



# These Truths at 250



## Exhibition

April 13-17, 2026  
Foyer P2-P5

EXHIBITION OPENING  
Mon, Apr 13, 2.15-3pm  
Foyer P2-P5  
Philosophicum



# History of U.S. Democracy: Looking Back in Uncertain Times

### Posters | Podcasts | Videos | Social Media Posts

250 years after the Declaration of Independence—in times when U.S. democracy is increasingly under scrutiny—it is essential to turn to its historical conceptions in order to understand current issues and trends. The student projects in this exhibition shed light on historical developments and current debates in U.S. democracy in a variety of media formats.

Topics include:

- History of populism
- Media and propaganda
- Free speech
- Women's roles in U.S. democracy
- Language and democracy

The posters, podcasts, videos, and social media posts were produced by students of American Studies (M.A.) and English (M.Ed.) in the Cultural Studies course "The History of U.S. Democracy: Looking Back in Uncertain Times," taught by **Dr. Julia Velten**. We are grateful to the **Gutenberg Lehrkolleg (GLK)** for funding the course as an innovative teaching project and thank the **LeaF.Lab** as well as the **Zentrum für Audiovisuelle Produktion (ZAP)** for their production support during the creation of the videos and podcasts. The exhibition is part of the **Obama Institute event series** on the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence "These Truths at 250".