

Teaching About the

2018

ELECTIONS



CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

8:00AM - 3:30PM



School of Education
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

GRAINGER HALL, UW-MADISON CAMPUS

Further support from:

This conference is funded by the Gibb Democracy Education Fund and the Claudia Grams Pogreba Fund. Mary Hopkins Gibb is a 1955 School of Education alumna. Her husband Bill was a 1953 Wisconsin School of Business alumnus. Claudia Grams Pogreba is a 1970 School of Education alumna.

 Education
WISCONSIN PUBLIC TELEVISION

AGENDA

8:00-8:30am

BREAKFAST and REGISTRATION

Good morning! We'll be in front of the Plenary Room on the main floor of Grainger Hall. Help yourself to breakfast in the café!

8:30-8:40am

WELCOME

Jon Miskowski, Director of Television at Wisconsin Public Television
Diana Hess, Dean of the UW-Madison School of Education

8:40-9:45am

MORNING PANEL ON PEDAGOGY

What should schools and community-based educational spaces do to encourage young people to participate politically?

Bianca Baldrige, Brian Brady, Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, and Jessica Marshall
Moderated by Diana Hess
(Plenary Room)

15-minute break

10:00-11:00am

BREAKOUT SESSION #1

A description of each workshop option and its location can be found on page 3.

15-minute break

11:15am-12:15pm

BREAKOUT SESSION #2

A description of each workshop option and its location can be found on page 4.

12:15-1:15pm

LUNCH

Please join us in the café for lunch! And don't forget to visit the information tables located outside the Plenary Room.

1:15-2:15pm

AFTERNOON PANEL ON JOURNALISM

What is the contemporary political landscape in Wisconsin?

Craig Gilbert, Frederica Freyberg, and Lewis A. Friedland
Moderated by Patrick Sims
(Plenary Room)

15-minute break

2:30-3:30pm

BREAKOUT SESSION #3

A description of each workshop option and its location can be found on page 5.

We appreciate your feedback and your participation in the Teaching About the 2018 Elections Conference! Please return your evaluation to the registration desk before you leave to receive a t-shirt!





<p>SESSION ONE 10:00-11:00am</p>	<p>Understanding the 2018 Midterm Elections David Canon ROOM 2510 All levels - Election Issues</p>	<p>International Perspectives on Teaching About Electoral Systems and Manipulation Li-Ching Ho, Sean Corrigan, Lauren Bagwell ROOM 2520 High School - Curriculum</p>	<p>Controversial Issue Discussions and Classroom Practice: Responding to Contemporary Challenges of Polarization Mary Ellen Daneels ROOM 3335 All levels - Pedagogy/Administration</p>	<p>Teaching Gerrymandering with Hershey's Kisses Cathy Ruffing ROOM 3560 Middle and High School - Curriculum</p>	<p>Rise Up & Write: Supporting Civically Engaged Writing Mark Dziedzic, Jen Doucette, Skylar Primm ROOM 4580 Middle & High School - Curriculum</p>
<p>SESSION TWO 11:15am-12:15pm</p>	<p>Elections and Civic Engagement: Recommended Books from the Cooperative Children's Book Center Merri Lindgren, Madeline Tyner ROOM 2510 Elementary & Middle School - Curriculum</p>	<p>Unlocking the Potential of Schools to Support Civic Learning Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg ROOM 2520 All levels - Pedagogy/Administration</p>	<p>Learning About Gerrymandering in Wisconsin from 2018 Supreme Court Case Gill v. Whitford Barry Burden ROOM 3335 All levels- Election Issues</p>	<p>Using Supreme Court Cases to Teach about Elections Cathy Ruffing ROOM 3560 High School - Curriculum</p>	<p>PurpleState: Simulating the Role of the Media and Special Interest Groups in Campaigns Jeremy Stoddard ROOM 4580 Middle & High School - Curriculum</p>
<p>SESSION THREE 2:30-3:30pm</p>	<p>Teaching About Elections Through Gaming David Olson ROOM 2290 All levels - Curriculum</p>	<p>Beyond the Ballot: Engage your Students Through a Public Media Project Bridgit Bowden, Alyssa Tsagong ROOM 2510 Middle & High School - Curriculum</p>	<p>Ready to Engage: How to Support Student Engagement in Elections and Beyond Jessica Marshall ROOM 2520 All levels - Pedagogy/Administration</p>	<p>Project Soapbox: A Catalyst for School-Wide Civic Engagement Brian Brady ROOM 3335 Middle & High School - Curriculum</p>	<p>Should We Lower the Voting Age in Wisconsin? A Lesson Plan Kate Ullman ROOM 3560 High School - Pedagogy/Curriculum</p>

