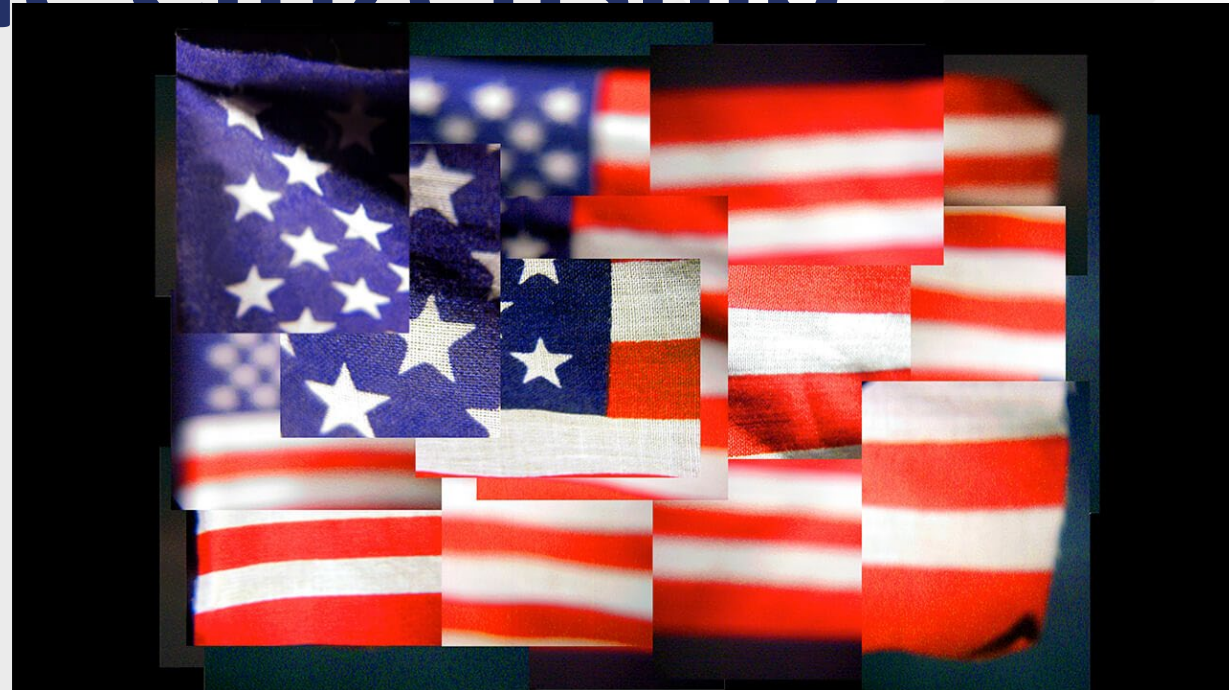


Dialogue Across Difference: Building Skills for Democratic Citizenship

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December 8, 2023



PLAN

- **Scholarship of Civic Engagement Education . . . “Pedagogical Tool Kit”**
- **Campus Culture & Impact on Democratic Learning**
- **Teaching Students How to “Talk Politics”**
- **Extending Across the University – Across the Nation**



DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP- LEARNED, NOT INNATE

“Democracy needs to be born anew every generation, and education is the midwife.”

John Dewey, 1916



DEMOCRATIC COMPETENCY



Civic preparedness is multifaceted. . . .

. . . . amounts to more than possessing political knowledge

. . . . also entails being equipped with the skills to be a democratic citizen

. . . . disposition to be democratic citizens

SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING DEMOCRACY

- Series of edited volumes calling for teaching active democratic citizenship by the American Political Science Association
 - *Teaching Civic Engagement: From Student to Active Citizen* (2013)
 - *Teaching Civic Engagement Across the Disciplines* (2017)
 - *Teaching Civic Engagement Globally* (2021)
- American Political Science Association Presidential Task Force on “Rethinking the Political Science Major”

THE ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

“ . . . as a democracy, the United States depends on a knowledgeable, public-spirited, and engaged population. Education plays a fundamental role in building civic vitality, and in the 21st Century, higher education has a distinctive role to play in the renewal of US democracy.”

