



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Superintendents of Schools, Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, and High School Principals

**FROM:** Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer *IEP*

**DATE:** June 7, 2021

**SUBJECT:** African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies – Professional Learning and Training Schedule

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is pleased to continue its partnership with the State Education Resource Center (SERC) to support the implementation of the African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies. High School educators initiating the course in the 2021-2022 school year are invited to participate in the full professional learning series, optional field study and coaching, and networking opportunities.

Please select a Cadre from the training schedule attached and save the dates. Watch for complete registration information over the coming weeks and the reveal of the full curriculum document by July 1, 2021, as legislated. In the meantime, we ask the contact person from each Connecticut high school to complete this brief survey by June 14, 2021, to inform our planning <https://forms.gle/tFdGCrF4RqjAguTe8>.

The CSDE and SERC teams look forward to working with you over the coming year to implement and refine the curriculum as designed and developed by the 150 member Advisory Group. Please visit our website at <https://ctserc.org/pa1912> for information regarding stakeholder involvement, the curriculum development process, and most up-to-date materials and learning opportunities.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to CSDE Project Manager and Director of Equity and Language Dr. Gladys Labas at [Gladys.Labas@ct.gov](mailto:Gladys.Labas@ct.gov), or the following members of the SERC Team:

- Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Consultant for Project Coordination at [griffin@ctserc.org](mailto:griffin@ctserc.org);
- Paquita Jarman-Smith, Consultant for African American/Black Content at [Jarman-Smith@ctserc.org](mailto:Jarman-Smith@ctserc.org); or
- Nitza Diaz, Consultant for Puerto Rican/Latino Content at [Diaz@ctserc.org](mailto:Diaz@ctserc.org).

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cc: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner of Education  
Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of Education for Academics and Innovation  
Ingrid M. Canady, Executive Director, SERC

**African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Course of Studies  
2021-2022 CSDE/SERC Training Schedule**

**LEADERSHIP LAUNCH** (virtual) – July 14 – one team per school, including Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Principal, School Counseling Department Chair, Social Worker, Social Studies Department Chair, Teacher(s)  
Session 1: 8:30-10, Session 2: 11-12:30, Session 3: 1:30-3 (mixed Cadres)

**SUMMER INSTITUTE** (in-person with remote option) – Cadre 1: July 26-30, Cadre 2: Aug 2-6, Cadre 3: Aug 9-13, 9-3:30 – one team per school, including Social Studies Department Chair and Teacher(s)  
Day 1 – AM Overview of Course, PM Review of Expectations  
Day 2 – AM/PM Pedagogy and Considerations for Teaching Course  
Day 3 – AM Overview Unit 1, PM Overview Unit 2  
Day 4 – AM Lesson Development, PM Overview Unit 3  
Day 5 – AM Lesson Development, PM Next Steps/Overview of Field Study

**QUARTER 1 TRAINING** (in person with remote option) – Cadre 3: Sept 27-28, Cadre 1: 29-30, Cadre 2: Oct 1-2  
Day 1 – AM Overview Unit 4, PM Lesson Development  
Day 2 – AM Overview Unit 5, PM Lesson Development

**QUARTER 2 TRAINING** (in person with remote option) – Cadre 2: Nov 29-30, Cadre 3: Dec 1-2, Cadre 1: Dec 3-4  
Day 1 - AM Overview Unit 6, PM Lesson Development  
Day 2 – AM Overview Unit 1, PM Lesson Development

**QUARTER 3 TRAINING** (in person with remote option) – Cadre 1: Jan 31-Feb 1, Cadre 2: Feb 2-3, Cadre 3: Feb 4-5  
Day 1 – AM Overview Unit 2, PM Lesson Development  
Day 2 - AM Overview Unit 3, PM Lesson Development

**QUARTER 4 TRAINING** (in person with remote option) – Cadre 3: Mar 28-29, Cadre 2: Mar 30-31, Cadre 1: Mar 1-2  
Day 1 – AM Overview Unit 4, PM Lesson Development  
Day 2 – AM Overview Unit 5, PM Lesson Development

**SHOWCASE** – June 9, 2022 (virtual) - one team per school, including Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Principal, Social Studies Department Chair, Current and Future Teachers  
Session 1: 8:30-10, Session 2: 11-12:30, Session 3: 1:30-3 (mixed Cadres)