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Dr. Jeff Davis

Career-long educator with a passion for creative and engaging pedagogies that put the student at the center of learning activities. Demonstrated a wide variety of skills working in a grant-funded center to conduct teacher professional development, marketing, event planning, data collection and analysis, donor relations, grant writing, and grant reporting to preserve and extend the center's operation and impact. Collaborated with university faculty in design and delivery of programming for K-12 teachers. Instructor for General Education courses in civics and political thought at Arizona State University. Doctoral candidate in the Arizona State University Mary Lou Fulton College of Teaching and Learning Innovation, Ed.D. program for Leadership and Innovation.

Education

DECEMBER 2026

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) – Leadership and Innovation/Arizona State University

- Dissertation: "Structured Academic Controversies for Classroom Civil Dialogue in a Polarized Climate." Conducted action research studying the effects of the use of SACs as a pedagogical method on teachers' attitudes and feelings of constraint regarding the discussion of controversial historical and political topics in the classroom.

DECEMBER 2007

Master of Arts, Secondary Education – Continuing Professional/Northern Arizona University

MAY 2004

Bachelor of Arts, Secondary Education – Social Studies/Arizona State University

Teaching Experience

FALL 2025-PRESENT

Instructor/Arizona State University School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, Tempe, Arizona

CEL 200, Great Debates in American Politics - Introduces fundamental ideas and debates about liberty and equality in American thought from the colonial era to the present, focusing on major political figures and issues--ideas that continue to shape political debates in 21st-century America, thus providing crucial foundations for future leadership roles in either public affairs or the private sector. A major theme is the tension between liberty and equality and between constitutionalism and democracy, in three centuries as a democratic, commercial republic.

Work Experience

DEC. 2021 – PRESENT

Program Director of Civic Education/Arizona State University Center for American Civics, Tempe, Arizona

- Conducting professional development workshops with K-12 teachers using research-based pedagogical approaches in civic education
- Leading educational outreach efforts with local and regional K-12 schools and higher education institutions on topics of civic education
- Collaborating with faculty and fellows in the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership (SCETL) on the evaluation and construction of curricular materials
- Seeking out grant opportunities to support civic education initiatives consistent with the mission of the Center for American Civics (CAC), and writing grant requests in pursuit of these opportunities
- Administering specific programs tied to the goals of grants received by the CAC related to civic education
- Collecting, organizing, and maintaining data necessary for reporting on metrics for evaluating the success of grant programs administered by the CAC
- Drafting and submitting grant reports as necessary for any grants received by the CAC
- Organizing the Civic Leadership Institute each summer, including securing funding through grants, recruiting high school students to attend and evaluating their applications, hiring teacher mentors and other necessary short-term support staff, and other event planning activities
- Revising and refreshing CAC website content related to civic education events and resources
- Maintaining contact lists from CAC outreach efforts and communicating with contacts routinely about opportunities offered and resources available from CAC for civic education
- Supporting various teacher education programs and events associated with MA degree as well as the Civic Classics Collection in the ASU Library
- Recruiting U.S. military veterans to volunteer as school guest speakers, promoting and coordinating their visits through the Veterans Inspiring Patriotism program
- Liaising with Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College to ensure collaboration where desirable and coordinate relevant activity
- Maintaining communication and collaborative relationships with other ASU units and organizations involved in the civic education/engagement space, particularly locally

JUNE 2014-FEBRUARY 2019

Author/Barron's Educational Series

Author of Barron's AP Comparative Government and Politics test review book, published Feb. 2016, 2nd edition Feb. 2019

NOVEMBER 2013-JUNE 2014

Content Author/Albert.io; Learn by Doing

Author of questions on Albert.io related to review for the AP Comparative Government and Politics Exam.

JULY 2004-DECEMBER 2021

Social Studies Teacher/Mesa Unified School District, Mesa, Arizona

Courses taught include AP Comparative Government, AP U.S. Government, AP European History, Economics, and World History. Design, plan, and implement curriculum. Comply with federal and state education regulations to deliver a free appropriate public education to all students. Head Advisor to Model United Nations program.

Key Contributions:

- Consistently received top ratings from evaluations by administrators
- Designed curriculum for AP Comparative Government, AP European History, AP U.S. Government, and Economics
- Utilized new digital technologies as they emerged to strengthen instructional delivery including Canvas, Kahoot, Prezi, EdPuzzle, Poll Everywhere, TedEd, and many others
- Created course websites including study materials and enrichment resources for all courses taught
- Assisted the Social Studies department in moving all instruction to digital platforms, especially Canvas, during the COVID pandemic in 2020-2021
- Attended AP conferences and other professional development activities, integrating best practices into instruction and sharing resources with other educators
- Mentored College of Education students from Arizona State University studying to become teachers

Skills

Pedagogy • Mixed Methods Research • Action Research • Presentations • Continuing Teacher Professional Development • Public Speaking • Grant Writing • Grant Reporting • Curriculum Design • Educational Technology

Additional Certifications

MARCH 2024

Grant Development: State and Foundation Proposals/ Arizona State University Lodestar Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Innovation

Publications

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

"Constitution Day Calls Us to Honor Peaceful Disagreement", Foundation Against Intolerance and Racism
https://news.fairforall.org/p/constitution-day-calls-us-to-honor