



Upcoming Events

- ★ [Election Day](#)

Useful Links

- ★ [Candidates](#)
- ★ [Debates](#)
- ★ [News](#)
- ★ [Polls](#)
- ★ [Speeches](#)
- ★ [Voting Registration and Absentee Ballot Requests](#)

Past Events

- ★ [Lectures and Debates](#)

Upcoming Events

Election Day

- ★ Tuesday, Nov. 4 | GET OUT AND VOTE:
You can make a difference!

Useful Links

Candidates

- ★ McCain-Palin Website: www.johnmccain.com
- ★ Obama-Biden Website: www.barackobama.com
- ★ Roll Call - Presidential Race: congress.org/election/home/
- ★ You Decide 2008: www.youdecide2008.com

Debates

- ★ League of Women Voters Debate Watching Tools: tinyurl.com/52oc5p

News

- ★ BBC News: news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/americas/2008/vote_usa_2008/default.stm
- ★ CNN: www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/
- ★ Election TV: www.election.tv/
- ★ Fox News: elections.foxnews.com/
- ★ NPR: www.npr.org/templates/topics/topic.php?topicId=1102
- ★ Reuters: www.reuters.com/news/globalcoverage/2008candidates
- ★ The New York Times: elections.nytimes.com/2008/
- ★ U.S. News: www.usnews.com/Topics/tag/Subject/p/presidential_election_2008/

Polls

- ★ Election 2008 Polls: www.election2008polls.com/
- ★ Gallup: www.gallup.com/tag/Election%2B2008.aspx
- ★ Pew: tinyurl.com/539ceu
- ★ Rasmussen: www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_20082/2008_presidential_election
- ★ USAToday Presidential Poll Tracker: www.usatoday.com/news/politics/election2008/poll-tracker.htm

Speeches

- ★ Transcripts of the Candidates' Speeches: 2008election.procon.org/viewresource.asp?resourceID=1568

Voting, Registration, and Absentee Ballot Requests

- ★ Go Vote Absentee: govoteabsentee.org
- ★ Rock The Vote: www.rockthevote.com/
- ★ US Census Bureau Voting Information: www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html
- ★ Vote 411: www.vote411.org
- ★ Voting and Elections: www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Voting.shtml

Past Events

Lectures and Debates

- ★ Thursday, Sept. 11 | The Road to 2008: Presidential Politics Today: www.williams.edu/admin/news/releases/1674
Arianna Huffington is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of The Huffington Post, a nationally syndicated columnist, and author of 12 books. She is also co-host of Left, Right & Center, public radio's popular political roundtable program. In 2006, she was named to the Time 100, Time Magazine's list of the world's 100 most influential people. Sponsored by the President's Office, the Class of '71 Public Affairs Forum, and the Lecture Committee. 8 p.m., Chapin Hall.
- ★ Friday, Sept. 26 | Media, Politics, and the Iraq War: www.williams.edu/admin/news/releases/1680
A conversation about the political affairs of the day with John Walcott '71, Washington Bureau Chief of the McClatchy Co.; Rex Smith, editor in chief of the Albany Times Union; and Michael MacDondald, Williams' Frederick L. Schuman Prof. of International Relations. Walcott is credited with almost independently refuting the Bush Administration about the need for war in Iraq. Sponsored by The Williams Record. Followed by a screening of the presidential debate. 7:30 p.m., Griffin 3.
- ★ Friday, Sept. 26 | PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: Foreign Policy and National Security: www.olemiss.edu/debate
Moderated by Jim Lehrer of PBS at the University of Mississippi. The debate will be broken into nine 9-minute segments. The moderator will introduce a topic and allow each candidate 2 minutes to comment, then facilitate a discussion for the remaining 5 minutes. The debate airs at 9 p.m. for 90 minutes and will be shown in Paresky Auditorium, preceded by pizza at 8:30.
- ★ Saturday, Sept. 27 | The Race for the Presidency 2008: www.williams.edu/alumni
The Race for the Presidency 2008. Lifelong Learning Program with James McAllister, Professor of Political Science and Chair of Leadership Studies. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Alumni Relations Department. 10 a.m., Paresky Auditorium.
- ★ Monday, Sept. 29 | Every Vote Counts?:
Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium Talk by Ali Barrett '09. What makes one voting system better than another? Is there a "best" voting system? Will your insincere vote ever cause a more desirable outcome than your sincere vote? Ali will discuss and prove the Gibbard-Satterthwaite Theorem, which states that in the case of three or more candidates and a finite set of voters, no "reasonable" and non-manipulable voting method exists -- unless you consider a dictatorship to be reasonable! 1 p.m., Bronfman 106.
- ★ Thursday, Oct. 2 | VICE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: Palin and Biden: debate.wustl.edu
Moderated by Gwen Ifill of PBS at Washington University in St. Louis. Ms. Ifill is a Williams Honorary Degree recipient. The debate airs at 9 p.m. and will be shown in Paresky Auditorium.
- ★ Monday, Oct. 6 | Models for Electing and Ranking: www.williams.edu/go/atwilliams
Math/Stats Colloquium by Prof. Michel Balinski, Ecole Polytechnique and CNRS, Paris. The problem presented by elections and more generally competitions is this: There are several judges, or many voters, each with their own opinions and objectives about who should be the winner and what should be the order-of-finish of the competitors or candidates. They must be amalgamated into a decision of the jury or of the electorate. An examination of various models. 1 p.m., Bronfman 106.
- ★ Monday, Oct. 6 | The Failure of the U.S. Electoral System: www.williams.edu/admin/news/releases/1688
Lecture by Professor Michel Balinski '54, Ecole Polytechnique and CNRS, Paris. With today's electoral system a minority can elect a president, a tiny percentage of the population elects half

of the members of the Senate, a minority of the electorate can elect a majority in the House of Representatives, and the apportionment of Representatives to States is biased. And yet, we pretend that the United States is the leading democracy of the world! 7 p.m., Wege Auditorium, Chemistry 123.