BREAKOUT SESSION #1

10:00-11:00AM

Understanding the 2018 Midterm Elections

David Canon, UW-Madison | [ROOM 2510](#)

What can explain the historical patterns of the president's party almost always losing seats in the midterms? Will the 2018 elections be a referendum on President Trump? Will the Democrats regain control of the House? What is likely to happen in the Senate and governors' races and why? Professor David Canon of the Political Science Department at UW-Madison will examine these questions to gain a better understanding of the 2018 midterm elections. ([All levels - Election Issues](#))

International Perspectives on Teaching About Electoral Systems and Manipulation

Li-Ching Ho, UW-Madison; Sean Corrigan, UW-Madison; and Lauren Bagwell, UW-Madison | [ROOM 2520](#)

Around the world, there is significant diversity in the ways elections are structured, how votes are cast and counted, how electoral rules are formulated and applied, and how political power is subsequently distributed. This session helps teachers identify and develop curricular content and strategies in order to help students recognize and evaluate the affordances and limitations of different electoral systems. ([High School - Curriculum](#))

Controversial Issue Discussions and Classroom Practice: Responding to Contemporary Challenges of Polarization

Mary Ellen Daneels, McCormick Foundation | [ROOM 3335](#)

Explore the promise of how discussions about current and controversial issues can mitigate political polarization's long-term, harmful effects. Walk away with applicable classroom resources and strategies to respond to contemporary challenges in this interactive session that demonstrates pedagogy in practice. ([All levels - Pedagogy/Administration](#))

Teaching Gerrymandering with Hershey's Kisses

Cathy Ruffing, Street Law | [ROOM 3560](#)

Partisan gerrymandering will no doubt have an effect on the 2018 elections. It will be important for students to have an understanding of the term and its consequences on the electoral process. The session begins with a quick overview of gerrymandering—packing, cracking, and legal districts. Then, learn a fun hands-on activity using Hershey's Kisses to demonstrate how a state legislature might “pack,” “crack,” and draw legal districts. The session will conclude with an exploration of how to use Street Law's free case summaries to apply these concepts to an actual Supreme Court case. ([Middle and High School - Curriculum](#))

Rise Up & Write: Supporting Civically Engaged Writing

Mark Dziedzic, UW-Madison; Jen Doucette, Greater Madison Writing Project; and Skylar Primm, Greater Madison Writing Project | [ROOM 4580](#)

Rise Up & Write, a project from the University of Wisconsin and the National Writing Project, supports youth in using words, language, and writing to create change for issues that matter to them. Young people have always been at the forefront of progress; Rise Up & Write brings adults into partnership with youth to develop skills of effective and impactful communication and provides access to spaces where youth voice can be heard. This session will be facilitated by youth and adult Rise Up & Writers and will share resources, methods, and ideas for supporting young people in civically engaged writing. From research strategies, to models for intersectional thinking, to creative modes of publication, this session will offer tools and inspiration for all participants. ([Middle and High School - Curriculum](#))



BREAKOUT SESSION #2

11:15AM-12:15PM

Elections and Civic Engagement: Recommended Books from the Cooperative Children's Book Center

Merri Lindgren, Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) and Madeline Tyner, Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC) | [ROOM 2510](#)

Find out about recommended fiction, nonfiction, and picture books for elementary and middle school students at this presentation highlighting civic and community engagement, voting rights, and elections. A hands-on opportunity to examine books will be part of the session. ([Elementary & Middle School - Curriculum](#))

Unlocking the Potential of Schools to Support Civic Learning

Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, The Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) | [ROOM 2520](#)

