

# Spring Quarter Professional Development Day

Navigating Political Discussions and Inspiring Student Activism

Friday, April 21

8:00am - 1:30pm

Room 8403

The purpose of this professional development event is to provide faculty and staff actionable information around addressing politics and inspiring student activism. We will have talks on a wide range of topics, including:

- The rise of American authoritarianism and the psychological divide between liberals and conservatives
- What are the legal guidelines for faculty and staff around political speech in the classroom and on campus?
- What are tips for faculty and staff to address politics in way that fosters engagement from students of all political backgrounds?
- How can faculty and staff be an ally and resource to undocumented students?
- How can faculty and staff inspire students to engage in political and civic activism?

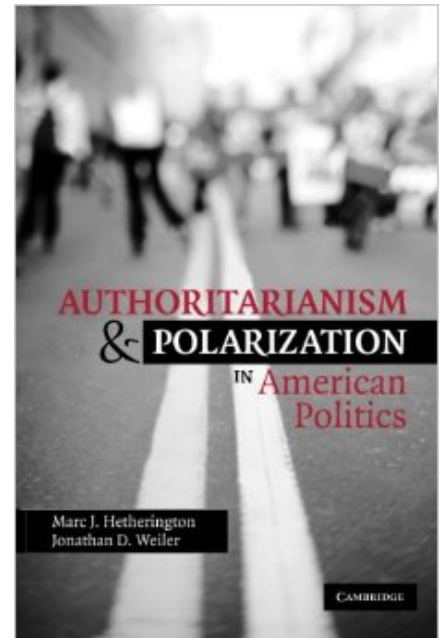
## Keynote Speaker

### Jonathan Weiler, PhD

Professor Jonathan Weiler is the co-author of *Authoritarianism and Polarization in American Politics*. He is currently the director of undergraduate studies and senior lecturer of Global Studies at the UNC Chapel Hill.

My talk will focus on the acrimonious state of American politics. In particular, I will address the deep personality divisions between liberals and conservatives that seem to be at the heart of our political divisions. I will focus especially on how a psychological tendency toward authoritarianism came, over time, to influence the Republican Party more broadly, culminating in the emergence of Donald Trump as a serious and ultimately successful presidential candidate. I will also consider how the authoritarian-minded orientation of the GOP is now manifest in their approach to governing.

**Full schedule below**



**Register:**

<https://tinyurl.com/jhmayaw>

**All talks are in room 8403**

**Coffee & Greeting**

**8:00-8:30am**

**Outside room 8403**

**8:00-8:30am**    **Coffee and Greeting, outside room 8304**

**8:30-9:45**    **Keynote Address: Authoritarianism and Polarization in American Politics**

*Dr. Jonathan Wieler, PhD*

My talk will focus on the acrimonious state of American politics. In particular, I will address the deep personality divisions between liberals and conservatives that seem to be at the heart of our political divisions. I will focus especially on how a psychological tendency toward authoritarianism came, over time, to influence the Republican Party more broadly, culminating in the emergence of Donald Trump as a serious and ultimately successful presidential candidate. I will also consider how the authoritarian-minded orientation of the GOP is now manifest in their approach to governing.

**9:45-10:45**    **Political Values in the Classroom: What Can We Do? What We Should Do?**

*Nicholas González Yuen, Ph.D*

*Instructor, Political Science Department, De Anza College*

As educators in these challenging political times, what can and what should we do to help our students navigate and respond to the issues of the day? What is appropriate? What is legal? What is best for our students? In this workshop we'll examine some do's and don'ts and gray areas regarding politics in the classroom, explore the role of values in teaching, and collectively work through some of the thorny issues surrounding politics, pedagogy and how best to help our students find their way in these times.

**11:00-12:00**    **Supporting Undocumented Students**

*Nancy Jodaitis, representative from Educators for Fair Consideration (E4FC)*

<http://www.e4fc.org/home.html>

E4FC is an organization that seeks to empower undocumented young people to achieve educational and career goals through personal, institutional and policy transformation. Representatives from the organization will explain what you can do to be an ally to and help undocumented students.



**12:00-12:30**    **Lunch, outside room 8403**

**12:30-1:30**    **Supporting Student Activism**

*Cynthia Kaufmann, PhD, Director of the Vasconcellos Institute for Democracy in Action at De Anza College & Philosophy Instructor*

Students can be inspired by the things we say to them, but unless there are ways for them to get together and form collective bonds around making a difference, that inspiration will tend dissipate. This interactive workshop will explore the kinds of structures and processes that can be developed to hold and cultivate student activism.