



June 1, 2017

Call for Proposals: Course Development Fund, AY 2017-18

The Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy is pleased to continue to support course development at the University of Missouri through a fund designed to encourage innovative faculty contributions to the Institute's interdisciplinary Minor and Certificate in American Constitutional Democracy. A description of the Minor and Certificate, as well as a list of currently offered courses, can be found on the Kinder Institute website, democracy.missouri.edu, in the section on undergraduate programs. While focused on promoting teaching and scholarship on American political thought, history, and institutions, we interpret these subject fields broadly to include not only the philosophical foundations and historical origins of America's constitutional traditions and practices but also their evolution, application, and reinterpretation in later periods and around the globe.

Any course that fills a critical need or a serious curricular gap for the ACD Minor and Certificate will be considered, but we are especially interested in developing experiential courses that combine traditional classroom instruction with on-site and/or creative learning activities. For example, we envision courses that bring students to the places where American political history unfolded (e.g., Jefferson City, the Dred Scott courthouse in St. Louis, Independence Hall in Philadelphia), or that take them abroad to study constitutional democracy from a global perspective. We are also looking to develop smaller-scale courses framed around the intensive study of key primary texts.

The broad outline of the curriculum we envision for the Minor and Certificate in American Constitutional Democracy includes courses in five key areas:

- Ancient and Early Modern Influences
- The American Founding
- American Political Culture, Thought, and History
- American Constitutionalism
- Constitutional Democracy in Global Context

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to promote the development of 3-credit hour courses that further the mission of the Institute and contribute to the Minor and Certificate, and grants of up to \$2,000 are available to support the development of 1-credit hour Honors College Tutorials. For 3-credit hour courses, half of each development award will be transferred to the faculty member's departmental account at the beginning of the grant period, with the other half distributed at the beginning of the semester in which the course is first offered.

To apply for a course development grant, please submit a 2-3 page proposal that describes the course's objectives, main pedagogical components, and fit with the ACD Minor and Certificate, and that also includes a tentative reading list or syllabus, to Kinder Institute Communications Associate Thomas Kane (**KaneTC@missouri.edu**). Once the course is developed, the faculty member is responsible for submitting the University's required paperwork for putting a new course in the catalog. When the course is officially on the books, the faculty member should also forward a copy of the syllabus, including a brief description that directly ties the course to the Institute's mission, to Thomas Kane at the email address above.

The Kinder Institute Joint Executive Committee makes course development award decisions on a rolling basis each academic year. For more information, please contact:

Kinder Institute Director Justin Dyer (DyerJB@missouri.edu)

or

Kinder Institute Associate Director Jeffrey L. Pasley (PasleyJ@missouri.edu)