

ABSTRACT

Project ACCLaIM: Advancing Civics Curriculum Learning through Instructional Microcredentials

Institution: Arizona State University (ASU)

Eligibility: IHE with capacity and demonstrated expertise in evidence-based approaches to professional development to improve quality instruction in history, civics, government, and geography. ASU is a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI).

Partner: Mesa Unified School District, Arizona

Goal: To engage teachers in interactive, innovative online PD in the areas of American History, civics, and media literacy.

Activities & Objectives: (a) Develop 9-one credit equivalent professional learning online course specialization to include civics, history, and media literacy content [Obj. 1]; (b) Create microcredential competency assessments for each course [Obj. 1]; (c) Provide PD to teachers through the professional learning courses [Obj. 2]; (d) Provide mentorship from faculty in three ASU colleges: Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and the School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies [Obj. 3]; (e) Support teachers through the PLN [Obj. 3].

Reach: The project will include 175 teachers who complete the specialization and teach at least 21,875 students. Additionally, up to 300 additional teachers (100 per year) will complete at least one microcredential, with potential reach to another 10,500 students. Year 1 will concentrate on teachers from Mesa Unified School District, which is the largest district in the state with over 64,000 students and 79 schools; the majority of students in the district are considered underserved. Year 2 will expand statewide in Arizona, targeting teachers from rural parts of the state and schools with large populations of underserved students. Year 3 will expand nationwide, again targeting teachers who work with underserved students.

Priorities: Absolute Priority, Competitive Preference Priorities 1 & 2, and Invitational Priority.