

A UNIQUE PROGRAM THAT
COMBINES THEORY AND CIVIC
DISCOURSE TO INCREASE
UNDERSTANDING AND INFORM
CIVIC ACTION TO SUSTAIN
DEMOCRACY

Pitt Johnstown's American Democracy
Scholar Certificate provides

- a sound theoretical foundation in constitutional ideals, principles, and institutions;
- an extensive interactive and integrative practicum in civic reasoning and discourse; and
- opportunities for civic action through internships and fieldwork to promote democracy.



"We are immensely honored to work with the National Constitution Center in this timely and urgent endeavor. Together we hope to elevate collegiate civic learning, increase understanding of our Constitution, deepen appreciation of American ideals and institutions, and foster the civic trust and understanding required to form a more perfect union."

-UPJ President Jem Spectar

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**"A REPUBLIC,
IF YOU CAN
KEEP IT!"**

Ben Franklin

www.johnstown.pitt.edu/american-democracy-scholar-certificate



University of
Pittsburgh
Johnstown



**Educating for success
in the real world**



**THE AMERICAN
DEMOCRACY
SCHOLAR
CERTIFICATE**

Keeping the Republic



The National Constitution Center serves as America's leading platform for constitutional education and debate.

A Distinctive Partnership with the National Constitution Center

A distinguishing feature of the American Democracy Scholar Certificate is the Practicum in Civic Discourse & Deliberative Democracy. This unique experiential learning opportunity is moderated by the National Constitution Center in Virtual Townhalls across the country.

Students will benefit immensely from the NCC's distinctive expertise in facilitating thoughtful "constitutional conversations" that enhance the development of habits, skills, and dispositions "essential for the active and engaged citizenry" in a democracy. Students will complete at least 150 hours of democracy 'fieldwork' in much the same way that teacher preparation programs put student-teachers in classrooms to acquire and practice skills critical to professional success.



The 15-credit certificate consists of the following courses:

US Constitutional Principles and the Democratic Republic

American Political Thought

American Political Process

US History to 1877

Practicum in Civic Discourse & Deliberative Democracy



Experiential Learning & Civic Action

The FIELD Experience (Field-related Immersion Experiences for Learning & Development)

The Reflective Capstone

The American Democracy Corps

KEY OUTCOMES

GRADUATES OF THE PROGRAM WILL:

- develop an excellent understanding of the Constitution, U.S. history, and the nature and functioning of our institutions.
- enhance civic reasoning skills and be able to think critically about core constitutional principles and the workings of our governmental institutions.
- be more informed, active, and engaged citizens and demonstrate a better understanding of citizens' capacity to participate in the political system and influence its outcomes.
- enhance communication skills, including the capacity to listen actively to multiple viewpoints, analyze contentious constitutional issues from different points of view, and disagree without being disagreeable.
- demonstrate a keen appreciation of the challenges of preserving the republic and be well equipped to fulfill their citizenship obligation: to build "a more perfect union."