

## Year of Democracy 2023-2024

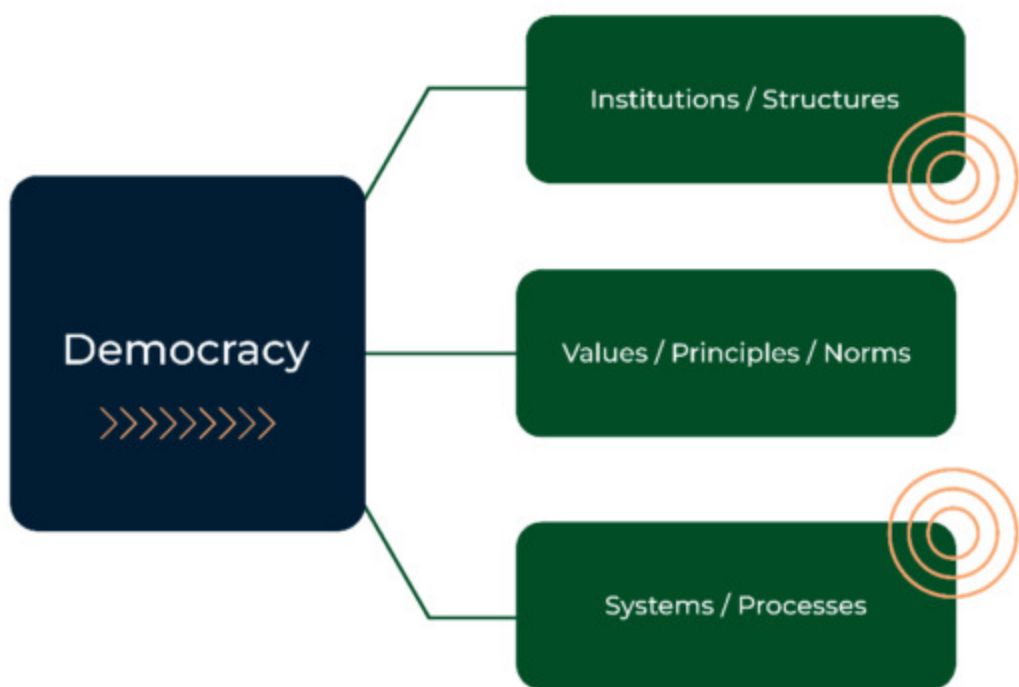


### 2023-2024 is the Year of Democracy and Civic Engagement

We are very excited to launch the 2023-2024 Thematic Year (TY) centered around the theme of Democracy and Civic Engagement. The Thematic Year is a central university initiative that serves to highlight the incredible research, programs, academic initiatives, students, faculty and staff who are accomplishing extraordinary things at CSU. Having a rotating annual theme provides the opportunity for the university to focus on major world initiatives that cross through and between all departments and colleges which, in turn, assists in stimulating additional multidisciplinary work at Colorado State.



### What is Democracy?



Democracy - from the Greek words "demos" meaning people and "kratos" meaning power

Democracy can be thought of as "power of the people"; a way of governing, which depends on the will of the people.

American philosopher John Dewey said, "democracy is more than a form of government; it is primarily a mode of associated living, of conjoint, communicated experience."

PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY

THEMATIC YEAR

1. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

VOTING, CHOICE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PEACEFUL PROTEST, TOWN MEETINGS

2. EQUALITY

EQUAL ACCESS TO RIGHTS (SUCH AS TO THE VOTING BOOTH)  
VOTES COUNT THE SAME  
NO DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, RELIGION, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION

3. ACCOUNTABILITY

POLITICIANS MUST ACT CONSISTENT WITH VOTERS' WILL, NOT ABUSE POWER

4. TRANSPARENCY

GOVERNMENT ACTIONS, RESULTS AND OUTCOMES ARE CLEAR TO THE PEOPLE, AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST, AND ANYONE CAN ASK QUESTIONS

