2024 APSA MENA WORKSHOP
CALL FOR LEADERSHIP PROPOSALS

Workshop Leaders for the 2024 APSA MENA Workshop
Deadline: October 08, 2023

The American Political Science Association (APSA) is pleased to announce a call for proposals from political scientists interested in serving as co-leaders for the 2024 MENA Workshop program. This research development workshop will be a 6-day in-person program held in the MENA region in summer 2024. For a full description of the program and application process, see the project website: http://web.apsanet.org/mena/.

Background
Funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York, APSA’s MENA Program is a multi-year effort to support political science research and networking among early-career scholars across the Arab MENA region. Through a series of annual workshops, departmental collaborations, research grants, and methods trainings, the program builds expertise at the individual and institutional level, increases the visibility of high-quality policy-relevant research, and strengthens research networks linking U.S. scholars with colleagues in the region.

Research Development Workshop
The MENA Workshop is an annual professional development program organized in partnership with regional universities and research institutions; previous workshops have been held in Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, UAE, Qatar and Tunisia. Each program is dedicated to a substantive issue in political science, with a unique schedule of lectures, discussions, guest speakers, peer review sessions, professional development seminars, and local field trips. Throughout the workshop, fellows receive critical feedback on their own research and work to refine their manuscripts for publication.

Workshops are led by a team of two scholars based at universities in the Arab world and two scholars based in the U.S. or Europe. Co-leaders serve as academic directors of the program and are responsible for identifying a university or research institute in the region to host the workshop, preparing a unique syllabus with readings and discussion sessions, and providing detailed feedback on participants’ research. Program administration and logistics will be led by APSA staff in conjunction with local host partners. Co-leaders will receive an honorarium and related expenses (including, airfare and hotel) will be covered.

Participating fellows (also fully-funded) will include twenty competitively selected PhD candidates and post-doctoral researchers from across the Arab world. The working language of the program is English.

Proposal Instructions and Assessment Criteria
Workshop proposals should be submitted jointly by the four co-leaders (two based in the MENA region and two based in the U.S./Europe). Leadership teams may include a combination of junior (assistant professor) and senior scholars (associate or full professor); however, should include at least two scholars with experience advising PhD candidates. Proposals should explain the scope of professional ties between workshop co-leaders, with preference given to individuals and teams demonstrating previous collaboration.

Workshop proposals should specify, with justification, where the workshop will take place and with which institution(s). Strong preference will be given to proposals that include one of the MENA-based co-leaders’ institutions as host. Local partners must present a welcoming environment for social science research and have the institutional capacity to support a successful residential workshop, including close linkages to local institutions of higher education and research communities. Host institution(s) will be invited to contribute cost shares in some capacity (for example: transportation from/to airport or between hotel/campus; coffee breaks, a welcome reception or dinner, on-campus accommodation, etc.).
Proposals should be written in three sections:

I. **Workshop Theme** (approx. 2 pages)

The workshop theme proposal should provide a coherent intellectual foundation for the overall program. Prospective co-leaders should specify a thematic focus and outline relevant sub-themes from which they will build a reading list and set the schedule of events for both workshop weeks. Any research topic or substantive theme in political science is welcome. Proposals should address how the theme will incorporate theoretical and methodological training, how it will incorporate new developments in the field and literature, and how it will achieve the program goals of supporting regional networking and publication.

II. **Leaders and Partners** (approx. 3 pages)

In this section, co-leaders must provide detailed information on the following:

- Identify the workshop co-leaders and describe the professional ties between them.
- A specific division of labor among the workshop leaders. For example, which workshop leaders are best suited to assume responsibility for particular sub-themes? Which workshop leaders can help identify local guest speakers for certain topics (optional)?
- Proposed location and institutional partner, including:
  - Specification and justification for workshop locations and host university/research institutes
  - Overview of recommended host institutions and relevant background, including:
    - Description of institutional capacity to host a residential workshop for 25 attendees
    - Explanation of existing ties to local research communities and universities
    - Description of past experience in hosting social science conferences or events
- Several preferred and alternate dates for the workshop week. Co-leaders should identify 2-3 available weeks for the 6-day workshop. Final dates will be set in consultation with APSA staff, co-leaders, and host partners.
- Commitment to the collective leadership of the workshop, including devoting sufficient time to:
  - reviewing all participant applications
  - finalizing the workshop syllabus and schedule
  - preparing for and attending the workshop in full.
  - consulting regularly with APSA staff throughout the workshop program
  - communicating with fellows over the course of the workshop program, as needed

III. **Supplementary Information** (no page limit)

This section of the proposal should provide:

- Recent CVs for all prospective workshop co-leaders
- A discussion of any relevant experience in organizing workshops or similar mentoring, networking, and/or professional development activities
- A draft reading list (optional)
- A letter of support from the proposed institutional partner (encouraged)

**Application Timeline and Information**

Proposals should be submitted via the online form - [https://apsa.wufoo.com/forms/zs1a7fo1wuvkzq/](https://apsa.wufoo.com/forms/zs1a7fo1wuvkzq/) - no later than **Sunday, October 8, 2023**. Attachments should be in Microsoft Word format, 12-point font, and double-spaced. Team selection will be announced by December 2023. Prospective leaders interested in discussing their proposal ideas and/or receiving feedback on a draft proposal are encouraged to reach out to APSA at least two weeks before the deadline.

**Contact Us:** Send an email to [menaworkshops@apsanet.org](mailto:menaworkshops@apsanet.org) if you have questions or would like more information about the workshops and/or application process.