



2010 CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY

*a six-week distance learning program that culminates in
a week-long residential program in Washington, D.C.*

JULY 18-24 | JULY 25-31

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR



I am delighted about your interest in being a part of the Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy*. We have designed this program with students just like you in mind – students with the interest, intelligence, and motivation to explore critical questions about our past and future as Americans.

Our *Constitutional Academy* gives students like you the opportunity to read works by and about the Founders of the American republic and to engage in discussions about the meaning and implications of these works with other bright students. Our faculty will challenge you to understand the ideas of the American Founding as it was understood then, while also emphasizing how these ideas remain relevant today.

Through daily activities outside the classroom, our *Constitutional Academy* reinforces the ongoing conversation between past and future. Visits to cultural landmarks like Mount Vernon and the National Archives make America's past come alive in a way impossible through reading alone. In addition,

we offer several hands-on learning opportunities that encourage you to consider the ongoing importance of what you have learned.

Perhaps most importantly, you have the opportunity to make lasting friendships with your fellow *Constitutional Academy* students, built on the kind of camaraderie that can only come from sharing an intellectual journey.

Finally, the Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy* is designed to prepare rising juniors and seniors like you for the transition from high school to college. In fact, you could say that the program gives you a head start on your college career – students who successfully complete the *Constitutional Academy* will be awarded three college credits!

Thank you for your interest in the Bill of Rights Institute's *Constitutional Academy*. I look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Jason Ross, Ph.D., Director of Education Programs
Bill of Rights Institute

WHY WAIT FOR COLLEGE WHEN YOU CAN EXPERIENCE IT NOW?



*“I appreciate America more
and I’m proud to be a citizen.”*

*–2009 Constitutional Academy
Participant*

During the *Constitutional Academy* program, you will:

- ▶ Build new friendships with students from across the country who share your interest in history, civics and personal liberty
- ▶ Work with historical documents at the National Archives
- ▶ Visit local sites of historical and constitutional significance such as Mount Vernon and Monticello
- ▶ Interact with award-winning teachers and accomplished scholars from prestigious universities
- ▶ AND earn **THREE college credits at no additional cost!**

The Bill of Rights Institute’s *Constitutional Academy* gives you the opportunity to jump start your college career—visit www.ConstAcademy.org/Apply and apply today!

THE CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY SAMPLE PROGRAM AGENDA

The *Constitutional Academy* includes an active week in Washington, D.C. From morning to night, you will engage in discussions, explore in and around our nation's capital, and enjoy fun and interesting activities – all while building new friendships with like-minded teens.

SUNDAY

Registration and Welcome

General Orientation

Evening Activity:
Welcome dinner and Icebreakers

MONDAY

Presentation:
Principles of American Independence

Discussion:
Which rights are most important to you?

All day trip to Monticello:
Experience Jefferson's unique mind through a visit to his distinctive home

TUESDAY

Presentation:
A Constitutional Republic

Discussion:
What is a republic?

Off-Site at Gunston Hall:
Explore the home of George Mason, a leading advocate for the Bill of Rights

WEDNESDAY

Presentation:
Private Property and Citizenship, Self-Interest, and Leadership

Off-Site at Mount Vernon:
Visit and tour George Washington's home, learn about Washington's role in the crafting of the Constitution

THURSDAY

Presentation:
The Judiciary, the Rule of Law, and Personal Liberty

Discussion:
What is liberty?

Off-site at National Archives:
View the Founding Documents and go behind-the-scenes at the Archives

FRIDAY

Presentation:
The Executive, The Rule of Law, and Security

Discussion:
Executive Power and the Bill of Rights Throughout History

Activity:
Mock Supreme Court Case and Final Exam

Evening activity:
Washington, D.C. Sightseeing Tour

"I now realize that I have to be involved in my government."

—2009 CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Students will read approximately 200 pages of writing by and about the leading minds of the American Founding era.

Students will reinforce their knowledge by participating in weekly online chats in the weeks before the Washington, D.C. program begins, where they may post online responses and engage in discussions with fellow participants and program scholars. At the end of their week in Washington, D.C., students will take a final exam and participate in a mock trial.

Finally, students will complete a term paper following the conclusion of the residential portion of the program. Students who successfully complete these requirements will earn three college credits from Ashland University.