In this session, CIRCLE Director Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg will facilitate a participatory session using the Charrette Protocol. Based on research findings and field-level trends, CIRCLE is interested in helping to enhance schools' capacities to develop a civic learning framework for their students, staff, and in some cases, even parents. The overarching goal of the session is to directly inform the future direction of this work-in-progress at CIRCLE with educator inputs. The facilitator will first present on emerging data points and examples, and then the participants will deliberate in small and large groups. ([All levels - Pedagogy/Administration](#))

Learning About Gerrymandering in Wisconsin from 2018 Supreme Court Case Gill v. Whitford

Barry Burden, UW-Madison | [ROOM 3335](#)

What is Gill v. Whitford and what does it mean for the practice of gerrymandering? In this session we will review the history of legislative redistricting in the United States, the legal and constitutional arguments involved, and the new empirical evidence from Wisconsin at issue in the case. ([All levels - Election Issues](#))

Using Supreme Court Cases to Teach about Elections

Cathy Ruffing, Street Law | [ROOM 3560](#)

The Supreme Court has recently dealt with several issues—april in the polls, partisan gerrymandering, and voting restrictions—that all have the potential to impact the 2018 elections. To help teachers make these cases accessible to students, Street Law has developed seven strategies to use with the hundreds of case summaries available in its free resource library. In this session, you will learn about the strategies and participate in two of them using elections-themed cases. The session will conclude with an overview of Street Law's free online resources, including those recently developed to address the AP US Government and Politics curriculum redesign. ([High School - Curriculum](#))

PurpleState: Simulating the Role of the Media and Special Interest Groups in Campaigns

Jeremy Stoddard, William & Mary School of Education | [ROOM 4580](#)

The role of media and special interest groups in elections and issues campaigns (e.g., earned media) is rarely included in curriculum but essential to informed citizenship. In this session, you will engage in a shorter version of a simulation designed to help students understand the role of media in political campaigns from the perspective of interns at a political communications firm. We will focus on a statewide electoral race for the simulation that can be modified or replicated for any classroom (all materials provided digitally for participants). Goals include critical media literacy and understanding contemporary political campaigns. ([Middle & High School - Curriculum](#))



BREAKOUT SESSION #3

2:30-3:30PM

Teaching About Elections Through Gaming

David Olson, James Madison Memorial High School | [ROOM 2290](#)

Engage your students and provide support for deeper learning about the framework and challenges of elections and media through free interactive games and lessons. With the help of iCivics Educator Network member David Olson, teachers will leave this session with: an organizational framework for thinking about and presenting these topics in the classroom; free high-quality, off-the-shelf solutions—lesson plans, games, or projects—that teachers can deploy in their classrooms with minimal preparation; and an opportunity to connect to iCivics and other educational organizations that provide high-quality resources to teach elections. Bring your own device (laptop or tablet preferred) to explore and play! ([All levels - Curriculum](#))

Beyond the Ballot: Engage your Students Through a Public Media Project

Bridgit Bowden, Wisconsin Public Radio and Alyssa Tsagong, Wisconsin Public Television | [ROOM 2510](#)

Activate youth voices in a local journalism initiative to deepen understanding of the topics and issues that impact our local communities and influence voting and civic engagement. At this session, you will learn about WPR's Beyond the Ballot project and WPT Education's Click Youth Media network, practice your own interview skills, and leave with strategies for using public media projects to increase your students' engagement in and understanding of the 2018 elections in Wisconsin. ([Middle & High School - Curriculum](#))

Ready to Engage: How to Support Student Engagement in Elections and Beyond

Jessica Marshall, Northwestern University | [ROOM 2520](#)

How do we balance a desire to increase youth civic engagement with the concerns for protecting students during highly charged partisan elections? How can we design policy and guidelines for instruction in elections that both protect students and allow them to engage in authentic and meaningful learning experiences? In this session, we will explore scenarios that ask educators and district and school leaders to consider the best ways to support students and provide meaningful exploration of elections in the classroom and school setting. ([All levels - Pedagogy/Administration](#))

Project Soapbox: A Catalyst for School-Wide Civic Engagement

Brian Brady, Mikva Challenge | [ROOM 3335](#)

