



SPRING 2022 PROGRAM GUIDE

INTRODUCING
THE HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL

INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

PROGRAMS | PEOPLE
PUBLIC SERVICE

IOP | INSTITUTE OF
POLITICS



The future promise of any nation can be directly measured by the present prospects of its youth.



- JOHN F. KENNEDY

WHAT IS THE IOP?

Established as a memorial to President Kennedy, the IOP's mission is to **unite and engage students**, particularly undergraduates, with academics, politicians, activists, and policymakers on a non-partisan basis to inspire them to consider careers in **politics and public service**. Through our sixteen programs, internships, and conferences, the IOP offers wide-ranging opportunities for students to **practice, get inspired, and gain the skills for a future in public service**.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Although there are lots of informal ways to engaged with the IOP — attending Study Groups, Forums, and joining on other public initiatives, among others — we encourage you to become a formal member of one of our 16 programs by applying through the **Common App** so that you can see the IOP in action from the inside.

2

MEET THE STUDENT EXECUTIVE TEAM

In 2022, for the first time, the IOP will be led by four women of color.

Janna Ramadan '23, President (second to the left), leads and broadly directs all Institute-wide initiatives, chairs Student₂ Advisory Committee meetings, and is assisted and supported in all these areas by Vice President **Tabitha Escalante '23** (third from left). **Stephanie Lin '24**, Treasurer, oversees the student program budget and facilitates the funding of student projects. **Amen Gashaw '24**, Communications Director, develops, coordinates, and manages all internal and external communications.

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IOP EXEC

MEET OUR PROGRAMS

Develop personally and professionally. Interview your heroes. Help a new friend become a US citizen. Get a selfie with the vice president. **The IOP has it all!**

To the right, you'll find a table featuring broad information about our programs, including the **size of their membership**, their **weekly meeting date** (if it has been designated), the **weekly time commitment**, and whether or not applying for the program requires an **interview**. You can find more detailed information about the agenda and leadership of each program in the **subsequent pages of this guide!**

	PROGRAM SIZE	WEEKLY MEETING DAY	HRS / WEEK	INTERVIEW
CAC	Open Acceptance	Wednesday	1-2	
CAP	Open Acceptance	Wednesday	1-2	
CIT TUT	80	Thursday	1-2	
CIVICS	50	None	2-3	☑
CONFERENCES	15-20	TBD	1-2	
FORUM	15-20	Friday	3-4	☑
FSG	45	Varies by Fellow	3-4	
HPOP	30-40	Sunday + Monday	3-4	☑
HPR	Completion Comp	Sunday	2-3	
HPU	Open Acceptance	Wednesday	1-2	
HVC	Open Acceptance	Thursday	1-2	
ICS	10-15	TBD	1-2	
PRE	Open Acceptance	Tuesday	1-2	
POLICY	80-100	Varies by Team	3-4	☑
STEAM	30-40	TBD	3-4	
WIL	15-20	Friday	1-2	

COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Chair: Erin Guetzlo '23

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CAC

The goal of the Community Action Committee (CAC) is to educate members about community organizing through theory, historical case studies, and guest speakers, and then to use that knowledge to engage with the broader Harvard, Cambridge-Boston, and state-national community. Throughout the semester, members will have the chance to interact with a number of experienced community organizers who will share their expertise with membership. At the same time, members will also be working on hands-on projects with community partners and non-profit organizations to put the principles of community organizing that they are learning into practice.

This year, CAC's programming will be taking an exciting new direction as committee meetings will not only involve speaker events but also time to work in small groups partnered with various community organizing groups. Building on CAC's past structure in which all members worked on a capstone project, These projects will allow members to engage directly with areas of activism that are especially important to them.

5

The Campaign and Advocacy Program (CAP) is a workshop-style program that develops students' electoral and advocacy campaign skills. Members attend weekly meetings led by the student chair and professional facilitator Jamie Engel (Program Director at the National Conference on Citizenship and former Chief of Staff and Finance Director at Alan Khazei for Congress).

