

Civics for Adults Update, Feb 5, 2022

Free, virtual. If there is a registration link, it is open to ALL!

Misinformation, Fake News and Political Propaganda

Wednesday, February 16. 6:30-8:00. Sponsor: Cedar Mill Public Library.

Register: [https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/search/fq=branch_location_id:\(11\)/event/61ae8a422bf997360034689d](https://wccls.bibliocommons.com/events/search/fq=branch_location_id:(11)/event/61ae8a422bf997360034689d)

Sunday, February 27, 2-3:30. Sponsor: Hillsboro Public Library. Registration: TBA

Elections and Campaign Finance

Saturday, February 26, 11-12:30. Sponsor: Hood River County Library District. Registration: For patrons, check with Hood River libraries. Others: will be posted a couple of weeks in advance.

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:

Oregon Legislative short session starts Feb 1! Washington State Legislature short session started this month. Look up bills by number, keyword or sponsors on OLIS:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2022R1>

Scroll down on this page to watch sessions going on for that day: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/>

In **Washington Legislature**, look up bills here:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/>

Many of you have heard me say that we need to pay as much [or more!] attention to enacting structural changes to our political system vs just focusing on who's in elected office. A great example is in our **election administration**. This is a very **good article outlining a number of changes that could be made**.

"In other countries, elections are run by constitutionally established independent commissions or by technocratic agencies isolated from political influence. **No other country uses partisan elections to select its senior election officials.**"

<https://thehill.com/opinion/campaign/546307-the-time-has-come-for-nonpartisan-state-election-leadership>

In August, the Carter Center published, **The Big Lie and Big Tech: Misinformation Repeat Offenders and Social Media in the 2020 Election**. This is the best collection I've seen of recommendations for reigning in the effects of election misinformation on social media. Just check out the Executive Summary.

https://www.cartercenter.org/resources/pdfs/news/peace_publications/democracy/the-big-lie-and-big-tech.pdf

Just issued. Have not read it yet but it's certainly an important issue to be dealt with. From Committee on House Administration [Congress]: **REPORT ON The Electoral Count Act of 1887: Proposals for Reform**

https://cha.house.gov/sites/democrats.cha.house.gov/files/documents/Electoral%20Count%20Act%20Staff%20Report_.pdf

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

Citizen Activism 101 — Making Change Happen

- Historical perspective
- Types of advocacy
- Examples of successful advocacy
- Choosing your battles
- Who makes the rules?
- Tools / strategies for change
- Engaging with government / lobbying for influence
- Tracking civic / political issues and legislation

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
- **Elections and Campaign Finance**
- Right to vote?
- Election security
- Voter suppression
- Voter turnout / getting more people to vote
- Structural issues / representation
- Interpreting the Constitution
- Changes to the Constitution
- 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/>