A S H L A N D



ABOUT THE SCHOLARS

Program Director :

Jason Ross, Ph.D., Director of Education Programs, Bill of Rights Institute

Dr. Ross completed his Ph.D. in the Department of Government at Georgetown University in 2009. He is the recipient of numerous academic awards and fellowships, including the Richard M. Weaver Fellowship sponsored by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, the Humane Studies Fellowship sponsored by the Institute for Humane Studies, and the Civitas Fellowship sponsored by the Center for Public Justice.

Past Program Faculty :

David Marion, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science, Hampden-Sydney College

Dr. Marion received his Ph.D. from Northern Illinois University and is a scholar of Constitutional Law, American Public Administration, Public Policy, Jurisprudence, American National Government, and the Constitutional and Historical Dimensions of Public Service in America.

Mark Rozell, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy, George Mason University

Dr. Rozell is the author of nine books and editor of sixteen books on various aspects of American government, including the presidency, religion and politics, media and politics, and interest groups in elections. He serves as coeditor of the Georgetown University Press series on religion and politics.

Carey Roberts, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Arkansas Tech University

Dr. Roberts earned a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. He co-wrote a chapter in John Denson's *The American Presidency* entitled "The Presidency of Andrew Johnson." He has been active in speaking at scholarly panels and seminars around the country.

*"I am a better informed
citizen and voter!"*

—2009 CONSTITUTIONAL
ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

ABOUT THE BILL OF RIGHTS INSTITUTE

Founded in September 1999, the Bill of Rights Institute is a nonprofit organization committed to educate, motivate, and inspire young people to become informed and active citizens. In addition to creating curricula and conducting professional development programs for teachers, the Bill of Rights Institute also provides free resources and programs just for students like you. Visit www.DoYouHaveTheRight.org for more information.



LOW COST, TREMENDOUS VALUE

Valued at over \$3,000 per student, the cost of the *Constitutional Academy* is only \$1,495! Student tuition for *Constitutional Academy* includes:

- ▶ A full schedule of educational and exciting events, including seminars, lectures, and tours
- ▶ Six nights lodging at the campus of Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia
- ▶ All meals
- ▶ All instructional materials and handouts
- ▶ 24-hour adult supervision and security
- ▶ 6 online classes
- ▶ Transportation between Marymount University and Ronald Reagan National Airport
- ▶ Visits to historic sites, entertainment, and admission to special events
- ▶ Evening tour of Washington, D.C. monuments
- ▶ And **three college credits** upon successful completion of all requirements at no extra cost!

ELIGIBILITY

You must meet all the following criteria:

- ▶ Attend a public, private, charter, or home school
- ▶ Expect to be in Grade 11 or 12 during the 2010-2011 school year
- ▶ Achieve a GPA of at least 3.2 in all social studies classes (through the Fall 2009 semester), and a cumulative GPA of 3.2
- ▶ Completed at least two units of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies by the start of the *Constitutional Academy*

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available for qualified participants. Please visit www.ConstAcademy.org/Aid for more information.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Your safety while participating in the *Constitutional Academy* is our number one priority. To ensure that we provide a safe environment, we expect you and your fellow participants to show maturity and use good judgment while participating in our programs. Participants who do not follow the Code of Conduct are subject to expulsion and will be sent home immediately, at their expense, with no tuition refund. Please visit www.ConstAcademy.org to view the complete Student Code of Conduct.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

HOW TO APPLY :

1. Complete and submit the application package available online at www.ConstAcademy.org/Apply.
2. Submit a writing sample—a class essay, term paper, school newspaper article, or another piece of your written work that showcases your writing skills.
3. Have a teacher complete and submit a Student Recommendation Form (available online).
4. Submit written application materials, along with a non-refundable processing fee of \$25 (check payable to the Bill of Rights Institute) to the address below.



CONSTITUTIONAL ACADEMY

The Bill of Rights Institute
200 North Glebe Road, Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22203

(800) 838-7870 ext. 11 | www.ConstAcademy.org

DEADLINES

Application Packet Postmark Deadline:
April 15, 2010.

Acceptances Mailed: April 30, 2010.

50% Deposit (\$748) Due: within two weeks of acceptance, or send us one payment of \$1,346—a 10% savings!

Final Payment Due: May 31, 2010.

EARLY ADMISSION

Need to know that you will be participating as soon as possible? Take advantage of our Early Admission option and you have the chance to save 15% off the tuition price!

Application Packet Postmark Deadline:
February 15, 2010.

Acceptances Mailed: March 1, 2010.

Full Payment Due: March 31, 2010.