



**Center for the
Study of Liberal Democracy**
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Civic Literacy and Citizenship in Wisconsin High Schools Symposium

June 18-20, 2020

Event Location: Fluno Center
601 University Avenue, Madison WI 53715

Preliminary Program

Thursday, June 18, 2020

6:30-7:00 pm

Reception

7:00 pm

Welcome Remarks & Dinner

Dr. Richard Avramenko (UW-Madison)

Friday, June 19, 2020

8:00-9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00-10:30 am

Session 1: The Humanities Citizenship Initiative: Engaging High School Students in the Humanities

Presenters: Dr. Eric Pullin and Dr. Ben DeSmidt (Carthage College)

Moderator: Dr. Richard Avramenko

10:30-11:00 am

Break

11:00-12:30 pm

Session 2: Ratification of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights

Presenter: Dr. John Kaminski (UW-Madison)

Moderator: Dr. Richard Avramenko

12:30-1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30-3:00 pm

Session 3: The Civil Rights Movement in Two Acts

Presenter: Dr. Peter Myers (UW-Eau Claire)

Moderator: Dr. John Sharpless

3:00-5:00 pm

Campus Trolley Tour

7:00-9:00 pm

Dinner

Sponsored by the Joe Foss Institute

Senate Rooms A & B (1st Floor)

Keynote Speaker: TBD

Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy

110 North Hall 1050 Bascom Mall Madison, WI 53706
608-263-1877 csld@wisc.edu <https://csld.wisc.edu>

Saturday, June 20, 2020

8:00-9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00-10:30 am

Session 4: The Evolution of the First Amendment: What Happened and Why It Matters

Presenter: Dr. Timothy Shiell (UW–Stout)

Moderator: Dr. John Sharpless

10:30-11:00 am

Break

11:00-12:30 pm

Session 5: Civics Education and the Civics Examination in High School: Some Helpful Tools

Presenter: Dylan Dalzotto (Joe Foss Institute)

Moderator: Dr. Scott Mobley (UW–Madison)

12:30

Closing Remarks

Dr. Richard Avramenko (UW–Madison)

A special thanks to the Jack Miller Center for sponsoring the Civic Literacy and Citizenship in Wisconsin High Schools Symposium.

Presenters and Moderators

Dr. Richard Avramenko

Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison

<https://polisci.wisc.edu/people/faculty/richard-avramenko>

Dylan Dalzotto

Director of Programs, Joe Foss Institute

<https://joefossinstitute.org/about/a-crisis-in-civics-education/>

Dylan Dalzotto deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 with the United States Army Reserve. Upon his return, he earned a Master's Degree in Education. Dylan is dedicated to bringing veterans into classrooms, and as the Director of Programs, he has brought volunteer veterans to thousands of high school students nationwide. Dylan is also the chairman of Unified Arizona Veterans(UAV), a group founded by the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars in December 1981. The UAV consists of 54 Veterans Service Organizations, who represent more than 600,000 veterans in the state of Arizona.

Dr. Ben DeSmidt

Professor and Chair, Department of History, Carthage College

Humanities Citizenship Initiative

<https://www.carthage.edu/live/profiles/77-ben-desmidt>

Ben DeSmidt, an Associate Professor at Carthage College, currently serves as Chair of the Carthage College Classics Department and Co-Director of the Humanities Citizenship Initiative. Professor DeSmidt also teaches in Carthage College's Western Heritage and Great Ideas programs. His interests in classics center on the Latin language and literature, and more broadly on the influence of ancient legal thought on the origins of the novel. During the summer of 2013, he participated in Sunoikisis faculty development seminars at the Center for Hellenic Studies (Harvard University) in Washington, D.C. He has published on Homer's Odyssey and is working now on a book-length study examining the influence of legal rhetoric on the development of the novel in the first century CE. Professor D. Ben DeSmidt holds a B.A. in Classics from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in Classics from Columbia University.

Dr. John Kaminski

Department of History, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Center for the Study of the American Constitution (CSAC)

<https://csac.history.wisc.edu/people/kaminski-john-p/>

John Kaminski received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1972. Since 1970 he has had a research appointment at the University. In 1981 he founded and still directs The Center for the Study of the American Constitution in the History Department at the University, where he has edited thirty-four volumes of The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution and twenty-six other books on the Revolutionary era. He is deeply committed to teacher and judicial education and has regularly participated in seminars for these two groups of professionals throughout the country.

Dr. Peter Myers

Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire
<https://www.uwec.edu/profiles/myerspc/>

Peter C. Myers is Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, specializing in the fields of political philosophy, American political thought, and U.S. constitutional law. His research interests concentrate in the areas of classical liberal political philosophy and the political thought of the American Founding, the Civil War era, and the Civil Rights Era. He has been awarded fellowships by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Earhart Foundation, and the Heritage Foundation. His doctoral dissertation received the American Political Science Association Leo Strauss Award for the best dissertation in the field of political philosophy in 1991-92. He is the author of two books: Our Only Star and Compass: Locke and the Struggle for Political Rationality (1998), and Frederick Douglass: Race and the Rebirth of American Liberalism (2008). He is currently researching a book on the idea of color-blindness in American political thought.

Dr. Eric Pullen

Professor, Department of History, Carthage College
Humanities Citizenship Initiative
{Bio forthcoming}

Dr. Eric Pullin

Professor and Chair, Department of History, Carthage College
Humanities Citizenship Initiative

<https://www.carthage.edu/live/profiles/200-eric-pullin>

Eric Pullin, an Associate Professor at Carthage College, currently serves as Chair of the Carthage College History Department, Honors Program Director, and Co-Director of the Humanities Citizenship Initiative. Professor Pullin teaches in Carthage College's Western Heritage and Asian Studies programs. In addition, he is an Honored Visiting Graduate Faculty in the Graduate Programs in American History and Government at Ashland University. He has published on the foreign relations of India, the United States, and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. His book, Noise and Flutter: Global Ideological Conflict will be published by Cambridge University Press (2020). Professor Pullin holds a B.A. in History from Rockford College, a M.A. in History from Northern Illinois University, an A.M. in Labor and Industrial Relations for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. John Sharpless

Emeritus Professor, Department of History, University of Wisconsin–Madison

<https://history.wisc.edu/people/sharpless-john/>

Dr. Timothy Shiell

Professor, University of Wisconsin–Stout
Center for the Study of Institutions and Innovations

<https://www.uwstout.edu/csii>

*Dr. Tim Shiell is a free speech scholar and activist at the University of Wisconsin–Stout. He is a Professor of Philosophy, founder and director of the civil liberty focused Center for the Study of Institutions and Innovation (CSII), and founder and former director of the Center for Applied Ethics. Shiell authored *Legal Philosophy* (1993), *Campus Hate Speech on Trial* (1998, 2nd ed. rev. 2009), and *African Americans and the First Amendment* (2019) as well as numerous articles and book reviews, and more than a hundred scholarly and public presentations, workshops and panels. At CSII, he oversees a civil liberty focused network of more than twenty Wisconsin universities and colleges funding faculty and student research; speakers, panels, and debates; conferences, symposia, and workshops, and more.*