

2024 U.S. Election Program – Draft Agenda

Sunday, November 3

12:00 PM: Registration Opens

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM: Welcome Reception

Monday, November 4

7:00 AM: Buffet Breakfast

8:00 AM: Opening Remarks

8:30 AM: U.S. Elections 101

U.S. elections “101” that covers the basics of the election system, as well as key strengths of the American system and its weaknesses.

9:15 AM: Battlegrounds: Election Eve Reflections from the Presidential Campaign Trail

Moderated discussion with two panelists representing the Democratic and Republican perspectives on the election.

10:00 AM: Break

10:30 AM: Information Integrity, Artificial Intelligence, and Freedom of Speech

Discussion on the impact of mis/disinformation on getting out important voter information. Discussion on what role, if any, generative AI is having in contributing to the problem. And, what can be done in the U.S. legally given free-speech protections? What happens when the media calls a race before the results are all in?

11:15 AM: Trust in U.S. Elections

Interactive roundtable with a scholar focused on trust in U.S. elections, a scholar and former election leader in Mexico, and a scholar and practitioner with expertise in both the U.S. and comparative/global sphere. The roundtable would begin with a brief, engaging talk from Dr. Thad Kousser on some of his novel research around messaging in the U.S., followed by responses and discussion with Dr. Rachel Kleinfeld and Dr. Lorenzo Córdova.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM Break Out 1A: Access for All: 34 years of the Americans with Disabilities Act

How did the ADA revolutionize accessible voting? What reasonable accommodations and assistive devices are used in U.S. elections? This is an interactive voting simulation.

1:00 PM Break Out 1B: Dollars and Democracy: Money, Power, Politics and the 2024 Elections

This panel will provide an overview for participants to learn about the formal legal and regulatory requirements for campaign and political finance; weaknesses within the system and proposals for reform; as well as the threat of dark money, illicit finance, and the abuse of these loopholes by foreign malign actors.

1:45 PM: Transition between breakout rooms

2:00 PM: Break Out 2A: Introducing New Delimitation Standards

A look at some of the most “gerrymandered” districts in the U.S. (even split between Democratic and Republican districts) – why is this allowed and what does it mean? Short presentation and a simulation – participants will be given a gerrymandered map and asked to fix it.

2:00 PM: Break Out 2B: Downstream from Culture: Engaging People in Politics

Showcase of some interesting U.S.-based voter education campaigns.

2:45 PM: Break

3:15 PM: Break Out 3A: Out-of-Country and Absentee Voting

How the U.S. manages voters within and outside the U.S. who are residing outside of their constituencies. Examine infrastructure that makes this possible (e.g. postal service).

3:15 PM: Break Out 3B: Voter ID Laws, Election Integrity, and Voter Enfranchisement

What are the controversies surrounding voter ID laws and requirements in the U.S.? How do these laws differ across US state lines and what impact do they have on different voters, including Indigenous Peoples, women, and minority populations? What lessons learned from global practice can inform better voter identification requirements in the U.S.? And what benefits and drawbacks can new technology bring to voter identification?

4:00 PM: Transition between breakout rooms

4:15 PM Election Technology in the U.S.: Voting Machines and Beyond

This panel will explore the use of voting technology in the United States’ decentralized electoral system.

5:00 PM: Daytime Programming Ends

Tuesday, November 5

7:00 AM: Buffet Breakfast

8:00 AM: Election Observation: Views from Practitioners

Three panelists discuss the important role international observers play in elections. They will also reflect on their experiences as international observers that have observed past U.S. elections. Finally, they will review the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and the code of conduct that guides the work of all accredited international observers. They will outline the morning’s activity and the expectations for their conduct during observation.

8:45 AM: Transition to Departure Entrance

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM: Polling Station Tours

Lunch will be provided.

6:30 PM – 10:00 PM Election Watch Party

Wednesday, November 6

8:30 AM: Buffet Breakfast

10:00 AM: Election Debrief: what happened and what's next?

Will there be a peaceful transfer of power on January 20, 2025? The Panelists will discuss major takeaways from Election Day. Will the electoral count process be different in 2024 from 2020 due to the "Electoral Count Reform Act of 2022"?

11:30 AM: Closing thoughts

12:00 PM: Lunch