

- 1 a. educate students in the principles, ideals, and
2 institutions of the American political order,
3 including the character traits and durable habits
4 necessary to sustain that order,
- 5 b. educate students in the philosophical foundations of
6 responsible leadership and informed citizenship,
- 7 c. promote and provide programming related to civic
8 education, engagement, and discourse,
- 9 d. enhance education in the fields of political thought
10 and science, American history and government, free
11 market economics, and other related fields as
12 appropriate, with a focus on the foundations of
13 Western and American civilization, including its great
14 books, the rights and responsibilities of American
15 citizenship, fundamental democratic principles and
16 mores, and the ways in which those principles and
17 mores are expressed in and through mediating
18 institutions at the federal, state, and local levels,
- 19 e. provide viewpoint and ideologically diverse resources
20 to students, faculty, state government agencies and
21 actors, educators, and the general public regarding
22 civic affairs, and
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24

1 f. assist in ensuring that the University of Oklahoma
2 serves as a robust marketplace of ideas for all
3 students and faculty.

4 2. In order to carry out the purposes set forth in paragraph 1
5 of subsection A of this section, the School is authorized to:

- 6 a. enroll students,
7 b. hire tenure-track and nontenured faculty and
8 supporting staff,
9 c. develop and offer in-person courses and online
10 instruction in new graduate and undergraduate major
11 and minor programs,
12 d. develop an undergraduate American institutions and
13 civic knowledge course in anticipation of a future
14 mandate requiring all University of Oklahoma students
15 to complete such a course to graduate,
16 e. offer general education and honors courses, including
17 courses in the University of Oklahoma's Gateway to
18 College Learning program,
19 f. offer concurrent enrollment,
20 g. provide and facilitate internships and other relevant
21 experiences for students and the general public,
22 h. hold events, and
23 i. take other actions as appropriate, subject to the
24 supervision of the School's director, to be selected

1 as provided in this section, and the general
2 supervision of the president of the University of
3 Oklahoma (president).

4 3. Upon its establishment, the School may be physically housed
5 on the University of Oklahoma's Norman Campus.

6 4. The School shall operate as an academic unit within the
7 University of Oklahoma.

8 B. The School and its director, who shall be appointed as
9 provided below, shall be advised by an advisory board (board) on
10 matters related to the School, including, but not limited to,
11 staffing, curriculum, policy, and programming, in accordance with
12 the policies and procedures of the University of Oklahoma.

13 1. The board shall be composed of ten (10) members, appointed
14 as follows:

15 a. the Governor shall appoint one member,

16 b. the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives
17 shall appoint one member,

18 c. the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate
19 shall appoint one member, and

20 d. the remaining members shall be the University of
21 Oklahoma Board of Regents.

22 2. Members of the initial board must be appointed by December
23 31, 2024.

1 3. All terms of the members appointed pursuant to subparagraphs
2 a, b, and c of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall expire May 31 of
3 the sixth year after appointment.

4 4. The members appointed pursuant to subparagraphs a, b, and c
5 of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be, or have been, academic
6 or administrative personnel at an American institution of higher
7 education, such that, unless there is a temporary vacancy, the board
8 should have no less than three appointees who are, or have been,
9 academic or administrative personnel at an American institution of
10 higher education.

11 5. After the initial appointments expire, subsequent
12 appointments shall be six (6) years. Board members may continue to
13 serve on the board after their term expires, but only until a new
14 member is appointed to replace the sitting board member. Board
15 members may be reappointed. All appointments, including to fill
16 vacancies for unexpired terms, shall be filled in the same manner as
17 the original appointment such that the appropriate appointing
18 authority – the Governor, the Speaker, or the Pro Tempore – shall
19 retain control over their respective board member's seat.

20 6. Board members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing
21 authority.

22 7. The president shall appoint a vice president of civic
23 thought and leadership (vice president) by December 31, 2024. The
24 vice president shall serve at the pleasure of the president. The

1 vice president shall also chair the board, convene its first
2 meeting, receive appointment notifications, and serve as an ex
3 officio board member. If the vice president resigns, the president
4 shall name a replacement. During the period beginning when the
5 position of vice president becomes vacant and when a new vice
6 president is named, the board may elect from among its members
7 someone to serve as interim chair, who shall be relieved of duty
8 upon the president's naming a new vice president.

9 C. By March 31, 2025, the board, or a committee of the board
10 selected by the board, shall conduct a national search and transmit
11 to the president a list of finalists for the position of director.
12 The president shall provide all necessary administrative support for
13 the search. The president shall appoint the director from the list
14 of finalists provided by the board. If the position of director
15 becomes vacant, then the same process must be followed to appoint a
16 new director. During the period beginning when the position of
17 director becomes vacant and when a new director is appointed, the
18 president may designate a member of the School's faculty to serve as
19 acting director until the director position is filled. The
20 president may remove the director in accordance with the policies
21 and procedures of the University of Oklahoma.

22 1. The director shall report to the vice president.

23 2. Except for their own appointment, the director shall make
24 all faculty and staff hiring decisions. The director shall operate

1 the School in accordance with the policies and procedures of the
2 University of Oklahoma.

3 3. Faculty of the School may be awarded tenure subject to the
4 tenure policies of the University of Oklahoma as adopted by the
5 University's board of regents, and shall not be required to gain
6 joint appointment in another division of the University of Oklahoma.
7 If a faculty member is awarded tenure and the School later
8 dissolves, the faculty member shall be relocated within another
9 academic unit of the University of Oklahoma.

10 4. By March 1, 2026, and by each March 1 thereafter, the
11 director shall develop and provide an annual strategic plan for the
12 School to the president, the vice president, and the board.

13 D. The University of Oklahoma Board of Regents may use funds
14 allocated to it by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
15 and charitable donations to fund the School of American Civic
16 Thought and Leadership. Funds allocated to the School shall not
17 supplant any existing state funding or charitable donations to the
18 University of Oklahoma. All allocated funds and charitable
19 donations to the School may only be used for the direct operation of
20 the School.

21 E. By September 1, 2026, and by each September 1 thereafter,
22 the president shall, in consultation with the director of the
23 School, its board, and the vice president, submit an annual report
24 to the Governor, the Speaker, the Pro Tempore, and the chairs of the

1 legislative appropriations, budget, and finance committees with
2 jurisdiction over budget allocations. The initial annual report
3 shall include all relevant data from the founding of the institute
4 through September 1, 2026. The report must include:

5 1. The total amount of funding received by the School in the
6 previous year;

7 2. A description of current faculty positions and the names and
8 qualifications of the faculty members currently holding such
9 positions;

10 3. The names and titles of the members of the board;

11 4. The total graduate and undergraduate enrollment of the
12 School, and concurrent enrollment, if any;

13 5. A description of the courses and degrees offered by the
14 School;

15 6. A description of significant community events, initiatives,
16 and publications provided by the School during the previous year;

17 7. A description of programs at the University of Oklahoma
18 supported by the School; and

19 8. A copy of the School's most recently issued strategic plan.

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
23 02/29/2024 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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