

## New submission from John Doe

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Tue, Apr 30, 2024 at 9:10 AM

**Date**

04/29/2024

**Course Title**

The Election of 2024: A Clear and Present Danger

**Faculty Name(s)**

John Doe

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**Semester**

Fall

**Duration of Course**

6 Sessions

**Course Description (for catalog publication)**

The election of 2024 provides a convenient opportunity to examine the state of democracy in the United States. An underlying question throughout the course will be: "Has minority rule come to the point that American democracy is in danger of crumbling?" These six weeks will examine the less democratic provisions of the Constitution and how the exploitation of same may be moving us closer to a form of oligarchy. Close attention will be paid to the final weeks leading up to the 2024 election and the operation of our unique electoral process. "How to Steal a Presidential Election" by Lessig and Seligman will help illustrate how our current constitutional system may very well invite a "stolen election."

**Course Category (Select category)**

HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

**Course Syllabus**

Week 1: Introduction of Constitutional issues that will be addressed during the course. (Electoral College, Supreme Court, Senate)  
Week 2: Has a virtuous love of liberty and equality given way selfish interest? Revisit the ideals of the Declaration of Independence  
Week 3: Dilemma: A Republic of the majority with protection of the minority.  
Week 4: Does every vote in a Presidential election matter equally?

Week 5: The Election of 2024. What are the chances of a contingent election?  
Week 6: Post election 2024 debriefing.

**Have you taught this course at URI OLLI before?**

No

**Teaching Preference**

Classroom

**Preferred Schedule (First Choice):**

Monday

**Preferred Schedule (Second Choice)**

Wednesday

**Time**

Afternoon

**Scheduling Notes**

If possible, please scheduling the course so that the final class can follow Election Day, November 5.

**Faculty Bio.**

On File

**Faculty Bio.**

John R. Doe holds a B.A. in history from St. Lawrence University, an M.A. in liberal studies from Stony Brook University (SUNY), and J.D. from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. Before retiring from a career in public education, he spent 25 years as a high school history teacher. For the OLLI at URI he taught Twenty-five Songs: A Social History, 1930 – 2000, Do Our Votes Really Count? and The Right to Vote.

**Reading List**

- Suggested

**Suggested Reading**

How to Steal a Presidential Election, Lawrence Lessig and Matthew Seligman, Yale University Press, 2024  
The Democracy Bomb, Ari Berman, Mother Jones, May-June, 2024. (Copies of article available at OLLI office at URI)  
Another Way (Podcast), Lawrence Lessig, "Another Way to Elect a President, Part I."

**Assignment for 1st class session:**

The Democracy Bomb, Ari Berman, Mother Jones, May-June, 2024. (Copies of article available at OLLI office at URI)

**Presentation Needs**

Projection equipment

**Enrollment Requests**

None