

# The Choices Program

## 2012 Leadership Institute Application



The Choices Program  
Brown University, Box 1948  
Providence, Rhode Island 02912-9120  
Tel 401-863-3155 Fax 401-863-1247  
Email: [Choices@brown.edu](mailto:Choices@brown.edu)  
[www.choices.edu](http://www.choices.edu)

The Choices 2012 Summer Leadership Institute provides teachers with an opportunity to examine the concept of human rights and the challenges of enforcing human rights at an international level. Using the Choices curriculum unit, *Competing Visions of Human Rights: Challenges for U.S. Policy*, participants will explore effective instructional strategies for engaging adolescents in the topic. While in attendance at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies, participating teachers will learn from leading scholars in the fields of international law and foreign policy. Working collaboratively, teachers will also have opportunities to share best practices with other dedicated and innovative teachers. Time is also allocated during the Institute to discuss and plan new ways to conduct outreach to other educators.

### Major themes covered during this institute include:

- What are human rights?
- Cultural relevance vs. the universality of human rights — Why do people interpret human rights differently?
- Humanitarian law and humanitarian intervention
- How are human rights enforced? How does international law impact human rights?
- The role of human rights in foreign policy

### The Choices Leadership Institute will provide you with:

- Presentations by top human rights scholars and practitioners in the field
- Immersion in the Choices approach to teaching 21st century skills through curricular modeling and discussions
- Meals, housing and reading materials throughout the Institute
- 32-hour certificate of completion

### Benefits to participants include:

- Professional growth through content rich presentations
- The chance to interact with outstanding educators from across the country and exchange lesson ideas and strategies for incorporating human rights content into the curriculum
- Expansion of leadership skills through the completion of outreach activities in a self-designed Action Plan
- Ongoing support from the Choices Program to conduct professional development activities in your district or region
- Designation as a **Choices Teaching Fellow**

### Requirements:

- Attend the Institute in its entirety
- Complete activities listed in your self-designed Action Plan
- Commit to an online discussion on the progress of your activities

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## Application Instructions:

Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16. We encourage electronic submissions.

- Please type or print clearly on the application.
- Please give your supervisor the *Supervisor Evaluation Form* to complete and return to us. He/she will also need a copy of your Action Plan.
- Choices will communicate with applicants via email. Please add [choices@brown.edu](mailto:choices@brown.edu) to your email address book to be sure you receive our messages.
- Applicants will receive a confirmation email when the Choices Program has received all pieces of their application.

## Return applications to the Choices Program.

### via email (preferred):

[Choices@brown.edu](mailto:Choices@brown.edu) - Please put *Summer Institute Application* in the subject line.

### via USPS:

The Choices Program  
Competing Visions of Human Rights Institute  
Brown University - Box 1948  
Providence, RI 02912

## Selection and Notification:

Applications are due by **Friday, March 16, 2012**. The selection committee strives to select a group that is diverse in its geographic location, number of years teaching, and school setting. Notification will be provided on or before Monday, April 2. This is a competitive process. We regret that we cannot accept all applicants.

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**Please type or print:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home or Cell Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Experience, School Setting and Technology Use**

I. Years of Teaching Experience \_\_\_\_\_

a. Subjects Currently Teaching: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Subjects Previously/Occasionally Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Grade Level Taught: \_\_\_\_\_

II. Please describe the type of school in which you teach (e.g. public or private, urban or rural, etc). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III. How often do you use technology in your instruction?

Everyday       A few times a week       A few times a month

Do you currently use any of the following in your classroom?

iPad       Nook       Kindle       Kindle Fire       Other eReader \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you use these devices?

Everyday       A few times a week       A few times a month

Does your school have a one-to-one computing program (one computing device for each student)?

No       Yes If Yes, please describe. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Application Questions

#### I. In two to three paragraphs for each question, please answer the following.

1. Describe how you currently use a Choices unit in your classroom. How do Choices units fit your approach to teaching?
2. How does the topic of Human Rights fit in your classroom?
3. In what ways have you demonstrated a leadership role in your district or profession?

#### II. In one to two pages, please outline your Action Plan.

Your participation in this Institute represents a significant investment by Choices. We are looking for educators who will use the skills and knowledge gained from the Institute to become leaders in their educational community. All participants will develop an Action Plan (AP) that can serve as a “road map” for their professional activities in the 2012-13 school year. There are also some common expectations that we have for all participants.

**Your Action Plan - This is unique to you!** We invite you to think creatively about ways that you can share the Choices Program with other educators. Below we list some of the most common types of outreach that others have included in their APs. If you have ideas for outreach other than those listed below, please tell us about them. Please be specific in your AP. Time will be allocated during the Institute for you to refine and revise your AP, but we are looking for concrete ways that you will take on a leadership role in the Choices community. While it is not required, you are welcome to submit a letter from a professional development organization confirming one or more of the activities you describe.

#### Possible Outreach Methods:

- Develop and offer webinars (Choices will provide the technology.)
- Identify, cultivate and work with student teachers at a local institution of higher education
- Provide opportunities for colleagues in other schools in your district to experience Choices units
- Develop and offer workshops at regional or national conferences
- Write unit reviews or articles for educational journals

**Common Expectations for all Participants** - Introductory activities that Choices asks each Institute participant to complete are: submitting a press release (provided by Choices, adapted by you) to local papers and to your state social studies council, geographic alliance or other educational organization; arranging a professional development workshop for your district’s teachers (we provide complimentary materials); and writing two short blog posts (two paragraphs maximum each) for use by Choices or another organization of your choice. More information and support for each of these will be shared with successful applicants.

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**Supervisor Information**

Please provide us with contact information for someone who serves in a supervisory role in relationship to you and can speak as reference for you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position/School \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

How many years have you worked with this person? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please ask your supervisor to fill out the *Supervisor Evaluation Form* and return it directly to the Choices Program.**

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## Supervisor Evaluation

Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

The aforementioned teacher is applying for a spot at the Choices Program's 2012 Summer Leadership Institute. The institute is designed for teachers who want to learn more about their content area, explore innovative pedagogy, and who are interested in serving in a leadership role within their district or school. We ask that you complete the following evaluation form in support of his/her application.

**On a scale from 1-5, with 5 representing excellent and 1 representing poor, evaluate the applicant in the following areas.**

1. Subject area/content knowledge

1                       2                       3                       4                       5

2. Motivation and commitment to teaching

1                       2                       3                       4                       5

3. Pedagogical knowledge and ability to foster adolescent learning and development

1                       2                       3                       4                       5

4. Innovation and experimentation with instructional delivery

1                       2                       3                       4                       5

5. Assumption of leadership roles within the school or district

1                       2                       3                       4                       5

6. Collaboration with colleagues

1                       2                       3                       4                       5

**In a separate document, please respond to the following questions:**

1. What would you say are the applicant's greatest strengths as an educator and how does he/she enhance your school/district?
2. The Choices Program develops social studies curriculum around current and historical international issues, with a strong emphasis on U.S. foreign policy. Our approach is academically rigorous and student-centered. How would it benefit your school or district to have a teacher participate in our 2012 Summer Leadership Institute?
3. The applicant has developed an Action Plan to be carried out in the 2012-13 school year. Please review this Action Plan and comment on the likelihood of the success of the Plan.

**Please return this evaluation to the Choices Program.**