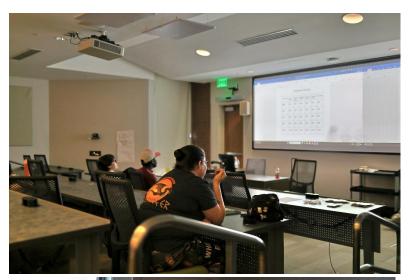
### Declaring Independence on Constitution Day by Dr. Grace Adams-Square

The week of September 15, 2025, was a classic tribute of civic engagement at Middle Georgia State University as Constitution Day was observed on multiple campuses.

### **Macon Campus**

Dr. John Hall Associate Professor Department of History & Political Science led Constitution Day Jeopardy games with students on Monday, September 15, 2025. Dr. Elaina Behounek, Associate Professor in Sociology and Criminal Justice and Dr. Hall discussed 4th Amendment case law on Tuesday, September 16, 2025. Dr. James Decker, Professor in Department of History & Political Science and Dr. Hall discussed contemporary issues regarding constitutional law on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, and moderated by Dr. Christopher Lawrence, Professor Department of History & Political Science.







# Warner Robins Campus





The efforts on the Warner Robins Campus were monumental. It was the first time ever that the American Government class hosted a Constitution Day extravaganza under the direction of Dr. Grace Adams-Square, Assistant Professor Political Science. Elizabeth Ruff Reference and Instruction Librarian for the Warner Robins campus shared a table with a student. The class partnered with Roksana Priest MGA Student Services Coordinator Office of Student Life. Ms. Priest transformed Oak Hall into a patriotic oasis, with food, gift bags, American flags and pocket Constitution Books. Alex Elder Facilities Manager, helped with setting up.

The class was divided into two. Half the class designed Constitution Day activities. The other half of the class created American 250 projects. Each student was required to submit an After-Action report to record their observation and self-reflection. One student led-on reporting and capturing the events for Tuesday, September 16, 2025, and her report is below along with pictures from other classmates:

Constitution Day 2025 After Action Report by Alexia McNeal

On September 17, 1787, the Constitution was signed by 39 delegates to the Constitutional



Convention in Philadelphia. Every year, many educational institutions hold programs about the Constitution. Middle Georgia State University is one of these college campuses. Students gathered to celebrate the ratification of the U.S. Constitution and honor new citizens by creating activities for students

and faculty to reflect on many historical events. The Warner Robins Campus decided to celebrate with students on September 16, 2025. Dr. Adams-Square's American Government class gathered at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate Constitution Day 2025 in Oak Hall, bringing activities for everyone to enjoy. Students organized and led a variety of activities, including Games, Trivia, Jeopardy, Uno, and memory games. Tensions rose during Kahoot games and made the whole class feel closer

than ever before. We communicated about accomplishments and struggles with our subject matter and had enlightening conversations about our history.

My project was on the reflection of the Federalist Papers. I reviewed with several students a few different articles and explained how they explain the "why?" behind the Constitution. It is important when celebrating America turning 250 to reflect not only the history of our great nation, but also the people who made it happen.



When creating this project, I learned a lot about the Federalist Papers. The Federalist Papers matter today because they explain why our Constitution was built the way that it was, and those same debates about power, rights, and unity are still issues we face today. But after presenting it to students and faculty, I found that it is also important to be able to speak up about these historical events. I learned that while yes, doing the work is important, advocating for it is even more crucial.



So, while I was correct in my initial paper about reflection being the best way to celebrate America turning 250, it is also just as important to be able to have conversations with others about it and be able to further your peers' knowledge on the subject.

### **Cochran Campus Part 1**

The Cochran campus has continuously led the Constitution Day effort under the direction of Dr. Adams-Square for several years. This year September 17, 2025, was not any different. Two Hybrid American Government classes met in Georgia Hall President's Dining room, and partnered with Hope D. Fuqua-Duskin, Student Services Coordinator Welch Hall, Cochran Campus Office of Student Life. Hope provided a festive atmosphere with balloons, music, decorated tables and food. Dr. Matthew Caverly, Assistant Professor in Public Safety, visited students' stations, listening to student presentations, engaging in Constitution Day activities, offering words of encouragement and advice.



Jessica Williams Reference & Instruction Librarian Library Liaison for School of Education and Behavioral Science and Ann Williams Assistant Director of Library Services - Cochran Campus Library were re-certified to have a (non-partisan) voter registration events here on the Cochran Campus and set-up a beautifully decorated table including Hamilton buttons outside the President' Dining Hall. Approximately 127 students attended. Teresa Lorick, Coordinator of Academic and Administrative Projects Office of the Provost for facilitated room reservation and set-up.







## Cochran Campus Part 2

We concluded Constitution Day on the Cochran Campus with one student sharing her perspective of the day's events:

# Constitution Day by Caroline Johnson

On September 17th, 1787, our founding fathers came together to sign the United States Constitution. The constitution established the government America still uses today. The constitution also establishes all individual rights we as Americans have. To celebrate the US

Constitution, we now celebrate Constitution Day. One of the purposes of

Constitution Day is to get the students to understand what the

constitution really means rather than just teaching them facts about

the signing of the constitution.

In our class, Professor Adams-Square let students work on individual projects or work in groups to choose a part of the Constitution to make a game about and share it with other students. Students selected ideas such as the checks and balances, the Bill of Rights, Articles of Confederation, the Amendments to the Constitution including the 1st, 5th, 6th, 16th, 22nd, 25th, and the 27th amendments.

This year with roughly 20 different groups in this class students came up with fun ideas such as cup pong, racing for rights, darts, blackjack, matching games, jeopardy, to teach about the Constitution in fun and exciting ways. This class perfectly demonstrated how to have fun while learning, creating and sharing and explaining!

David Robinson, Jordan Oladele-Samagbeyi and Tate Niederkorn chose to do a group project demonstration using the 16th amendment by creating a blackjack game. They would play blackjack with a student and then would explain what the 16th amendment is and how it ties into anything involving money.

Christian Lidell worked independently and made a wheel of fortune!

Her project was based off the 5th, 6th and 7th Amendments of the

Constitution. People could spin the wheel and whatever it landed on,
they were asked a question and to see if they could answer it correctly.

Lathan Johnson and Javier Andres worked together to create a game called Amendment Madness. This game was based off the amendments of the constitution. This game takes 2 people to play! The goal of the game is to flip the cup and land it. The first person to land it gets to answer a question based on the amendments of the constitution. If the question is answered right that person scores a point. If answers were wrong, the other person gets to answer. The winner of this game wins some candy!

Freya Howard and Carlee Mcbride chose to do a game of cup pong based off the 1st Amendment of the Constitution. One side of the table is the government the other side is the citizens. Each cup has an action or a right. If the government makes the ball into a cup, the citizen has to say why the action they landed on would be part of the first amendment. If the citizens make a ball into the cup, the government must name a real-life scenario or example of the right the citizen lands on. If a team answers the question right, they get to keep the cup. If they answer it wrong, the cup stays out!

Makenzzie Jones and Emily Brunson came together to make a fun way on how to teach people about the 1st Amendment. They give you a car you roll to try to get onto the different cards on the table. Each card has a number of points on it as well as a question on it. if you get the question right, you get those points! The goal of this game is to get as many points as you can and if you reach 100 points, you win! Having a day to learn about the constitution is important in the United States and Professor Adams-Square did a great job getting us to learn about the constitution and a fun way in which we will never forget. We

all got to come together and become closer friends while learning about something that allows us to live the way we do every day of our lives.



