The Jack Miller Center for Teaching America’s Founding Principles and History is pleased to announce an important new initiative at the University of Wisconsin.

Under the direction of Professors John Coleman and John Zumbrunnen, the American Democracy Forum aims to make the University of Wisconsin - Madison a leader for scholarship and teaching that reflects both an appreciation of the vitality and relevance of the principles of the American Founding and an understanding of contemporary American democracy in all its complexity.

The American Democracy Forum will:

**INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDERGRADUATES** to engage in sustained and serious study of the founding principles and ongoing practice of American democracy.

**PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS** to access the latest research on the principles and practice of American democracy and to develop curriculum that brings that research to their students.

**SUPPORT GRADUATE STUDENTS** and scholars in the early stages of their career whose work focuses on the principles and practice of American democracy.

**BUILD A CONVERSATION** about the principles and practice of American democracy among leading scholars from a variety of disciplines at the University of Wisconsin - Madison and beyond.

“I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it.”

- Thomas Jefferson

**American Democracy Forum Programs:**

**2010 - 2012**

**ACADEMIC FOCUS**

2010 - 2011: PopulAtAr soveReignty

2011 - 2012: the PrinciPles oF liberty

**PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

- **New Undergraduate Course**, “Principles of American Democracy”
- **Junior High and High School Teachers’ Forum** to encourage curriculum development on democracy themes
- **Annual Academic Conference** that brings together leading scholars
- **Undergraduate Fellows Program** to support independent research and senior thesis projects of junior fellows
- **Post Doctoral Fellowship** that supports an early career scholar studying principles of American democracy and adds two new undergraduate courses on American democracy and founding principles to UW curriculum
- **Monthly Research Workshops** that bring to UW leading scholars of American democracy
- **Undergraduate Essay Contest**
Revitalizing awareness and study in the principles and ideas of the American founding is a cause worthy of support by all Americans, regardless of political persuasion.

Throughout their lives, students, the nation’s future leaders, will hear and read references to America’s founding principles. To understand and assess these references, to understand the debate over their meaning, students need a grounding in the principles.

In year one, the American Democracy Forum will focus attention on the principle of popular sovereignty. In year two, the focus turns to the principle of liberty. Students will gain an understanding of what these principles meant to the Founders and how they have subsequently been interpreted, debated, and applied in American politics.

We need your help

Restoring education in the American tradition in Wisconsin is an undertaking that requires the gifts of many, as the need is great. The Forum’s future success depends on the generous support of foundations and private individuals who share its commitment to civic education and the study of American political thought.

If you would like to make a difference in Wisconsin for your children and future generations, please make a gift to the Jack Miller Center. Contact:

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About The Jack Miller Center

The Jack Miller Center is a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit foundation dedicated to enriching education in America’s Founding Principles and history. We are a unique resource for higher education, supporting a growing network of college professors who want to expand opportunities for their students to learn about American history, government, political thought and economics. For more information, visit www.jackmillercenter.org.

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