

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Workshop Evaluations

Thomas Jefferson: The Public and Private Worlds of Monticello and the University of Virginia

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Number of evaluations: 21

Evaluation # 26236

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

It was terrific! I think I have a much deeper understanding of Jefferson, the man outside of politics!

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Maybe the best part about it. Lisa, first of all, was wonderful. She was amazingly patient with some of my colleagues who I'm not sure I could have remained patient. The outside speakers, Henry and Peter in particular, were great. It was also nice that hear two represented different vantage points, instead of just repeating he same lessons. The three main other teachers - Bonnie, Louis, and Elgin - were incredible.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

UVA was perfect in every regard. I loved being there and it lent itself to my education and enjoyment.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

It's hard to offer improvement for a program that was so magnificently run and presented. This really was a top flight program.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

The 1960s in the Bay and the "Hippie movement" - Rachel Reinhard at Cal Berkeley Madison and Monroe - Lisa Reilly at UVA The History of Freshwater Fishing in North America - Ben Colombi, University of Arizona

Evaluation # 26238

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This program was excellent. Not only did I learn so much about Thomas Jefferson that will change my teaching on him, but I learned and will edit the way that I approach lessons on slavery as well- focusing on the personal as we learned over the two weeks. I also was able to discuss with classmates and collaborate on best practices of teaching history.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The seminar was well planned out and orchestrated start to finish. We had a good variety of site tours, hands on experience, and lectures from experts in their fields.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Everything was great with facilities.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

I do not at this moment.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26246

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

I felt the program had great depth. I think it was valuable to spend two weeks talking to experts in the field on a particular person. By doing this, I was able to solidify my thinking that those we put on a pedestal are talented, but fallible, human beings in the right place for their skill set. I also really appreciated having access to content experts. That was invaluable. We learned about Jefferson from different disciplines that gave us a more balanced knowledge. For example, we heard from archeologists, art/architecture historians, architects, historians, and historian journalist. These experts did not always agree with each other and that helped drive home the point to think for oneself. I would like to emphasize thinking for oneself to my students.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

I thought all the faculty was great. It was so amazing to speak to many experts. One could definitely tell that they were distilling years of knowledge for us.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

- Check in was ok. It was a little confusing getting the key card on the door to work the first couple of days. The outside door reader worked fine, but the door to my room didn't scan very well. - I loved staying on campus in the dorms. One of the major reasons I chose this NEH program over another was I didn't want to stay in a hotel for 2-3 weeks. I know the

beds aren't what many of us are used to, but I enjoyed staying on campus and meeting up with other participants, often serendipitously, to talk about teaching. The room price was also very reasonable. - I had everything I needed. for food. I like that I didn't have to eat at the cafeteria because I heard the food wasn't that great - there were so many great restaurants to try! - the fridge and microwave was nice.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

- For the project, I might try one mini project before requiring the final project. I might require this in the platform the group is thinking about using (Viseyez or Primary Access). This might make working in groups and learning a new platform more manageable. - I was less interested in the database research (e.g. DAACS). I feel I'm pretty comfortable researching online. Maybe they could somehow connect it better to each groups project?

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26248

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

The seminar will affect my classes in terms of content development and new teaching techniques; the resource information was invaluable as well.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

All the instructors, directors and visiting faculty were outstanding ; helpful, knowledgeable and encouraging.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Outstanding !none

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26251

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This workshop was amazing! The depth of knowledge and the dynamic speakers made this a wonderful experience. We looked a Thomas Jefferson through a multitude of lenses. My students spend 9 weeks learning about the American Revolution each year, and the content of this workshop will allow me to enrich and deepen their understanding of one of our founding fathers.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

he director was fabulous. She even invited all of the seminar participants over to her house for a party, continuing the tradition that Jefferson envisioned of students and faculty enjoying stimulating conversation over a meal. The visiting faculty/speakers were dynamic and brought a variety of view points and perspectives to the conversation about Jefferson. The activities were awesome, but I was not able to enjoy them as much as I could because of an injury to my knee prior to my arrival. The intervals of standing while touring were hard for me because of this injury. If I had not had the injury, there would be no issue.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

the housing arrangements at UVA were fine. There were lots of choices for eating and food within walking distance of the university, and all of the facilities were good.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Put the older teachers on a lower floor of the dorms. The younger participants can have the dorm rooms on the higher floors.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

NA

Evaluation # 26252

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This was an excellent summer institute. It was well organized, informative, and helpful. I have planned to use some of the projects that were created by myself and other participants for my students next year. I also picked up some teaching methods and software apps that other teachers use and plan to try those out too.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The institute was a very enjoyable experience. It was well organized, and communication throughout the week was timely and helpful. The discussions were all very informative and our time spent in lecture vs experiential experience was well balanced.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

UVa was lovely. I was ok with the dorm set up - because I had a private room with a shared bath. Computer connectivity was great. I did not use the library.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

No

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26271

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This was one of the most amazing experiences that I have ever had. I have very few criticisms and they only deal with small practicalities. The readings, speakers and field trip experiences were almost perfectly planned.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The director was wonderful. We received many emails about the program from the time we were approved. The visiting faculty and speakers were interesting and I felt like I was hearing from the most knowledgeable scholars possible.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

UVA was great. We had plenty of room and access to the whole school.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Please remember these are very small criticisms! 1. I would have liked more info about traveling to Charlottesville when we were first approved. I flew into Richmond which was a big mistake but being from the west coast, I honestly didn't know there was an airport in Charlottesville. A ride from the Richmond Airport cost me \$130. 2. When I arrived at UVA, there were no directions from the freeway. My driver didn't even know which exit to use. Some signage around the campus that first day would have been really helpful. 3. Some signage at Campbell Hall would have been good too. That first day, many of us got lost trying to find it and find the correct entrance as many doors were locked. 4. When asking us to use specific platforms for the culminating project, please make sure that they are working, usable, and someone is there to help us learn about them. Even the man who designed them often couldn't get them to work (VisEyes) or couldn't remember the directions (at least for our group)! This was really frustrating. I'm totally willing to learn new things but we needed instruction and didn't get it.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

California Missions

Evaluation # 26274

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This institute was amazing. Every aspect of the 2 weeks were so well thought out. I

anticipate that I will be able to use much of what I learned in my classroom. The quality and knowledge base of the speakers was incredible. In addition to the 2 books we read ahead of time, we had readings every night to prepare us for the following day. I have a much better sense of how to teach about Thomas Jefferson and slavery due to attending this institute.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The tours of Monticello and Poplar Forest were well thought out. We would tour in the morning and have classroom time with each of our tour guides, all of which were amazing experts in their field. Being able to see and touch artifacts helped solidify how incredibly rich our experience was at this institute. The activities and organization was spot on. We knew where and what was expected of us. The director, Lisa Rielly, was great! She had many support staff who were at our disposal, answering questions and getting answers to questions quickly. The caliber of teachers on this 2 week institute was amazing! The bonding that took place was powerful! At no time was anyone excluded from any night time activity. This was a cohesive, inclusive and friendly group of teachers. The location of our dorms at UVA lent well for us to bond and have groups of 10 to 13 out to dinner every night laughing and sharing each evening!

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Brown College dorms were fine. Each of us had our own rooms. We were welcomed right away and check up was a breeze! WIFI worked well. I so appreciated the refrigerator and microwave that they added to each room. The dorm beds were a bit hard for my taste, but all in all, it was suitable.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Although there was an unbelievably rich and full schedule, the one thing that may be added to the Public life of Thomas Jefferson was his time as Governor of Virginia. I absolutely don't know when that could be added since there was absolutely nothing I would leave out. This was an amazing institute!!!

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26275

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

I have participated in several summer professional development seminars over the fifteen years I've been teaching; including ones hosted by NEH, Gilder Lehrman, Mount Vernon, and the Smithsonian. Without exception, this Jefferson NEH Institute was the finest combination of content knowledge, pedagogical processes, technology integration, and academic scholarship I've ever experienced. I was especially impressed by the way in which the two-week program was structured - the readings preceded a specific site visit, then a lecture on the site content followed, with each subsequent day building on the work of the previous day. This all culminated in a project. Thanks to the incredibly knowledgeable and personable speakers, I developed a renewed commitment to teaching public history in my class. In fact, based on what I learned at UVA, I am creating a new syllabus for my 8th grade history class

that will focus on using elements of public history for project-based learning as we move through the year. I'm really looking forward to blending all the disciplines involved in history: archaeology, architecture, archival work, construction, landscape, and digital technology.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

What I loved: * Lisa Reilly and Bonnie Hagerman are simply outstanding individuals. They started sessions on time, organized all events flawlessly, and executed every detail without a problem. Most importantly, they are great role models for anyone in the teaching profession as Lisa in particular was consistently positive and encouraging. * Speakers from Monticello and UVa were incredibly dynamic and engaging! I liked learning about "what's new" in history that helped me connect the past and the present. * Dividing our seminar into groups for "themes" was brilliant. It gave us a lot of camaraderie from the very first day and helped me organize my thoughts, as I was always listening for the way that architecture (my theme) played into the day's topics. * Special mention on the Design Thinking component. Elgin Cleckley truly gave me a novel approach that will help my students in the future. * The site-based approach and lots of walking as we encountered the artifact together and on our own really helped me "own" the built environment and its stories in ways that will transfer so well to my classroom. * Loved trying new and challenging technology. Gave me a good feel for how frustrating it can be for our students to try new things, how difficult it can be to work in a group, and how talents can be harnessed for maximum impact. * Databases were exceptional! * I don't know how the organizers did it, but we had the friendliest, funniest, most curious group of teachers I have ever encountered! I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know my colleagues and sharing ideas with them. * Diversity of experiences - over the two weeks, we analyzed so many elements of history. I especially appreciated Louis Nelson's architectural drawing analysis of the pavilions. Having access to Special Collections was a treat! * Both of the assigned books were amazing and represented slightly different viewpoints which helped us encourage us in our goal of understanding multiple perspectives * Loved the enslaved University of Virginia walking tour

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Great! * Central location of Brown College was excellent! * Staying on grounds was fantastic! * Dorm rooms were spacious and the central gathering space let us easily meet up with each other for all occasions * Didn't use the library or the computer facilities * Lisa Reilly went above and beyond by hosting a barbecue at her house on the last night *

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

* Have each person introduce him or herself on Day 1 * Better readings for Poplar Forest * Longer, more thorough house tour for Monticello * Move group sessions out of Campbell 220C (bad acoustics) * More diversity in teachers (we would have benefitted from the perspective of more African-American teachers) * Less Peter Onuf (his second question and answer session was slightly awkward and thoroughly meandering) * Add in more about gender

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

* More architecture and landscape based - I saw that one of the UVa graduate students completed a thesis on the architecture of control in Charleston, SC. Charleston has so much history of enslaved people that would be fascinating (including an urban plantation that would be interesting to compare to Monticello)

Evaluation # 26281

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

The experience that I had while studying at UVa was one I will not forget. We were on the go from beginning to end with a variety of activities and speakers to bring to light various aspects of Jefferson's life. Seeing Jefferson as someone beyond the author of the Declaration of Independence will help in my teaching of the ideals of the Declaration because I will be able to present a more accurate picture of who he is and why we may possess strong far reaching ideals, but we may not always live up to them in our personal lives.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Lisa led an incredible program and was always available to discuss concerns or questions we might have had. She collected an amazing rray of scholars and authors to discuss with us the various aspects of Jefferson. My colleagues who also attended the program were all engaged in the activities inside and after hours. I have had the honor of attending multiple NEH programs and this one by far had the greatest group of people willing to work together and immerse themselves in the experience as well as socialize together on campus. The topics we discussed for some were personally difficult to connect with the person we thought we "knew". I thought that a very important part of the program, understanding who he was and seeing him from a variety of angles.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

UVa facilities were great. Being on Jefferson's home campus allowed us continual access to the many locations on the campus that we had discussed during various sessions. The housing arrangemnets I thought lent themselves to becoming much more cohesive as a group because we had no distractions that we would have in a hotel which would keep us from getting to know each other better. Each night after class we would met in the courtyard of our dorm and get together for the evening. The day's lecture or activities would be discussed as we walked through the campus to where ever that night's activity would take us. Any attendee with a concern was immediately helped by people at the dorm or by Becky. The wifi connection was slightly aggravating when trying to sign in each time, sometimes the connection came up, other times it would not. That was truly the only concern I had the entire time we were there.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

I thought this was a well run program and I can't imagine fitting anything else into the program as it is without having to take something away. It was an incredible program and I am very thankful that I was chosen to attend it.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

I would love to attend seminars focusing on any of the following: 1. the makeup over time of the US Supreme Court 2. the history of the White House 3. the influence of the first ladies as policy makers 4. the development of the transcontinental railroad and its effect on American transportation and communication 5. Japanese internment camps during WWII and the

Korematsu decision

Evaluation # 26286

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

The NEH Thomas Jefferson program was nothing short of incredible! I learned an extraordinary amount of information that I will be able to use in my classroom to enhance my students' learning experience. As an educator I felt that this program provided great opportunity for growth by exposing me to passionate teachers and historians. My overall experience was wonderful and I am so glad that I was able to be a part of the program.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Our director, Lisa Reilly, was so organized and our program ran so smoothly! She did a fantastic job of arranging phenomenal speakers. Each speaker provided a different and fascinating approach to Thomas Jefferson, which made the program immensely interesting. The collection of speakers and activities was scheduled to provide for optimal outcomes in our projects. The combination of active to academic activities gave us the chance to learn in both hands on and traditional classroom settings. I felt that our time was valued and it was nice to start and end on time each day. Each session topic was invaluable as well as our trips and site visits.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

N/A- I did not participate in housing/hospitality The University of Virginia classrooms and the staff reception at both Monticello and Poplar Forest was wonderful.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

My only suggestion would be to broaden the technology project platforms to include options that most teachers are familiar with. I felt the technology issues we experienced kept some of the groups from succeeding in creating valuable resources.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Children's literature throughout history or famous children's authors are both topics that I am interested in. Now that Elementary teachers are permitted to apply for NEH programs it would be great to have more topics that are applicable in a K-5 classroom.

Evaluation # 26293

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

Excellent resources. Quite a few resources and ideas to take back and share with colleagues and neighboring districts

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

All experts, including 2 authors were very helpful. Director was organized, thorough, provided many opportunities for learning.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Being centered at UVA was perfect. great access to the history we were focused on, quite a bit by just walking around.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Not offhand.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Free speech and confederate monuments?

Evaluation # 26306

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This program was extremely well planned, informative and exceptional. I was delighted with how accessible the information was, how useful it will be to me and has equipped me to greatly increase my teaching and my presentation to my students. I came away with immediately useable ideas for my classroom.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The director was professional, informed, flexible, and welcoming.. The organization was wonderful, the flow of presentation was well thought out, we had work time, breaks, group time, instruction, tours, all planned to maximize our learning. The speakers and faculty were so interesting and knowledgeable and the other colleagues and staff of the program were excellent additions to our learning.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

The housing arrangements worked well for me, I was able to handle my own food arrangements and meet easily with other participants as well as be comfortable with finding the classroom and other places we needed to be. The people I talked to on campus were friendly and helpful. My only struggle was with the wifi, which kicked me out of use frequently. If there had been a more stable log in that would have been helpful but that was a minor problem.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Honestly, no. I was thrilled with every aspect and came away thinking that the program was expertly planned and managed by Lisa Reilly and her staff. I found most other participants

felt the same way, and the care taken in selecting participants was also obviously well thought out as it was a diverse, talented group of educators and I enjoyed working with everyone involved.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26316

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

The Jefferson seminar provided me with a wealth of knowledge and information about Thomas Jefferson's private and public world. The information covered a number of disciplines and academic fields. I was exposed to experts such as archeologists, historian's architects and many more. I also learned new technology like primary access, DAACS and other tools that I can incorporate in my lessons and classroom instruction. This experience made me a better teacher because it enhanced my content knowledge to the mastery level. I am confident that I know so much more about Jefferson and the other disciplines required to study him.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The director was phenomenal and very welcoming. She made me feel like I was a member of the staff and respected my role and expertise as an educator. The other visiting faculty members were also well chosen and provided a wealth of beneficial information.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

The University of Virginia is one of the best campuses that I have visited. We were provided with all of the necessary comforts needed to be productive for a week. The University provided, bedding, washing and all of the necessary accommodations to feel comfortable.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

I don't have any suggestions because the seminar was exceptional.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Lynching in America

Evaluation # 26340

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

Overall, the experience was completely positive. It certainly deepened my understanding of the topic. From the lectures, to the field experiences, to the discussions with scholars, I will

be able to draw on my learning in this workshop for years to come.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Everything was so thoughtfully planned. The directors - Lisa, Scott, Bonnie, and Becky - were wonderful and went above and beyond to assure a quality program.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

The facilities were excellent. While the dorm was spartan, it was economical and served us well. I enjoyed being on campus at UVA.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

This is just a small thing, but on the first day, in addition to any icebreakers, have everyone briefly stand up and introduce themselves. This is a great way to get to know who is present and can lead to future conversations. Overall, everything was excellent!

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 26346

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This was my first NEH experience, and I must say that I was completely amazed by every aspect of the program! Not only will the content I was exposed to be of vital importance to my classroom practices, but the web-based tools we worked with will also make teaching much easier!

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

This program was extremely well organized. Even though we were busy, we were given time to come together as a group and gather our thoughts. These group sessions were invaluable, and I learned quite a bit from my fellow educators as we worked our way through the material together. The program director was fabulous, and she was always accessible to us whenever we needed her; she kept everything running smoothly! The faculty members of the program were all very knowledgeable and engaging; if they couldn't answer our questions, they were always able to direct us to someone who could help us out. The topics we covered, ranging from architecture to archaeology to technology-based approaches to teaching history, were all well coordinated to help us achieve a broader knowledge of Thomas Jefferson and the other inhabitants of his Monticello and UVA communities.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

UVA was very hospitable! Housing sign in & check out went very smoothly, and the rooms were adequate, although very Spartan. UVA's proximity to restaurants made finding evening meals a breeze for our group, and the laundry facilities on campus were very convenient.

While we did not use the library for any of our classes, the special collections facility was amazing! We were provided with Wi-Fi access during the course of our stay; it was dependable and speedy, even though we had to login every time we switched buildings. Overall, UVA was the perfect place to host this program!

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

I would like to see a lecture from someone dealing with gender studies added to this program. Additionally, while very educational, I feel that architecture was emphasized too much. For instance, I think that the time in special collections could have been better spent with other Jefferson artifacts rather than just his architectural sketches. Also, I think that the name of the program should be reflective of the time spent studying the enslaved community. I went into the program thinking it would be completely focused on Jefferson; I was pleasantly surprised that a great deal of emphasis was placed on the enslaved individuals at Monticello and UVA. I think that by including the enslaved community in the title of the program, more people of color would be encouraged to apply, thereby enriching the experience for all those involved.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Colonial America and the Revolution at Colonial Williamsburg; The Life and Legacy of Henry Clay at the University of Kentucky; The Literary Genius of Tennessee Williams at Sewanee: The University of the South

Evaluation # 26467

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

This was an outstanding experience. The speakers were interesting and informative and the participants were knowledgeable and engaged. I feel so much more competent in discussing not only Thomas Jefferson but also discussing historical figures with a more balanced approach.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

The organization of the program was very good. It was intense, but there was a balance of time to digest information and prepare for the next day's topic. There was also a nice balance of lecture as well as activities - such as touring landmarks and hands-on work.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

The University of Virginia is an amazing institution. The dormitories were comfortable and our location was convenient to parking as well as our on-campus classroom. We did not have access to the library - except for the archives and we visited at the end of our workshop, but this was not an issue for our work.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

The only comment I have is that the opening reception indicated that we would be served

"heavy appetizers" and they were not. I anticipated a dinner substitute and after moving in on this day, I was rather disappointed in the faire. If I had known that prior, I would have eaten prior to the event. This is minor in the scheme of things.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

I am intrigued more by Thomas Jefferson and I would be interested in learning more about his time as president. Perhaps Charlottesville would not be the primary location for this topic, but it is a suggestion none-the-less.

Evaluation # 26493

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

I have been bragging about the summer institute to anyone who will listen since I left. The program was thoughtfully developed to provide us with a deep understanding of our complicated third president. I was impressed that I learned so many new things about Jefferson and those who helped make his life and his impact possible. I now feel ready to do a better job of helping my students understand the complex issues of the time and to evaluate our early history as a nation more thoughtfully.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Lisa Reilly and her team were very professional and thorough. It was clear that they put a great deal of thought into developing a plan for the institute and assembling the highest level of speakers and activities possible. Each presenter provided an in-depth understanding of Jefferson, Monticello, UVA, and the enslaved community that brought a new dimension to my understanding of these topics. The time spent at Monticello and Poplar Forest was especially valuable; it is so much more effective to see things with our own eyes than it is to just read or hear about them. The visit to the Special Collections was memorable; I loved following along with Jefferson's thinking as we explored his evolution in planning and building the pavilions at UVA. Our days were packed with activities and the carefully selected group of participants gelled so well that the off time was fun and productive too.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

It was great to be at such an important campus for our study of Jefferson. Starting and ending each day by passing through the landscape that he envisioned made a lasting impression on me and helped me solidify what I was learning. Housing was as expected; the beds were a bit uncomfortable, but the facility was otherwise very comfortable. Starting our first day together with a reception and presentation in the Rotunda beautifully set the tone for the two weeks of learning. Wifi worked well.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

I can think of none at this time. Everything was planned superbly.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 27504

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

I learned so much! I can't believe I didn't know this much about our US history it was an amazing experience and I would recommend it for anyone.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Having the hands-on experience by visiting the sites and the places that we had read about before really made the connections deep and true for me.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

The dorm rooms were fantastic it was cheap clean and easy to access after a very busy and active day.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

Maybe having parking a little closer to the dorms it was far to move luggage and supplies.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

Evaluation # 27646

Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.

Wonderful staff, excellent insights from the lectures, hands on materials that can be used directly in class lessons.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

All of the speakers, and the Director, Lisa Reilly, were top notch in their areas of expertise.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Five stars, in all regards-presentation, room and board, travel, presentations.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

For a one or two week seminar, an outside excursion to other plantations-such as Montpelier or Highland, or even Colonial Williamsburg, would have highlighted what we had discussed in the program.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential

directors (with contact information, if possible).

n/a

Evaluation # 27656**Summarize your overall assessment of the experience and the effect you anticipate it will have on your teaching and scholarship.**

This was an absolutely wonderful seminar. I truly enjoyed the experience from start to finish. I am extremely excited to share the knowledge I gained during these two weeks with my students. I already share a great deal with my students about the Hemings family, but I am even more excited to create a more robust and informative curriculum around these important individuals.

Evaluate specific aspects of the program, such as the director, visiting faculty (if any), colleagues, topics, organization, discussions, and activities.

Lisa Reilly and her staff, especially including Bonnie and Steve, were exceptional. They were welcoming, helped at every step, and fostered a positive environment. I was incredibly impressed with them throughout the entirety of the program. Each of the speakers were amazing; I truly enjoyed each. Creating bookends for the program with Peter Onuf was a wonderful idea. He was fantastic and truly the highlight of the entire program. I enjoyed the diversity of topics: archeology, enslaved community, women of Monticello, etc. On the first Friday we spent the afternoon debriefing and discussing as a large group; I thought this was perfectly placed and one of the most valuable things we did. It allowed us to debrief the enormous amount of information we had gained that week. As well, having the Thursday afternoon free at Monticello was also greatly appreciated. It allowed me to see the things I hadn't seen yet and enjoy the space I'd been studying for the past few days. This time was one of my favorite times of the entire experience because I was able to bring all of my learning together and really experience Monticello in a thoughtful manner.

Evaluate the host institution particularly with respect to hospitality, housing arrangements, the suitability of library facilities, and computer facilities.

Facilities were great. One suggestion I would have for the future is to put the older teachers on the first floor and younger teachers on the top floors. Some of our oldest colleagues were on the top floor, and they struggled a bit going up and down every day.

Do you have any suggestions for improvements?

I do with that upon our first meeting we would have gone around the room and had everyone introduce themselves with name, where and what they teach. This would have helped foster community and connections even earlier. I also would have liked the name tags to have our names written larger.

(Optional) Suggest topics for future seminars or institutes, or names of potential directors (with contact information, if possible).

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