The first step to being an active and informed citizen is being able to stand up and speak out on an issue that you care about. When this happens, students become transformed from passive civic actors to active citizens and leaders. Challenging the stereotype that young people are apathetic, Mikva's Project Soapbox curriculum provides an avenue for students to identify their passion and learn effective persuasive speaking skills. Through the process, students develop essential listening and empathy skills and classrooms and schools become powerful communities. This workshop will provide participants with a step by step understanding of how to implement Project Soapbox in their classrooms, how to organize a school wide or community wide Project Soapbox event, and how to use social media to provide a broader audience for student speeches. With special guest Lilyana Sims, 2018 Mikva Soapbox national student winner from Madison. ([Middle & High School - Curriculum](#))

Should We Lower the Voting Age in Wisconsin? A Lesson Plan

Kate Ullman, Northland College | [ROOM 3560](#)

Elections are full of hot-button controversial issues, and encouraging students to understand and carefully consider multiple perspectives through deliberation is a great way to promote learning, maintain civility, and encourage students to develop well reasoned positions. In this session, we will work through an example deliberation lesson plan (a structured academic controversy) developed by the UW-Madison School of Education. The deliberation question is "Should we allow 17 year olds to vote in Wisconsin primary elections?" Teachers will take home materials about deliberation and a lesson plan for use in their classrooms. ([High School - Pedagogy/Curriculum](#))



GENERAL INFORMATION

Guest Wireless Internet Instructions

1. From the choices of wireless networks, choose UWNet.
2. Open a web browser and point to <https://login.wisc.edu>
3. From the page presented, click "Request Guest Access".
4. Complete the required fields on the form.
5. Accept the terms of use and your access if confirmed.
6. When access ends, please repeat these steps.

Electronic Materials

An interactive conference program with links to electronic materials will be emailed to attendees on Monday, September 24th. The password to access the interactive PDF program will also be shared in the email. Materials will continue to be added as they are made available.

INFORMATION TABLES

8:00-8:30AM, 12:15-1:15PM, 3:30-4:00PM

CIRCLE, the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, focuses on young people in the United States, especially those who are marginalized or disadvantaged in political life. CIRCLE's scholarly research informs policy and practice for healthier youth development and a better democracy. CIRCLE is based at the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University.

The **Cooperative Children's Book Center (CCBC)** is a unique and vital gathering place for books, ideas, and expertise in the field of children's and young adult literature. The CCBC is a noncirculating examination, study, and research library for Wisconsin school and public librarians, teachers, early childhood care providers, university students, and others interested in children's and young adult literature.

Mikva Challenge is a non-partisan, not for profit founded on the premise that youth voice and participation matter, and that our civic and political life will be stronger when youth participate and help shape their own destinies. Mikva Challenge develops youth to be empowered, informed, and active citizens who will promote a just and equitable society.

The **Wisconsin Civics Games**, developed by the Wisconsin Newspaper Association, will launch during the 2018/19 academic year with the goal of increasing civic education in Wisconsin. The Civics Games will showcase students from across Wisconsin as they demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of federal, state and local government, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

Wisconsin Public Television's mission is to boldly enrich, educate and entertain diverse audiences of children and adults through the innovative use of television production and broadcasting, other communication technologies and community engagement. Wisconsin Public Television provides access to local and national content, extending its reach and impact in the communities it serves.



TODAY'S PRESENTERS

LAUREN BAGWELL is a graduate student in the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

BIANCA J. BALDRIDGE is an Assistant Professor in the department of Educational Policy Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her scholarship explores the socio-political context of community-based youth work and afterschool education.

BRIDGIT BOWDEN is the special projects reporter at Wisconsin Public Radio and the project manager of the "Beyond the Ballot" project.

BRIAN BRADY leads the Mikva Challenge with the vision of bringing civic empowerment and political participation to all young people, especially low-income youth of color who are often left out of the democratic process.

BARRY BURDEN is Professor of Political Science, Director of the Elections Research Center, and the Lyons Family Chair in Electoral Politics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research and teaching focus on U.S. elections, public opinion, representation, and the U.S. Congress.

DAVID T. CANON is a Professor in the Political Science Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His teaching and research interests are in American political institutions, especially Congress.