This semester, CAP will primarily focus on the diverse political career opportunities, as well collaborations between campaigns and external groups. CAP members are given the exclusive opportunity to build valuable relationships with the program facilitator, speakers, and guests. CAP will provide students with a well-rounded knowledge of campaign structure and strategies that prepare them to take active roles in future campaigns and advocacy efforts. CAP also encourages students to get involved in real campaigns and provides resources to connect students with active campaigns.

Past CAP facilitators have included Scott Jennings (adviser to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell), Robby Mook (Campaign Manager to Hillary Clinton's 2016 Presidential Campaign), and Lorella Praeli (former director of immigration policy, ACLU).

CAMPAIGNS AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Chair: Sellers Hill '25

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CAP

CITIZENSHIP TUTORING

Chair: Jenny Le '24

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The Citizenship Tutoring (Cit Tut) program's founding principle is that the practice of public service is central to our understanding of American politics, and that, through tutoring members of Harvard's community as they prepare for their Citizenship Exam, we can build a more engaged understanding of immigration. The program is a partnership between the undergraduate program members at the IOP and Harvard Bridge, an adult training program open to all Harvard staff and faculty. Weekly, our tutors meet with employees from various departments within the Harvard community to guide them through the citizenship application and study for the four components of the U.S. citizenship test: civics, speaking, reading, and writing.

Program meetings consist of lessons and training to improve tutoring skills, guest speakers and discussions on U.S. citizenship and immigration, joint meetings with other IOP programs on campus, and community building.

The program also actively engages with immigration groups and organizations on campus through advocacy efforts and events aimed at fostering dialogue about immigration and citizenship.

Harvard CIVICS is a joint Institute of Politics & Phillips Brooks House Association program that places motivated and service-minded undergraduates in fifth-grade classrooms to empower the next generation of engaged, informed, and active citizens. Program participants are driven to provide a meaningful civic education to a range of communities and socioeconomic backgrounds.

The CIVICS program is spread across 30 classrooms in the Cambridge and Boston Public School systems, in which members use a student-generated curriculum to engage students in topics of democratic governance, politics, current events, and civic engagement. In the fall, we cover the structure of the federal government, elections, and media. In the spring we teach about rights, responsibilities, community engagement, civil rights, and leadership. We view teaching as a dialogue; our curriculum is interactive and involves skits, crafts, videos, audio recordings, games, and visual aids.

Through this curriculum, CIVICS teachers allow students to identify problems they see in their communities, formulate solutions, and take an active role in their communities.

CIVICS

Chair: Lauren Perl '25

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CIVICS

The Conferences Committee will serve as the large-scale event planning program at the Institute of Politics, allowing student members to gain unique opportunities and insights into the process of organizing and managing events from ideation to execution. Beyond providing students with hands-on experience in balancing a range of responsibilities — including scheduling, publicity, financial management, hospitality, and communications — that can be carried into a broad range of career paths, this program will support the Institute's youth-focused mission by placing undergraduates at the forefront of these planning processes. The program will be primarily responsible for planning the Campaign Managers Conference (every four years) Seminar for Newly Elected Mayors (biennially in odd-numbered years), Bipartisan Program for Newly Elected Members of Congress (every two years), Day of Civic Action (every Fall), and the National Campaign Conference for Civic and Political Engagement (every Spring).

CONFERENCES COMMITTEE

Chairs: Aristotle Vainikos '24 | Desiree Rickett '24

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8

PILOT
PROGRAM



CONFERENCES

JFK JR. FORUM

Chairs: Hannah Bottarel '24 | Carson Kurad '23
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FORUM

The JFK Jr. Forum strives to engage Harvard students mentally and morally by hosting candid, non-partisan dialogue on politics, public service, and relevant affairs, introducing them to our world's current, former, and emerging leaders. By educating students on the lessons of the past, the problems of the present, and the opportunities of the future, we hope to prepare them for a life of servant leadership and imbue them with a dedication to the common good. The Forum often begins with a speech, panel discussion, or debate over a pressing topic. It then concludes with an unscripted question-and-answer session between the audience and the Forum speakers.

