

Workshop 3: GenAI and Civic Engagement

Title: *Building Political Power with GenAI: AI as a Civic Ally*

Time: 60-75 minutes

Objective: Students will explore how GenAI can support civic engagement and propose ethical AI tools to strengthen democracy.

Agenda

Time	Activity	Description
0–10 min	<i>Icebreaker</i>	“Have you used AI (like ChatGPT) for anything civic or political?” Discuss any surprises or concerns.
10–20 min	<i>Direct Instruction</i>	Use slides 3–5 (DebunkBot & Peaches Bot). Emphasize benefits of AI when designed ethically.
20–35 min	<i>Case Study Brainstorm</i>	In groups, analyze civic use cases from slide 7 (language access, data visualization, scenario planning). Students imagine their own AI civic tool idea and fill out a prompt: Who is the audience? What civic problem is addressed?
35–45 min	<i>Design Jam</i>	Students sketch or write out a chatbot, image prompt, or use case scenario based on their tool idea.
45–55 min	<i>Mini Presentations</i>	Each group shares their AI civic tool concept. Peers vote on “most likely to succeed,” “most creative,” etc.
55–60 min	<i>Exit Question</i>	“What’s one way GenAI could empower your community civically or politically?”

*Lesson plan developed as part of a fellowship project with generous support from [the UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement](#).

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