SEAN CORRIGAN is a graduate student in the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

MARY ELLEN DANEELS taught at West Chicago Community High School for 27 years and currently serves as Lead Teacher Mentor for the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, leading professional development related to the new high school civics requirement and social studies standards.

JEN DOUCETTE is a high school English teacher at Waunakee High School, WI. She teaches writing classes, and recently, through her research with the Greater Madison Writing Project, has implemented a gradeless classroom for writing instruction.

MARK DZIEDZIC is an outreach specialist with Education Outreach and Partnerships in the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education and the Director of the Greater Madison Writing Project. He has also been an elementary and middle school teacher in CO and WI.

LEWIS FRIEDLAND is Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, affiliated with the Departments of Sociology and Educational Psychology. He directs the Center for Communication and Democracy.

FREDERICA FREYBERG is the anchor of Here and Now, WPT's weekly program that covers news concerning issues and politics throughout the state. Freyberg also produces field reports for the program as well as news documentaries.

CRAIG GILBERT is the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's Washington Bureau Chief and author of "The Wisconsin Voter" political blog. Gilbert has covered every presidential campaign since 1988 and has written extensively about the electoral battle for the swing states of the industrial Midwest, political polarization, the urban-rural divide, and the political climate during the Trump presidency.

DIANA E. HESS is the Dean of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she also holds the Karen A. Falk Distinguished Chair of Education. Since 1997, she has been researching how teachers engage their students in discussions of highly controversial political and constitutional issues, and what impact this approach to civic education has on what young people learn.



TODAY'S PRESENTERS

LI-CHING HO is an Associate Professor of Social Studies Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research focuses on three interrelated lines of inquiry: differentiated access to citizenship education, global issues of diversity in civic education, and environmental citizenship.

KEI KAWASHIMA-GINSBERG is the director of The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) at Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University. As a leading voice in the youth civic learning and engagement sector, Kei is frequently featured in major media outlets such as the New York Times, The Atlantic, National Public Radio, Channel 1, and NBC.

MERRI LINDGREN is a librarian at the Cooperative Children's Book Center of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

JESSICA MARSHALL served as the Director of Social Science and Civic Engagement for Chicago Public Schools, where her work focused on re-imagining and broadening civic learning opportunities to reach all students. She is now a doctoral student at Northwestern University, where she will continue to explore opportunities to deepen civic learning experiences for youth.

DAVID OLSON teaches at James Madison Memorial High School in Madison, WI. In 2017, David was chosen as the WCSS High School Teacher of the Year and as a PBS Digital Innovator and Innovator All-Star in 2017 and 2018.

SKYLAR PRIMM has taught only in project-based schools. Since 2011, he has served as co-lead teacher at High Marq Environmental Charter School in Montello, where students in grades 7-12 engage with a curriculum focused on project-based learning, weekly environmental field experiences, and student democracy.

CATHY RUFFING is a National Board Certified Teacher who recently retired after teaching Advanced Placement U.S. Government and a law elective for 27 years. She is now a senior director at Street Law, Inc. where she trains teachers to lead simulations of government and legal processes and to develop students' collaboration, deliberation, communication, advocacy, and problem-solving skills.

PATRICK SIMS is the Vice Provost for Diversity & Climate and Chief Diversity office at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He oversees the Division of Diversity, Equity and Educational Achievement. Sims joined the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2004, where he became the first African American to serve as chair of the Department of Theater and Drama.

JEREMY STODDARD is a professor in the School of Education and an associated faculty in the Film and Media Studies Program at the College of William & Mary. His areas of expertise include teacher education, teaching controversial and difficult topics, and teaching and learning through film and other media.

ALYSSA TSAGONG is the Director of Education at Wisconsin Public Television, where she oversees the education work of the station, developing resources, events, partnerships, and collaborations to ignite curiosity in learners of all ages.

MADELINE TYNER is a librarian at the Cooperative Children's Book Center of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

KATE ULLMAN teaches in the Northland Teacher Education program and supervises student teachers in the north woods. She worked as a high school social studies teacher at Middleton High School, and has worked on curriculum development and teacher professional development for WisconsinEye, the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education, and The Legislative Semester program.



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