Members of the John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum Committee are responsible for assisting the Forum staff with the logistics and production of these events. This includes pre-announce, ushering, community outreach, publicity, deliberating strategy and ideation for future Forum events, reaching out to potential guests, drafting briefings, and running our social media channels. The committee has weekly meetings in the late afternoon on Fridays.

Past speakers include heads of state; leaders in politics, business, arts, and the media; academics; and activists.

The Fellows and Study Groups Program has been a cornerstone program since the founding of the IOP and connects Harvard students with practitioners in politics and civic engagement. Each semester, the IOP invites a cohort of six residential Fellows to spend a term at Harvard and share their experiences with students exploring public issues in fields from elected office, activism, journalism, and public service. This semester, Fellows will join us in-person once again, participating in weekly Study Groups, office hours, student group events, liaison team meetings, and serving as a resource to Harvard students and faculty.

Each residential Fellow hosts eight not-for-credit, off-the-record study groups throughout the semester in their areas of expertise. Study Group formats range from traditional Q&A-based discussions to skill-building workshops to open conversations between Fellows, students, and special guests. Undergraduate students are assigned roles as Liaisons for each Fellow, in which they help integrate their Fellow into the Harvard community, produce study groups, arrange community events with their Fellow, and build personal and professional relationships that often last for years to come.

Fellows and Study Groups also hosts a visiting Fellows program, in which selected individuals share their expertise in a shortened format of the residential fellowship. We hope to invite at least one visiting Fellow to campus in Spring of 2022.

FELLOWS & STUDY GROUPS

Chairs: Jessica Alexander '24 | Alexa Jordan '23
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HARVARD PUBLIC OPINION PROJECT

Chair: Alan Zhang '24

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HPOP

The Harvard Public Opinion Project (HPOP) brings to life the nation's largest poll on the political opinions and civic attitudes of young Americans aged 18 to 29. For over two decades, HPOP has illuminated the nation's most comprehensive understanding of the political beliefs, voting trends, and attitudes held by our nation's youth.

The initiative is spearheaded by undergraduate students who brainstorm and write poll questions, evaluate survey data, and share crucial findings with stakeholders ranging from national media outlets to the White House.

Beyond the biannual Harvard Youth Poll, HPOP also engages in qualitative research and analysis, from publishing op-eds articulating insights on our fellow youth to conducting focus groups with diverse participants from around the globe. Throughout the semester, HPOP explores a spectrum of political views among youth and strives to spotlight their stories, struggles, and hopes.

Ultimately, HPOP offers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to amplify the voices of young people by showcasing the story of our generation to the world.

The Harvard Political Review is a quarterly (and daily), nonpartisan journal of politics, policy, and culture written and produced entirely by Harvard College students. It was founded by a group of Harvard undergraduates in 1969 and has showcased student testimony to historical events ranging from Watergate to the January 6 insurrection. The HPR offers student perspectives on political and cultural topics at international, domestic, and local levels in the form of essays, podcasts, investigations, and data-driven storytelling.

Over the past generation, the HPR has incubated some of the best political minds in America. Among the magazine's alumni are Al Gore, Jr. (former United States Vice President and Nobel Laureate), E.J. Dionne, Jr. (Washington Post columnist), Jonathan Alter (former Newsweek Senior Editor and columnist), and Jeffrey Sachs (Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University). In recent years, HPR writers have won the National Press Club Award for Outstanding College Political Writing, and matriculated to staff positions with Politico, The New York Times, The Washington Post, Reuters, Al Jazeera, and elsewhere.

Previous projects include HPR Talk: Biden's 100 Days podcast, the 2020 Presidential Election Forecast, and the COVID-19 Campus Move-Out short film. It also publishes stand-alone interviews with prominent political figures. Past interviewees have ranged from Alan Dershowitz to Yo-Yo Ma to Malala Yousafzai.

