



CALL FOR PROPOSALS:
APSA Teaching & Learning (Virtual) Symposium
Date: March 18-26

The American Political Science Association's (APSA) Teaching and Learning program is pleased to announce a call for proposals for 15 political scientists to participate in a two-week virtual teaching and learning symposium that will meet on Zoom three days between March 18-26. APSA's teaching and learning symposia provide a workshop environment where people with similar goals can come together to share their own practices and research related to teaching and create new teaching resources for their courses. Led by Casey Dominguez (University of San Diego) and Elizabeth Norell (Chattanooga State Community College), the theme of this symposium is **Teaching Introduction to American Politics**.

The goals of the symposium are three-fold:

1. To provide an inclusive space where participants can build supportive relationships with other teacher-scholars who teach courses on American Politics, with a particular focus on the introductory-level course.
2. To present on developing areas of teaching *and* research related to American Politics.
3. To develop new teaching resources for instructors teaching Introduction to American Politics.

Do you have a teaching technique or resource to share? Are you an American Politics scholar whose research can help inform topics in an Introduction to American Politics/Government class? Your teaching resource or research need not be publication ready, only something you have found useful in the introductory class. This symposium brings together scholars to share pedagogical tools/resources and substantive American Politics issues and to collaborate to develop new teaching materials.

We encourage applications from political science faculty at all stages of their careers, from a range of institutions, including universities and two- and four-year colleges. Advanced graduate students are encouraged to apply. Applicants should have experience teaching on issues related to American Politics and be active APSA members.

Virtual Schedule

This workshop will meet virtually for three 5-hour sessions and participants should expect to work with their small groups outside of these sessions during the week of March 20.

Week 1

During the first week, participants present either their own pedagogical techniques or "state-of-the-discipline" talks about emerging substantive issues related to teaching the Introduction to American Politics course including, but not limited to, those listed below. Virtual meetings will take place on **Friday, March 18 and Saturday, March 19 from approximately 9am-2pm PT/12pm-5pm ET**.

- Disinformation, misinformation, and becoming informed
- Race and racism in American politics
- Multiracial politics and/or political coalitions
- Comparisons between new protest movements like Black Lives Matter and earlier movements
- Immigration/Citizenship in American politics
- Civil liberties, policing, and democratic control of the use of force
- Polarization in the electorate
- Comparative and historical takes on democratic resilience and backsliding
- Partisan Congress, committees, lawmaking, and oversight in the 2020s
- Current issues in federalism and the interactions between the federal government and states
- **Any other emerging topic or issue typically covered in an Introduction to American Politics/Government course.**

Presentations are short, allowing for significant discussion from the group, in a workshop-style atmosphere.

Week 2

The second week of the symposium is dedicated to team-based collaborations developing new resources to innovate the introduction to American Politics/Government classroom. Teams are constructed during the symposium based on participants' interests. Each team then decides what kind of resource(s) they want to produce (e.g. in-class exercise, simulation, social media project). They spend the early part of Week 2 creating those resources, meeting at the end of the week to present and receive feedback on the resources. During the week of March 20, participants should expect to work with their group mates to work on their resources. The full group will meet again on either **Friday, March 25 or Saturday, March 26** (please hold both days and indicate your availability on the application form; we will pick the date that works best for the most applicants and share in advance).

The resultant teaching resources are disseminated through [APSA Educate](#), political science's virtual teaching resource library. In addition, participants who present on substantive research issues will be able to submit blog posts to be featured in APSA Educate regarding their contributions to the symposium and what they learned and developed from interacting with other participants. Symposium participants come away from the event with new insights into teaching and research in their area, with concrete teaching resources that they can use in their own courses.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 11

Proposals should be submitted online [here](#) and include:

- Recent CV, including detailed information on teaching experience
- An indication of whether you prefer to present on a specific teaching resource or an emerging or updated issue related to American Politics (or either)
- 250-word abstract summarizing the resource or topic you plan to present at the symposium
- 250-word description of your motivation and goals for participating in the symposium
- Brief description of your institution and how American Politics fits into your department's curriculum.

Successful applicants will be notified by the beginning of March. Course registration fees (\$35) may be paid online in advance of the symposium. Funds are available for a limited number of small accessibility grants to support unemployed or furloughed scholars and/or scholars who do not receive research support from their institution. Please note that neither APSA membership nor the fee to register for the workshop are covered by an APSA accessibility grant, and therefore should not be included in your budget. For more information, visit the [Teaching and Learning Symposia website](#) and/or contact teaching@apsanet.org.