

Civics for Adults Update, Oct 24, 2021

2022 mid-term elections, redistricting, and the continued battles against misinformation, among other things, will make the 21-22 Civics for Adults season quite exciting!

Beyond Voting: Elections and Campaign Finance

November 5. 6:30-8:00. Virtual. Free. Register:

<https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/616ee860f8179c2900e153b3>

Tigard Public Library will be sponsoring all four workshops through Jan.

Civics for Adults Pre-Conference at the Public Library Association Conference, spring 2022. *"Fostering a Stronger and More Inclusive Democracy Through Library Programming".*

Selected Civics for Adults Facebook posts:

Eloquent speech on the floor of the Senate last week by **Independent Angus King of Maine**, in support of the Freedom to Vote Act. Starts at 8 min: <https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4982613/user-clip-sen-angus-king>

Brennan Center for Justice **Fact Sheet on the Freedom to Vote Act:**

https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/2021-10/2021_09_FreedomToVote_v.6.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2H58kXoxfmZil1tCggTRSLIaAW1r8nb-WeS6wOcZndjENw3J6Rv32btQ

Here's an excellent summary of **state laws passed that expand the franchise or make it harder to vote**. Occasionally, a law will do some of both.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/voting-laws-roundup-october-2021?fbclid=IwAR32TBsGP03bXVOoXkWYedMkfJuQDjoyrzXY-jikoE36PDBaszR2sFGFNjU>

A recent "60 Minutes" segment on "**deep fakes**" - realistic audio/visual fakes.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/deepfake-artificial-intelligence-60-minutes-2021-10-10/>

Two reports on the **behaviors of former President Trump from Sept 2, 2020 to Jan 6, 2021**.

The first is the **Majority report of the Democrats**.

<https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Interim%20Staff%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>

The **second report is from the GOP Minority**.

https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/in_their_own_words_a_factual_summary_of_testimony_from_senior_justice_department_officials_relating_to_events_from_december_14_2020_to_january_3_2021.pdf

If you're a data geek you might like this article on "**pandemic dashboards**" - tools that visualize COVID data.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2021-09-25/why-every-government-needs-a-covid-dashboard>

More at <https://www.facebook.com/Civics-for-Adults-1490728887922036>

Workshops

Misinformation, Fake News and Political Propaganda

- Mainstream press and "fake news"
- Social Media posts
- Email clickbait
- Propaganda
- Language / terminology

Citizen Activism 101 — Making Change Happen

- Historical perspective
- Types of advocacy
- Examples of successful advocacy
- Choosing your battles

The Constitution: Fulfilling Democracy's Promise? Democracy, the Constitution and Representation in Congress.

The Constitution's creation, major changes to its interpretation, and examination of structural limitations.

- Status of democracy
- Early America
- Forming a country
- Bill of Rights
- Structural issues / representation
- Interpreting the Constitution
- Changes to the Constitution

Elections and Campaign Finance

- Right to vote?
- Election security

- Deepfakes
- Survey / poll questions
- Economic data
- Graphs and charts
- Finding good information

- Who makes the rules?
- Tools / strategies for change
- Engaging with government / lobbying for influence
- Tracking civic / political issues and legislation

- Voter suppression
- Voter turnout / getting more people to vote
- Redistricting / gerrymandering
- Electoral College
- Alternative voting systems
- Campaign financing issues and tracking

Ask your local library or community group to sponsor a workshop! Thanks.

Flyer describing workshops: https://static.s123-cdn.com/uploads/2516289/normal_5fe8c854352d5.pdf

Donna was interviewed on **OPB's Think Out Loud** in October, 2020! <https://www.opb.org/article/2020/10/30/civics-educator-aims-to-enhance-knowledge-and-engagement-in-political-process/>