

# Electoral College Debate

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | 6pm

Commons Auditorium and Zoom Webinar

**Should we abolish the Electoral College?** Is the Electoral College an integral part of the U.S. federal system or a relic from the past that needs to be replaced with the national popular vote?

Join us as UWF professors from the Reubin O'D. Askew Department of Government debate this question. Learn more about the pros and cons of this unique American institution.



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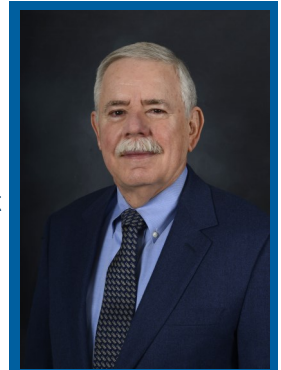
## Speakers



**Dr. Adam Cayton**

Dr. Adam Cayton is Associate Professor of American Politics in the Reubin O'D. Askew Department of Government. He received a B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from the University of North Carolina at Asheville, M.A. and Ph.D in Political Science from the University of Colorado, Boulder. A few of his most frequently offered courses are Legislative Process, the Presidency, Political Parties and Interest Groups, and American Politics. His current research examines how elected representatives balance competing political pressures in legislation and public communication.

Dr. Alfred Cuzán is Distinguished University Professor of Political Science in the Reubin O'D. Askew Department of Government. He received a B.A. in Government and Economics from the University of Miami, M.A. and Ph.D in Political Science from Indiana University. A few of his most frequently offered courses are Democracies, Dictatorships, Great World Leaders and Political Economy. He has received fellowships from a variety of prominent organizations, including the Heritage Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, Florida Institute of Government and the Fulbright Program. Author of nearly one hundred articles and review essays and the 2022 book *Laws of Politics: Their Operations in Democracies and Dictatorships*. His current research studies the results of election returns from around the world, positing that there is a “cost of ruling” for governing parties across all democracies that approximates an exponential decay function.



**Dr. Alfred Cuzán**

## Moderator



**Dr. David Ramsey**

Dr. David Ramsey is Associate Professor and Chair of the Reubin O'D. Askew Department of Government. He received a B.A. in Government and English from Berry College, M.A. in Liberal Arts from St. John's College, and Ph.D. in Political Science from Baylor University. Among his most frequently offered courses are Federalism and the Separation of Powers, Individual Rights and Privileges, Law and Literature, and Ancient Political Philosophy. His first book was on antitrust law, *Antitrust and the Supreme Court*. He has recently edited the eighth edition of *American Political Rhetoric* and the first volume of *The Papers of Roger Brooke Taney*.

# Program

## **Introductory Remarks**

*Moderator, Dr. David Ramsey*

## **Affirmative Constructive Case**

*Dr. Adam Cayton makes his case for replacing the Electoral College (6 minutes)*

## **Negative Cross-Examination**

*Dr. Alfred Cuzán cross-examines Dr. Cayton, asking questions (3 minutes)*

## **Negative Case and Negative Refutation of Affirmative Case**

*Dr. Cuzán makes his case for preserving the Electoral College (7 minutes)*

## **Affirmative Cross-Examination**

*Dr. Cayton cross-examines Dr. Cuzán, asking questions (3 minutes)*

## **Affirmative Refutation of Negative Case and Rebuilding of Affirmative Case**

*Dr. Cayton offers counter-refutation (4 minutes)*

## **Negative Rebuilding of Negative Case and Closing Argument**

*Final remarks of Dr. Cuzán (6 minutes)*

## **Affirmative Rebuttal and Closing Argument**

*Final remarks of Dr. Cayton (3 minutes)*

## **Q & A**

*Faculty respond to questions from the audience (20 minutes)*

## **Resolved:**

The Electoral College should be replaced with a national popular vote.

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