

2026 Action Academy Syllabus

States of Focus

<u>WEST</u>	<u>MIDWEST</u>	<u>EAST</u>	<u>SOUTH</u>
California	Ohio	Pennsylvania	Texas
Nevada	Michigan	New York	Alabama
Arizona	Wisconsin	Maine	Mississippi
Washington	Illinois	Virginia	Tennessee
Alaska	Iowa	North Carolina	Georgia
	Minnesota	Maryland	Louisiana
	Nebraska		

Schedule Tues & Thurs @ 10a PST (Pacific Standard Time)

Week	Date	Theme	Guest Speakers
0	6/16	Welcome Orientation 1 <i>Getting grounded in community, the mission, and each other before the real work begins</i>	Action Academy Team + Common Power Fieldwork
	6/17	Welcome Orientation 2	
1	6/23	Democracy is unfinished business <i>Exploring the promises of democracy and the gap between vision and reality in America</i>	Dr Yohuro Williams, PhD
	6/25		
2	6/30	The Political Compass <i>Find your political vibe & meet your State Crew</i> Organizing 101: How we Common Power things <i>Why Common Power is the organizing force</i>	Action Academy leads + Fieldwork
	7/2	Intro to Digital Activism <i>Using your platforms responsibly</i>	Feel Good Action

3	7/7	The Democracy Arc <i>The long and winding road The ups, downs, and plot twists in the American democratic journey</i>	Dr David Domke, PhD
	7/9		
4	7/14	Reconstruction Dreams to Jim Crow nightmares <i>When the promise of progress hit a hard historical U-turn</i>	Dr Terry Scott, PhD
	7/16	How to Write a Revolution (Legally): The Voting Rights Act of 1965 <i>The Act that turned protest into policy</i>	
5	7/21	OG's of the movement <i>Fred Shuttlesworth, leaders leading the way</i>	Filmmaker T. Marie King
	7/23	Peaceful, not Passive <i>The discipline behind the movement and what still works now</i>	Action Academy team + Common Power Fieldwork
6	7/28	Voting Rights Reboot: Legacy, Legislation, and Lewis <i>Honoring the past, protecting the future</i>	Action Academy Alum Pouya Sourì, Sr Associate Fieldwork at CP, Law Student and JD candidate
	7/30	Straight outta Selma <i>Ordinary people with extraordinary resilience</i>	Mr. Charles Mauldin, Foot Soldier of Selma, AL
7	8/4	The Empire Strikes back <i>The resurgence of White Supremacy in the Post Civil Rights Era</i>	Dr Hassan Jeffries, PhD
	8/6	Progress & Pushback <i>Where do we go from here</i>	
8	8/11	Drawing the Line <i>How maps dilute the vote</i>	Bernadette Reyes, UCLA Law Voting Rights Project
	8/13	Justice over the Law <i>Because not everything legal is Just</i>	Attorney Laurel Hattix
9	8/18	Leadership that Changes Things <i>What it looks like to lead social change with intention, humility, and lasting impact.</i>	Dr Maya Soetoro, PhD
	8/20		

10	8/25	Think like a juror, act like a Fact-Checker <i>Disinfo-proof your activism and sharpen your civic BS radar.</i>	Ahmed Baba, MSNBC & CNN Commentator and co-founder of Rant Media
	8/27	Level Up Your Likes: Activism Meets Algorithm <i>When civic engagement goes digital, everyone plays a part.</i>	FGA Feel Good Action Dream Team Jes, Jen & Ben
Graduation Day: August 28, 2026 Time: TBD			