- ★ Monday, Oct. 6 | U.S. Strategy in Iraq: Past, Present, and Future:
www.williams.edu/admin/news/releases/1691

Stephen Biddle is a Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. Award-winning author of *Military Power: Explaining Victory and Defeat in Modern Battle*, Biddle is a former Associate Professor and Elihu Root Chair of Military Studies at the U.S. Army War College Strategic Studies Institute. His areas of expertise include U.S. national security policy, military strategy, the conduct of war, technology in modern warfare, and recent operations in the war on terror. Sponsored by the Stanley Kaplan Program in American Foreign Policy. 7:30 p.m., Griffin 3.

- ★ Tuesday, Oct. 7 | PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: Town Hall: www.belmontdebate08.com

Moderated by Tom Brokaw of NBC at Belmont University in Nashville. The moderator will call on members of the audience (and draw questions from the Internet). Each candidate will have 2 minutes to respond to each question. Following those initial answers, the moderator will invite the candidates to respond to the previous answers, for a total of 1 minute. The debate airs at 9 p.m. for 90 minutes and will be shown in Paresky Auditorium.

- ★ Saturday, Oct. 11 | The Race for the Presidency 2008:

The Race for the Presidency 2008. Lifelong Learning Program with James McAllister, Professor of Political Science and Chair of Leadership Studies. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Alumni Relations Office. 10 a.m., Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall.

- ★ Wednesday, Oct. 15 | PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: Domestic and Economic Policy:
www.hofstra.edu/debate

Moderated by Bob Schieffer of CBS at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. The debate will be broken into nine 9-minute segments. The moderator will introduce a topic and allow each candidate 2 minutes to comment, then facilitate a discussion for the remaining 5 minutes. In addition, each candidate will get a 90-second closing statement. The debate airs at 9 p.m. for 90 minutes and will be shown in Paresky Auditorium.

- ★ Monday, Oct. 21 | Janet Brown of the Commission on Presidential Debates:
www.williams.edu/admin/news/releases/1699

Janet H. Brown is the executive director of the Commission on Presidential Debates, an organization that was established in 1987 to sponsor and produce presidential and vice presidential debates during each general-election period. Brown will be interviewed by Edward Burger, Gaudino Scholar and Professor of Mathematics, in the second in a series of dialogues entitled, "Failing to Succeed" Live, unscripted, interviews with alumni about their failures, triumphs, and creativity. Sponsored by the Gaudino Fund. 8 p.m., Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall.

- ★ Saturday, Oct. 25 | The United States of Mathematics Presidential Debate:

Family Days Faculty Lecture with Colin Adams and Tom Garrity, professors of mathematics. Who should be the next president of the United States of Mathematics? Should it be the figure-eight knot, who represents new mathematics, and the changes we believe in, or should it be the Euclidean algorithm, who represents the stability that comes from the traditional roots of mathematics? In this bare-knuckled debate, the two candidates will do their best to humiliate each other in a public forum, and thereby secure the votes they need to lead mathematics to further greatness. No particular mathematical or political background assumed. 10 a.m., Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall.

- ★ Monday, Oct. 27 | Lipstick Republicans and Why They Make the Left Crazy:
www.williams.edu/admin/news/releases/1701

Jane Swift, former Governor of Mass., began her career in government as an aide to a state legislator. In 1991 she was elected to the Mass. Senate, becoming the youngest woman to serve in that body. In 1998, she was elected Lieutenant Governor and in 2001 she became the first female Governor of the Commonwealth. Swift is active in The Republican Majority for Choice, the Republican Leadership Council and serves as an advisor on education issues to Senator John McCain's Presidential Campaign. Most recently, she has served the McCain campaign as Chair of the Palin Truth Squad. 8 p.m., Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall.

- ★ Monday, Oct. 30 | Palinland: How the 1960's Influenced Conservative Republicans:
www.ourfuture.org/users/rick-perlstein

Rick Perlstein is the author of the New York Times bestseller *Nixonland: The Rise of a President and the Fracturing of America*. His first book, *Before The Storm: Barry Goldwater and the Unmaking of the American Consensus*, won the 2001 Los Angeles Times Book Award for history. A former

writer for The Village Voice and The New Republic, he is currently a Senior Fellow at the Campaign for America's Future where he writes for their blog about the failures of conservative governance. 8 p.m., Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall.

★ Monday, Oct. 30 | Williams (Presidential) Public Debate: www.williams.edu/go/atwilliams

The Williams Debate team will be hosting a public debate between student representatives from each grade level of varying party affiliations. Controversial topics, audience questions, and comedic interludes are all on the agenda, and all are invited to attend. Support your peers, your professor-representatives, and your party! 8 p.m., Paresky Auditorium.

★ [back to top](#) ★ www.williams.edu ★ williams.edu/home/focus/election/

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