporting, representation, and public discourses related to Islamic cultures and to Muslim women in a variety of media outlets. The program is committed to the principle that knowledge is power; to the recognition that media are powerful molders of public opinion; and to the deep belief that evidence/facts/accuracy, when presented by respected public agents, can generate healthy public debates and constructively transform public discourse.

THE SEMINAR SCHEDULE/PROGRAM:

Participants will attend **two intensive two-day seminars during Winter and Fall 2020 and engage with mentors in between**. The first seminar will take place on March 2020 in Davis, California. The date and times of the second seminar will be scheduled later. Participants will work with faculty and journalists through lectures and discussions on the histories and cultures of Islam and women in Islamic cultures and their representation in the media in the USA and Europe. In between the two seminars, participants will be given reading and writing assignments to submit to their individual mentors. Mentors will respond with comments and feedback for improving the assignments. By the end of the program, participants will produce a report, opinion piece, article (long form or blog post), or visual/audio presentation for publication to a media platform of their choice (these are not research papers or academic journal articles).

THE SEMINAR LEADERS:

The trainers include experts on women and Islamic cultures – editors of the *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*: Suad Joseph, Zeina Zaatari, Sarah Gualtieri, and Elora Shehabuddin. Journalists from the United States, Europe will provide support and lectures.

ELGIBILITY & APPLICATION PROCESS

The Institute is open to graduate students in schools of journalism and communication, and to early career professional journalists within five years of degree completion. To apply, submit a CV, one letter of recommendation from a professor or employer, a short writing sample, and a statement of purpose no more than 600 words addressing your interest, qualifications, and commitment to this program to Suad Joseph: sjoseph@ucdavis.edu and ewic@ucdavis.edu Indicate the level of your knowledge or training related to women and Islamic cultures and your training or experience in journalism or communication and in which media platforms. For more information, see: <http://sjoseph.ucdavis.edu/ewic>. **APPLICATION DEADLINE: Oct 30, 2019.**

COST Travel, accommodations, and catering are funded by a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation.