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DALLAS (SMU) – [The Infinity Project](https://www.smu.edu/Lyle/Institutes/CaruthInstitute/K-12Programs) at the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education (CIEE) in the Lyle School of Engineering at SMU is excited to announce that registration for this year’s professional development institute is now open. The newly redesigned institute equips middle and high school teachers with the skills and tools to design and implement an experiential science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning experience in the classroom.

The first day of the week-long institute will explore project-based learning principles, including how they differ from traditional approaches, the elements of a well-designed program and how to effectively execute and assess student learning using this instructional methodology. Teachers will also explore strategies to create a culture in their classroom that promotes inquiry and solutions-based outcomes. The remainder of the week will focus on the curriculum’s core components, including mechanical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering and coding. Instruction in the use of the tools, software and instructional materials recommended for design challenges will be provided.

“We have been working with an expert team, including leaders in engineering and education, industry experts, faculty and educators for some time now in an effort to build a curriculum that helps students quickly understand how STEM concepts that they have learned in the past apply to real-life challenges in the world around them,” said Rosemary Aguilar, director of The Infinity Project. “It is an honor to offer this customizable context to content program that we hope will spark students to pursue higher education and careers in STEM.”

Four institutes will be offered throughout the course of the summer: the weeks of June 18 and July 16 for middle school teachers and the weeks of June 25 and July 30 for high school teachers. All institutes will be taught by SMU faculty.

CIEE, a leader in STEM education, was established to prepare the next generation of engineers. It sponsors a variety of K-12 programs designed to increase students’ enthusiasm and knowledge to pursue engineering and STEM careers. The CIEE department is comprised of experts in the area of STEM education, curriculum development and delivery of educator preparation and professional development.

The Infinity Project is a national leader in high-tech engineering curriculum and professional development for secondary schools. Developed by renowned university engineering professors and education experts, this innovative program also sparks students to pursue careers in STEM. Hundreds of high schools, middle schools, and colleges across the nation and abroad utilize the program to educate the technology leaders of the future.

Visit [The Infinity Project](https://www.smu.edu/Lyle/Institutes/CaruthInstitute/K-12Programs/InfinityProject/ProfessionalDevelopment) for more information and to register for summer sessions.

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**About SMU**

SMU is a nationally ranked private university in Dallas founded 100 years ago. Today, SMU enrolls approximately 11,000 students who benefit from the academic opportunities and international reach of seven degree-granting schools.

**About the Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering**

SMU’s Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering, founded in 1925, is one of the oldest engineering schools in the Southwest. The school offers eight undergraduate and 29 graduate programs, including master’s and doctoral degrees, through the departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Computer Science and Engineering; Electrical Engineering; Engineering Management, Information, and Systems; and Mechanical Engineering. Lyle students participate in programs in the unique Deason Innovation Gym, providing the tools and space to work on immersion design projects and competitions to accelerate leadership development and the framework for innovation; the Hart Center for Engineering Leadership, helping students develop nontechnical skills to prepare them for leadership in diverse technical fields; the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education, developing new methodologies for incorporating engineering education into K-12 schools; and the Hunter and Stephanie Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity, combining technological innovation with business expertise to address global poverty.