HARVARD POLITICAL REVIEW

Chair: Swathi Kella '23

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HPR

HARVARD POLITICAL UNION

Chair: Carter Demaray '25

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HPU

The Harvard Political Union is the center for political discourse on campus. The oldest collegiate debate society in the nation, the HPU brings together students from diverse viewpoints and backgrounds in order to facilitate dynamic discussions on all things politics.

Our aim is to cultivate a culture of respectful, factual, and productive civic discourse on campus. We are grounded by our weekly Cambridge Debates, which invite all members to share opinions on critical questions about politics, international relations, and even the Harvard experience. Our discussion series hosts expert speakers to engage directly with HPU members, and our large events - - such as our annual skills-development workshop -- are focal points for civic engagement at Harvard.

The best part: each of our members has the chance to experience and contribute to these unique opportunities. We are a welcoming community of politically-oriented students excited to change minds, share knowledge, and have some fun in the process!

The Harvard Votes Challenge (HVC) is a University-wide, non-partisan effort that aims to increase voter registration, turnout, and civic engagement at Harvard and beyond. Through institutional reforms and student-driven, community-based organizing, the HVC team creates and leads an innovative campaign to mobilize voters while building campaign and leadership skills.

In partnership with students and staff at the IOP and around the University, HVC strives to cultivate a culture of civic engagement on campus. Additionally, HVC aspires to generate civic energy beyond the gates of Harvard by engaging with peer institutions in the Boston area and the higher-education community nationwide. To do all of this work, HVC is powered by seven departments: Boston Votes College, Collaborations, Communications, Community & Events, Data & Technology, Organizing, and Strategy & Operations.

In 2022, the Harvard Votes Challenge's ultimate mission is to reach the four 100s: 100% voter contact, 100% registration, 100% turnout, and 100% civic engagement at Harvard University by lowering barriers to student voting and offering resources and assistance to all students.

HARVARD VOTES CHALLENGE

Chairs: June Park '24 | Prat Mallick '25

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HVC

INTERNSHIPS & CAREER SERVICES

Chair: Jen Hughes '24

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The IOP Internships and Career Services committee is the home of internships, networking and career planning at the IOP. ICS offers comprehensive, paid, and exciting internship opportunities during the summer through the Director's Internship Program and our Summer Stipend Program. The committee also leads planning of exploratory events during the academic year in politics and public service.

ICS committee members meet on a biweekly basis to plan and execute programming geared toward professional skill development and exploration. Committee members will have the opportunity to create and run new exciting events and initiatives to help students find their pathway into public service including expanding and engaging with our alumni network, promoting equity and diversity in ICS programming, and hosting events with people and organizations in the public service.

We know that there are many barriers preventing students from pursuing careers in public service after college. Our goal is to support students by minimizing those barriers and making careers in public service accessible to everyone.



ICS

The Policy Program is an undergraduate-run think tank that allows students the opportunity to develop their skills in policy research and writing while working to effect real-world change. In the past, we have worked with commissioners such as the UN Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the National Council of State Legislators. Research from the Policy Program has helped develop new legislation, build new community programs, and analyze pressing issues facing communities and states across the country.

This semester, our five policy teams will focus on Health, Climate, Criminal Justice, Economics, and Education. Students will meet weekly with their teammates to discuss their research, learn about best practices in policy writing, and hear from distinguished guest speakers. At the end of the semester, students will have the opportunity to present their work to their commissioner and other community stakeholders.

You do not need to have policy research experience to join the Policy Program — our goal is to spark interest in public policy and for every student to learn something new!

