



2024-25 Kinder Institute Democracy Lab

Scholarship Call for Applications

Program Overview

Founded in 2019 as a joint project of Mizzou’s Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, College of Arts & Science, and Department of Residential Life, the Kinder Institute Democracy Lab (KIDL), formerly the Kinder Institute Residential College, provides up to 40 incoming MU students who share a passion for studying and discussing the global history of democracy with the opportunity to pursue this interest as a cohort during their first year on campus. Historically, the Democracy Lab program has had three primary components:

Coursework: At the core of the Democracy Lab is a two-semester sequence of small, 3-credit hour, discussion-based seminars—one in the fall and another in the spring, with Honors and non-Honors options both semesters—that allows students to explore the intellectual and revolutionary origins of democracy in the United States and abroad. In addition to these classes, Democracy Lab participants co-enroll in a fall lecture course on the transnational dimensions of the U.S. Civil War, as well as a one-credit hour introduction to constitutional democracy. KIDL students also have the option to co-enroll in a one-credit hour course on campus history in the spring. All three-credit hour classes associated with the program can be applied toward major requirements for Mizzou’s BAs in Constitutional Democracy, History, or Political Science, or toward the College of Arts & Science’s general education, social science, and/or depth of study requirements.

Residence: In the past, Democracy Lab participants have lived together in Wolpers Hall, and while the Freshman Interest Group (FIG) program will no longer have a residential requirement, we hope to be able to continue to offer a full “living-and-learning” option to students, even if in a pared down form. If you’re interested in living in Wolpers Hall with other KIDL participants during your first year on campus, please indicate this when completing your scholarship application on Scholarship Universe or by sending an email to Kinder Institute Director of Undergraduate Studies Thomas Kane (KaneTC@missouri.edu). **Note:** Students who are not interested in a shared residential experience will absolutely still be eligible to sign up for the KIDL, take part in the coursework associated with it, and to apply for KIDL-related scholarships.

Extracurricular: All KIDL students will be invited to take part in a rich array of extracurricular activities—ranging from field trips, to social events, to a student-run lecture committee—designed by the Democracy Lab’s faculty coordinators, peer learning assistants, and undergraduate programming ambassadors.

How to Sign Up

Open to incoming, first-year students of any and all majors at Mizzou, signing up for the KIDL is as easy as choosing “Kinder Institute Democracy Lab” or “Kinder Institute Democracy Lab-Honors” on Slate as you’re going through the Mizzou admissions process. Once you do this *and* submit your housing contract and deposit, your seat in the Democracy Lab will be secured.

Instructions for the separate KIDL scholarship application can be found on page 2 of this document

2024-25 KINDER INSTITUTE DEMOCRACY LAB SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Kinder Institute is excited to offer KIDL participants the opportunity to apply for one of three scholarships associated with the program: the need-based Morgan Scholarship, merit-based Atterbury Scholarship, or general Kinder Scholarship. Applying is a simple, three-step process that runs through Mizzou's central Scholarship Universe platform (note: you need only complete one application to make yourself eligible for any of the three scholarships named above).

Step 1. Set up a profile on Scholarship Universe (tips for doing that can be found on the MU Office of Financial Aid website) and identify the KIDL scholarships using "Kinder Institute" as a search term.

Step 2. To be matched with the scholarship, you will first need to answer "Yes" to the question regarding having selected/intending to select Kinder Institute Democracy Lab on Slate AND/OR answer "Constitutional Democracy" to the question regarding your intended major. At this stage in the process, students will also be prompted to indicate interest in possibly participating in a residential component of the program.

Step 3. Upload the separate application components—the academic CV and essay responses detailed below—as a single PDF through Scholarship Universe.

I. *Academic CV*: Provide a record of your high school accomplishments, making sure, at a minimum, to include GPA; ACT and/or SAT scores; AP, IB, and/or dual-credit classes taken; awards received; clubs participated in; and work and/or volunteer experience.

II. *Essay Questions*: Please respond to **both** of the following questions in 300-500 words **each**

- What does civic education mean to you and what are the obstacles that you think it faces in the 21st century?
- Of the Constitutional Democracy BA's four concentration areas—U.S. and the World, Politics and Policy, Law and Institutions, and Social and Political Thought—which would you choose and why?

ELIGIBILITY and TERMS

—Acceptance into MU's Honors College is a pre-requisite for receiving an Atterbury Scholarship and demonstrated financial need, as determined by MU's Office of Financial Aid, is a pre-requisite for receiving a Morgan Scholarship. Students who fall into neither category are still eligible for a Kinder Scholarship.

—Scholarships will be disbursed in two, equal installments prior to the beginning of the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 semesters. Recipients must be enrolled in the core seminars* associated with the Democracy Lab, as well as the one-credit hour, KIDL-specific classes in the fall and spring, to receive their scholarships.

*The core seminars are GN_HON 2245H: Revolutions (Fall) and GN_HON 2246H: Constitutions (Spring) for Honors students. For non-Honors students, the core seminars are CNST_DEM 2450: Intellectual World of the American Founders (fall, cross-listed with Political Science) and CNST_DEM 2100: Revolutionary Transformation of Early America (spring, cross-listed with History). The Kinder Institute's academic advisors will work with Res Life and the Registrar to ensure that KIDL students are pre-enrolled in the appropriate fall courses prior to Summer Welcome 2024. Permission numbers for spring courses will be administered in October/November 2024.

Early KIDL Scholarship Deadline: December 1, 2023 (late-December notification)

Regular KIDL Scholarship Deadline: January 15, 2024 (early-February notification)

Any questions can be directed to Dr. Thomas Kane, KaneTC@missouri.edu