



March 15, 2025

**Mid-Missouri Undergraduate Conference on Democracy Studies:
Democracy in Action**
Conference Sponsored by the Kinder Institute Undergraduate Society

Call for Papers

Deadline: January 15, 2024

Far from an ideal that applies only to government and politics, the concept of democracy can be realized in the job market, city planning, and more. Moreover, at a moment when democracy is under constant security and even attack from authoritarian actors, an academic look at the diverse ways in which it endures around the globe is becoming increasingly necessary. It is only through an integrative look at democracy—one that spans across multiple academic disciplines and areas of society—that one can begin to understand the impacts that a democratic world can have on the populace.

By taking on the theme of “Democracy in Action,” this conference seeks to stimulate such integrative discussion of the various ways that democracy operates in governments, societies, cultures, economies, and beyond. We look to deepen our understanding of the historical context surrounding democracy, as well as its modern day uses and applications. Papers need not only praise democratic institutions but are also welcome to present criticisms of the ideal itself, or to critique areas in contemporary society where democracy is conspicuously lacking, even if normally present. We welcome papers produced as part of a students’ regular coursework or other academic efforts, so long as the research therein plays into a conversation surrounding democracy in theory or practice—which is to say, democracy in action.

The “Mid-Missouri Undergraduate Conference on Democracy Studies: Democracy in Action” is sponsored by the Kinder Institute Undergraduate Society at the University of Missouri and will be held in Columbia, MO, on March 15, 2025. Presenters not from Columbia can apply to have their travel and lodging expenses reimbursed. To apply, send a 250-word abstract* along with a short-form c.v. in a single document to conference co-conveners Autumn Slingerland, Conference Chair, avsyqq@missouri.edu, and Connor Everhart, Deputy Chair, cmeqcm@missouri.edu, by January 15, 2025. Please title both the email subject line and the single application document “[LAST NAME] CONFERENCE SUBMISSION.” For further information, or to discuss ideas, contact the co-conveners at the email addresses provided above.

*If you have a complete version of the paper you hope to present at the conference, by all means send that, though please do include the 250-word abstract as well.