National Task Force on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement

COLLEGE CAMPUS – MICROCOSM OF DEMOCRACY

Pervasive political learning and engagement . . . Is practiced and modeled year round and is deeply embedded into institutional norms, behaviors, and “the way things are done”

- ✓ Social cohesion
- ✓ Diversity as a realized practice
- ✓ Students part of decision-making
- ✓ Political engagement
- ✓ **Pervasive political discussion**

“Politics 365: Fostering Campus Climates for Student Political Learning and Engagement”
Nancy Thomas & Margaret Brower, Institute for Democracy and Higher Education

TALKING POLITICS

Teaching Productive Discourse . . .

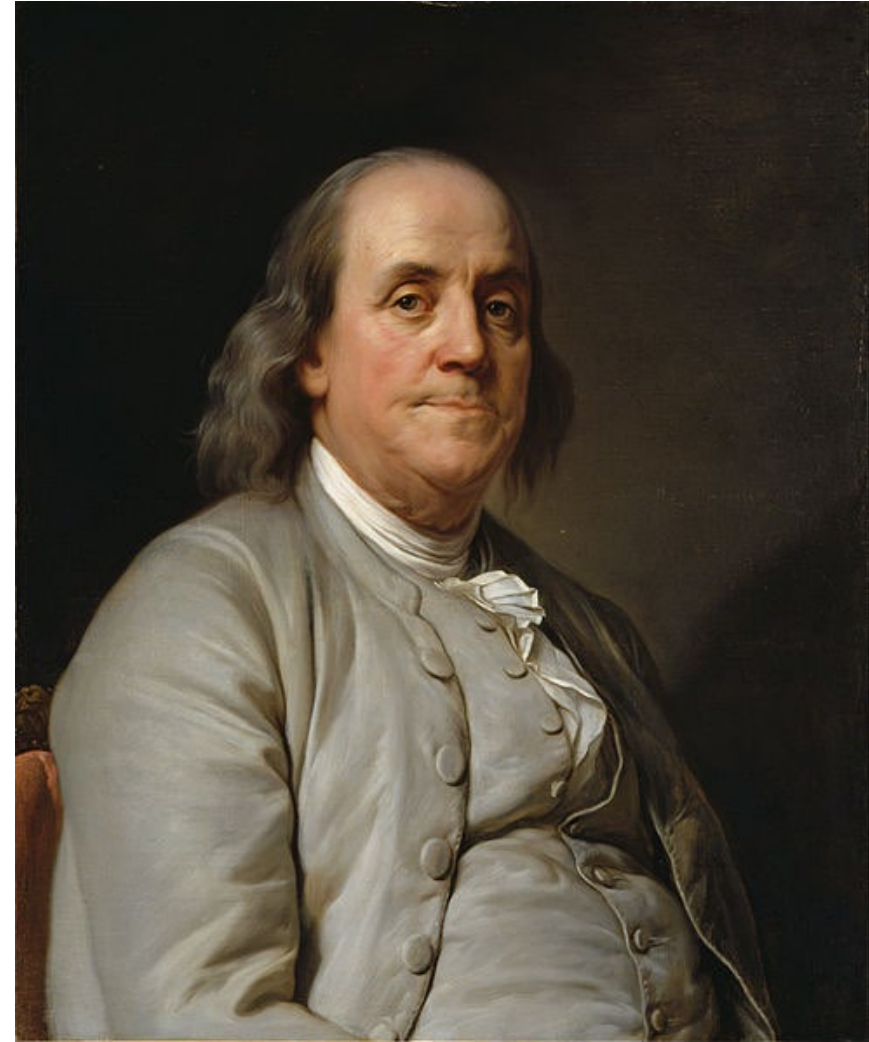
- ✓ Setting norms and practices of discussion
- ✓ Active Listening
- ✓ Perspective Taking
- ✓ Fact Checking (ourselves and others)

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

- **C&S Faculty Institute: Dialogue Across Difference and Civil Discourse in the Classroom . . .** a community of scholars and practitioners, creating courses and/or infusing current coursework with best practices
- Professional development across disciplines
- Creating opportunities to engage in discourse across differences. . . students, faculty, staff.

KEEPING THE REPUBLIC

**“A republic,
if you can
keep it.”**



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