5. POLITICAL TOLERANCE

MAJORITY RULES BUT MINORITY VIEWS STILL ALLOWED AND ENCOURAGED

6. MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM

CITIZENS MUST HAVE CHOICE

7. RULE OF LAW

THE SAME RULES APPLY TO EVERYONE, INCLUDING POLITICIANS. A NATION'S LAWS APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL PEOPLE. RIGHTS, FREEDOMS, AND DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES ARE RESPECTED AND NURTURED. LAWS ENFORCED IN A FAIR AND CONSISTENT WAY

8. FREEDOM OF ECONOMY

PEOPLE DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH THEIR LIVES

9. BILL OF RIGHTS

ENCODED INTO LAW THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF PEOPLE

10. HUMAN RIGHTS

THESE ARE RIGHTS, SUCH AS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, PROTECTED BY A BILL OF RIGHTS

11. FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

AVAILABILITY OF GOOD AND ACCURATE INFORMATION, EQUAL ACCESS TO THE POLLS, ALL VOTES ARE COUNTED (EQUALLY)

12. IMPARTIAL JUDICIARY

EQUAL ACCESS TO AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL BODY THAT CAN RESOLVE A DISPUTE

13. PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER

ACCEPT ELECTION RESULTS AND STEP DOWN


RESOURCES/REFERENCES

https://www.librefest.com/2020/types-of-democracy.html

### Principles of Democracy

1. Citizen Participation
2. Equality
3. Accountability
4. Transparency
5. Political Tolerance
6. Multi-Party System
7. Rule of Law
8. Freedom of Economy
9. Bill of Rights
10. Human Rights
11. Free and Fair Elections
12. Impartial Judiciary
13. Peaceful Transfer of Power

TYPES OF DEMOCRACY

THEMATIC YEAR

NOTE: THESE TYPES OF DEMOCRACY ARE NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. THEY CAN BE PRACTICED SINCE DEMOCRACY.

DIRECT

CONSTITUTIONAL

REPRESENTATIVE

PRESIDENTIAL

PARLIAMENTARY

DEMOCRACY

THE PEOPLE ARE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING POLITICAL DECISIONS. IT ENTAILS THE ENGAGEMENT OF CITIZENS IN THE SHAPING OF LAW-MAKING, OTHER THAN THE OPPORTUNITY TO ELECTION THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

THE CONSTITUTION IS ENFORCED BY THE SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND AND RULES PROSECUTE OVER ALL OTHER LAWS OF THE COUNTRY. AMERICAN, JAPANESE, AUSTRALIAN, SWISS, CANADIAN, ARGENTINIAN, BRAZIL, INDIA.

THE PRESIDENT IS ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE TO LEAD THE COUNTRY. AMERICAN, ARGENTINIAN, BRAZIL, INDIA, ITALY, JAPAN, POLAND, SOUTH AFRICA, SWITZERLAND.

THE GOVERNMENT IS ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE. AMERICAN, ARGENTINIAN, BRAZIL, INDIA, ITALY, JAPAN, POLAND, SOUTH AFRICA, SWITZERLAND.

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### Types of Democracy

— Representative
Representative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People are the source of political power and citizens elect political representatives to act on their behalf and make decisions in their best interests.</li><li>• Fosters a pluralistic society, where groups with multiple values and ideologies work collaboratively to influence government policy and process.</li><li>• Most representative democracies also incorporate dimensions of direct democracy, such as encouraging citizens to express their opinions through political debate, referendums and public consultations.</li><li>• Example: United Kingdom, Germany, France, United States, Switzerland.</li></ul>
+ Constitutional
+ Direct
+ Parliamentary
+ Presidential

### Contact us

Email [thematicyear@colostate.edu](mailto:thematicyear@colostate.edu) for inquiries about promoting a program, event, research, or initiative.

**Colleges:**


- Agricultural Sciences
- Business
- Walter Scott, Jr. College of Engineering
- Health and Human Sciences
- Liberal Arts
- Warner College of Natural Resources
- Natural Sciences
- Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

**Schools & Programs:**

- Graduate School
- International Programs
- Online Degrees and Courses
- School of Advanced Materials Discovery
- School of Music, Theatre and Dance
- School of Biomedical Engineering
- School of Education
- School of Global Environmental Sustainability
- School of Social Work
- School of Public Health

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