A resource for the community

The School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership strives to be a civic education resource for the Arizona community. We aim to work closely with public and private school organizations around the state to help them provide high quality, civic education to their students.

The school has also been asked by the state government to advise the State Board of Education on the creation of a “State Seal of Civic Literacy.” And through the following programs, we aim to provide numerous resources to the Arizona community:

Civic Classics Collection
The school has purchased a portfolio of rare books and manuscripts that is managed in cooperation with ASU’s Hayden Library. This collection of rare books is available for viewing by appointment at no cost and is regularly on display at our public programs.

Arizona Constitution Project
The school and the University of Oxford are engaged in this collaborative project that will allow citizens and scholars to have a better understanding of Arizona’s contribution to constitutional democracy worldwide.

Civic Leadership Institute
Each year, the school invites more than 60 high school students to come to ASU’s Tempe campus to study the constitution and American principles. The program culminates in a moot court or mock cabinet battle exercise.

Invest in our new class of leaders

When you give to the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, you invest in a new class of leaders. By giving, you support our mission to engage students in civic life through the investigation of great works of political, economic, civic and moral thought. As a donor, you offer a SCETL student the opportunity to take an internship, study abroad, invite a guest speaker or coordinate a service project. Our donors invest in the ASU community, the Arizona community and beyond.

scetl.asu.edu

Fact sheet

School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership

This school combines the study of great works with preparation for leadership, public service and statesmanship. There’s no program I know of like this in the country that has this ambition to combine all of these elements.

—Paul Carrese, founding director, School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership

Fact sheet

Social sciences
The School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership is a new type of school, one that challenges its students to study classic works and prepares them to become a leader ready to take on 21st century issues. Established in 2017, the school combines a classical liberal arts curriculum with intensive learning experiences that include study abroad programs, professional internships and leadership opportunities. Students graduate ready for careers in government, law, business and civil society.

The School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership is dedicated to fostering a culture of intellectual diversity to facilitate the open and free contest of ideas that are a foundation to a healthy constitutional democracy. Our dedicated community of scholars embraces different ways of learning and discovery, and we strive to create an inclusive environment in our classrooms, as well as in our public programming and leadership opportunities.

Leading global impact and innovative solutions
Through its robust academic offerings, civic education initiatives and public programming, the School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership provides an environment for the vigorous debate of topics in politics and civil society in order to prepare a new class of leaders.

Programming designed to foster debate
The school’s public programming invites top academics and political commentators from around the country to speak at Arizona State University. These conversations are vital to promoting civil discourse on campus and in our community. Our annual lecture series is also available to a wider audience through a partnership with PBS Arizona.

Emphasis on civic education
Programs such as our Civic Leadership Institute offer our community the opportunity to learn more about the U.S. Constitution and its founding principles. More than 60 high school students from Arizona, California and Texas attended the 2019 summer program where they spent four days studying famous court cases and decisive moments in the Lincoln presidency in classes led by the school’s faculty.

Preparing students to become lifelong learners
“Regardless of what career interest someone may have, the civic and economic thought and leadership courses prepare students to have a fulfilling and meaningful life.”
-Elana Q., the first graduate with a bachelor’s degree in civic and economic thought and leadership.

Cultivating an inclusive environment
The School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership is dedicated to fostering a culture of intellectual diversity to facilitate the open and free contest of ideas that are a foundation to a healthy constitutional democracy. Our dedicated community of scholars embraces different ways of learning and discovery, and we strive to create an inclusive environment in our classrooms, as well as in our public programming and leadership opportunities.

- 2 undergraduate degrees
- 1 minor
- 1:1 student-to-faculty ratio
- 10 faculty members

- 50+ academic experiences and internships supported
- 2 affiliated centers
- 22% first-generation students
- 13+ student and community events every year

Inspiring a new class of leaders
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