THE POLICY PROGRAM

Chairs: Zayd Mian '23 | Victoria Wang '24
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POLITICS OF RACE & ETHNICITY

Chairs: Trey Sullivan '24 | Hiren Lemma '24

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PRE

The Politics of Race and Ethnicity (PRE) Program at the Institute of Politics is primarily a discussion-based group focused on questioning and analyzing the role of identity, especially race and ethnicity, in the political sphere. Created in 2014, PRE strives to establish a space within the IOP focused on the intersection of race, ethnicity, and politics by inviting guests speakers, hosting workshops, and facilitating student-led dialogue on topics including but not limited to minority political engagement, representation, moral versus career aspirations, immigration reform, health policy, criminal justice, and community action. In expanding the mission into service within the Cambridge/Greater Boston community, this community works to engage critically with identity within a political lens and through applicable means.

Speakers, skills development, and an open community to honestly discuss personal experiences and challenges are helpful not just to engage students, but also to support their navigation of politics in consideration of systemic prejudice on the basis of religion, race, gender, citizenship, and sexual orientation, among other axes of identity.

The IOP Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Program explores the interdisciplinary study of politics. In a time of rapid technological change, STEAM promotes intelligent policy-making capable of tackling modern societal issues. Students in the program work in small “commission” groups with Harvard faculty to conduct research on politically relevant STEAM topics over the course of the semester. Each commission culminates in a tangible deliverable, a product or policy solution, and the commissions allow students to build close mentor relationships with Harvard faculty working on the cutting edge of research.

Past commissions have included subjects such as COVID-19, politics of international trade, and cryptocurrency.

Apart from commissions, STEAM holds weekly meetings that include speakers and student-led discussions on current events. Speakers from previous years included Chairman of the House Antitrust Subcommittee and member of Democratic Leadership David Cicilline, campaign strategist and former Clinton pollster Mark Penn, and education policy advocate and expert Anne Sung.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS & MATH

Chair: Audrey Gunawan '25

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WOMEN'S INITIATIVE IN LEADERSHIP

Chair: Lena Lofgren '23

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WIL

The Women's Initiative in Leadership (WIL) connects students who identify as women with inspiring women serving as leaders in various fields and at different points of their career. WIL equips Harvard women with the necessary tools to become future leaders, in politics and in a variety of other industries. The program features weekly discussions with accomplished women from a wide range of backgrounds and professions, with whom WIL members will have the opportunity to converse and network. The program also features professional development workshops throughout the semester, in which WIL members can gain the necessary practical skills to confidently navigate internships and employment after graduation.

The Women's Initiative in Leadership meets for one hour every Friday and for one hour on workshop days every other Tuesday. WIL members can expect to meet and engage with high-achieving women in professions including public policy politics, journalism/media, non-profits, entrepreneurship, STEM, global health, and academia.

After completing their semester in WIL, members will join our community of alumnae with the knowledge necessary to serve at the forefront of leadership across professional fields as women in the 21st century.

DIRECTORS OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

The Directors of Special Projects spearhead IOP initiatives that do not have an explicit programmatic home or are "special" and novel by nature. This year, these projects will be primarily geared towards global affairs, STEM, and arts integration at the IOP. Through these projects, the DSPs aim to broaden the scope of the public service and politics at the IOP and create a more interdisciplinary environment for civic action.

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DIRECTORS OF DIVERSITY & OUTREACH

The Directors of Diversity and Outreach oversees equity, diversity, and inclusion at the Institute of Politics, chiefly outreach efforts to traditionally underrepresented communities to come and stay the IOP. They will also spearhead meaningful programming for heritage months. Ultimately, our DDOs and their organizers ensure that our programming is working to establish a more inclusive sense of community and improve disparities in representation in the IOP.

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DIRECTORS OF MEMBERSHIP

The Directors of Membership strive to drive IOP social life by organizing opportunities for members to connect. Events will range from study breaks and meals to larger-scale trips and mixers. The Directors of Membership will also work alongside the Student Advisory Committee to further the goal of fostering an inclusive community atmosphere.

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The IOP Common Application will be open from January 20th through February 2nd at 11:59 pm!

- Apply here: tinyurl.com/iopapply22
- Website: iop.harvard.edu
- Instagram: @harvardiop
- Let us know if you have any questions!