The US Embassy School Election Project 2016

The US Embassy School Election Project is a unique cooperation of a diverse team of contributors. Once again, the US Embassy partners with Leuphana Universität Lüneburg, LIFE e.V. eXplorarium, and many practitioners on site.

Materials are available on our Moodle platform at www.teachaboutus.org. Teacher trainings, web-tutorials, and support are provided throughout the project. Prior Moodle experience is not required. The project can also be carried out offline with a print-ready PDF teaching guide and student handouts.

Registration.
To register, please contact ...

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or

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Registration closes on 11 March 2016.

Organizers
Prof. Gabriele Linke, Rostock University
Dr. Katja Schmidt, Rostock University
Dr. Susanne Wiedemann, US Consulate Hamburg
Dr. Martina Kohl, US Embassy Berlin

To the polls!

1. EXPLORE Learners will explore the core questions of the 2016 Presidential Elections.

2. ANALYZE Each participant course will be assigned one U.S. state and study its local politics, state of the economy, culture and population demographics as well as past voting behavior.

3. PREDICT Will your state turn red or blue? Is it going to be a solid or swing state? Student delegates will cast their courses’ votes at an interactive mock election just before Election Day on November 8, 2016.

4. IMPRESS Students present their prediction in a creative and interactive format and participate in a nation-wide completion.

For details on events, teacher trainings and news on the student competition, please visit our new website: teachaboutus.org

Stay tuned and don’t miss our latest project news: Subscribe to the Teach About US Newsletter.
9:30 – 9:45  
Welcome Remarks  
Prof. Dr. Gabriele Linke, Rostock University  
Dr. Susanne Wiedemann, U.S. Consulate General Hamburg

9:45 -11:15  
Lecture and Discussion  
The US Presidential Elections 2016: Candidates, Issues and the Media  
Paul Rundquist, University Halle-Wittenberg  
Coffee Break

11:45-13:15  
Lecture and Discussion  
The Pen Is Mightier? American Political Cartooning in a Post-Charlie Age  
Christianna Stavroudis, Bonn University  
Lunch Break

14:30 -16:00  
Workshop  
Teaching the U.S. Elections in the EFL Classroom: The US Embassy Election Project 2016  
Joannis Kaliampos, Leuphana University Lüneburg  
16:00  
Wrap-Up & Closing Remarks  
Prof. Dr. Gabriele Linke

JOANNIS KALIAMPOS  
Joannis Kaliampos is a PhD candidate and research assistant at the Institute of English Studies at Leuphana University Lüneburg. His research focuses on “Learner Perceptions of Web 2.0-Enhanced EFL Tasks.” He holds a Staatsexamen degree in teaching English and History at secondary schools from Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen. He has experience working as a writing instructor and as a secondary school teacher at Lahntalschule, Lahnau. As part of a Fulbright scholarship, he taught German at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith in 2010-11. Due to his expertise in the use of social media and web 2.0 tools for language learning, he has developed teaching materials and leads teacher workshops for the US Embassy’s Going Green Project and the School Election Project. Joannis Kaliampos received the “Hans-Eberhardt-Piepho Preis 2013 für innovative Ideen in einem kommunikativen Fremdsprachenunterricht” for the U.S. Embassy Election Project 2012 and the prestigious “Ausgezeichnete Orte – Land der Ideen” award for Going Green – Education for Sustainability 2014.

PAUL RUNDQUIST  
is a former congressional operations specialist with the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress. For over three decades, he advised Members of Congress on parliamentary rules and tactics, and on the organization and reorganization of Congress. He also helped conduct parliamentary training seminars for members of Congress and their staffs, and also did so for parliamentarians in many newly democratizing countries. After the September 11 attacks, he worked with the officers and committees of the Congress planning for emergencies and catastrophic events affecting government operations. Dr. Rundquist has served as an adjunct professor at the George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management and Catholic University of America. From 1996-1998, he was a Fulbright professor of politics at Warsaw University and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, and in the 2006-07 academic year, he was a Fulbright professor at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and TU Dresden. He is now a visiting professor at Halle University and the University of Leipzig.

CHRISTIANNA STAVROUDIS  
Christianna Stavroudis is an American instructor in the Department of English, American and Celtic Studies at the University of Bonn. Until the summer of 2015, Ms. Stavroudis taught as a lecturer in English language and linguistics at the Institute for British and North American Studies at the University of Greifswald. She holds a B.A. in Applied Linguistics from the University of Maryland – Baltimore County (USA) and an M.Sc. in Clinical Linguistics from the University of Potsdam. She has taught a variety of interdisciplinary language courses and seminars, including a course for first-semester students entitled Reading American Politics: An Intercultural Perspective, which focuses on understanding U.S. government and U.S. domestic, foreign, and social issues relevant for presidential elections. She recently completed her dissertation within the field of second language acquisition.