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(Courtesy of the PSSA and the SGA)

Student Voter's Guide

To the March 24th Presidential Primary

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Political Science Student Association

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Supporting Organization:

The UNG American Democracy Project

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This voter's guide is designed to assist University of North Georgia students in the March 24th presidential primary vote. The guide contains information on the Democratic and Republican nominees for president.

This guide is a unique benefit to UNG students as the questions reprinted here were gathered from our students. In the spring of 2020, the PSSA surveyed UNG students regarding the issues about which they are most concerned. This guide presents candidate information for the four top issues.

We've done our best to provide as much information as possible given both space limitations and information availability. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Every effort was made to accurately represent candidate positions.

Print versions of this guide and other primary information material were produced by OfficeMax of Gainesville, GA using funding from the SGA. The PSSA thanks both for their efforts. We are also very grateful for the ongoing support of the **UNG American Democracy Project**.

An important note about REGISTRATION:

To vote in the March 24th primary, you must have been registered by February 24th. If you were not registered by then, you may not vote in this primary. However, you may *always* register for future elections. You can register online here:

<https://registertovote.sos.ga.gov/>

To check your registration status, or for ballot and polling place information, see:

<https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, all information is from candidate web sites. Editing was kept to a minimum, and every effort was made to preserve the candidates' intent.

See our Facebook page (and like us!) for updated election information:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNGPSSA>

Legend:

* = Incumbent

Democratic Candidates for President

Joseph R. Biden – former Vice President of the United States, <https://joebiden.com/>

- **Abortion:** Biden wants to expand access to contraception and protect the constitutional right to an abortion. The public option will cover contraception and a woman's constitutional right to choose. Biden wants to reverse the Trump Administration and states' all-out assault on women's right to choose. As president, Biden will work to codify *Roe v. Wade*, and his Justice Department will do everything in its power to stop the rash of state laws that so blatantly violate the constitutional right to an abortion, such as so-called TRAP laws, parental notification requirements, mandatory waiting periods, and ultrasound requirements. Biden also wants to restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood.
- **Healthcare:** As president, Biden will protect the Affordable Care Act from continued attacks. He opposes every effort to get rid of this law – including efforts by Republicans, and efforts by Democrats. Instead of starting from scratch and getting rid of private insurance, he has a plan to build on the Affordable Care Act by giving Americans more choice, reducing health care costs, and making our health care system less complex to navigate. Biden wants to give every American access to affordable health insurance and to build on the Affordable Care Act with a plan to insure more than an estimated 97% of Americans. Biden also wants to give Americans a new choice, a public health insurance option like Medicare, increase the value of tax credits to lower premiums and extend coverage to more working Americans, and expand coverage to low-income Americans. Under Biden's plan, middle-class families will get a premium tax credit to help them pay for coverage, premium tax credits will be calculated to help more families afford better coverage with lower deductibles, surprise billing will be stopped, and there will be lower costs and improve health outcomes by partnering with the health care workforce. Biden wants to repeal the exception allowing drug corporations to avoid negotiating with Medicare over drug prices, limit launch prices for drugs that face no competition and are being abusively priced by manufacturers, limit price increases for all brand, biotech, and abusively priced generic drugs to inflation, allow consumers to buy prescription drugs from other countries, terminate pharmaceutical corporations' tax break for advertisement spending, and achieve mental health parity and expanding access to mental health care.
- **Gun Control:** Joe Biden will enact legislation to once again ban assault weapons. This time, the bans will be designed based on lessons learned from the 1994 bans. Biden will also use his executive authority to ban the importation of assault weapons. As president, Biden will pursue legislation to regulate possession of existing assault weapons under the National Firearms Act. Biden will also institute a program to buy back weapons of war currently on our streets. This will give individuals who now possess assault weapons or high-capacity magazines two options: sell the weapons to the government, or register them under the National Firearms Act. In order to reduce the stockpiling of firearms, Biden supports legislation restricting the number of firearms an individual may purchase per month to one. Biden will enact universal background check legislation and close other loopholes that allow people who should be prohibited from purchasing firearms from making those purchases. Biden will enact legislation prohibiting an individual "who has been convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime, or received an enhanced sentence for a misdemeanor because of hate or bias in its commission" from purchasing or possessing a firearm. Biden will enact legislation to prohibit all online sales of firearms, ammunition, kits, and gun parts. Biden will incentivize the adoption of red flag laws by giving states funds to implement them. Biden will enact legislation to give states and local governments grants to require individuals to obtain a license prior to purchasing a gun. Biden will establish a new Task Force on Online Harassment and Abuse to focus on the connection between mass shootings, online harassment, extremism, and violence against women.
- **Foreign Policy:** He wants to strengthen the relationship between US and democracies that stand with us. He wants to protect undocumented members of the military, veterans, and their spouses from deportation. Wants to work with NATO. Wants to repair US relationship with Central America's Northern Triangle. Wants an office whose purpose is to promote LGBTQ+ rights around the world. Says he would stop aid to countries that punish citizens for their homosexuality.

Tulsi Gabbard – United States Representative, <https://www.tulsi2020.com/>

- **Abortion:** Does the very real possibility of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned terrify you? Are you sick of women's bodies being used as pawns so politicians can score cheap political points at the expense of their freedom and safety? I say yes to those questions, and am wholly committed to abortion remaining safe, legal and rare. We must commit to defending a woman's right to choose. I also support sensible codifying of *Roe v. Wade* preventing third-trimester abortion except when there are grave or life-threatening health consequences for the mother. I do, however, think that there should be some restrictions in place. I support codifying *Roe v. Wade* while making sure that, during the third trimester, abortion is not an option unless the life or severe health consequences of a woman are at risk.
- **Healthcare:** I will make healthcare a priority. I support a single-payer system where everyone contributes and is covered, and that will also allow individuals to access private insurance if they choose. If we truly want to reform our healthcare system, we cannot give big insurance and big pharma a seat at the table to draft legislation. Unlike so many of my colleagues in Congress,

I will not bow to the pressure of lobbyists and special interest groups and will instead stand up for the interests of the American people.

- **Gun Control:** I will uphold our constitutional right to bear arms while also upholding our responsibility to keep our children and communities safe. We cannot allow partisan politics to get in the way of taking meaningful action in areas where both parties agree and that have the support of most Americans across this country. Here are a few examples: Both Democrats and Republicans support legislation I have co-sponsored to ban bump stocks. Both Democrats and Republicans support legislation to uphold Second Amendment rights and strengthen the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. Now is the time for us to come together and to take meaningful action towards responsible, common-sense gun safety reform.
- **Foreign Policy:** Short-sighted, self-serving leaders in the grip of the military industrial complex have brought us into a new Cold War and nuclear arms race with Russia and China, threatening the future of the planet and the entire human race. On day one of my presidency, I will call a summit between the United States, China, and Russia to work to end this new Cold War, stop the arms race, reduce tensions, and increase cooperation going forward. I think it's important, for the sake of our country's national security, to keep the American people safe, and in the pursuit of peace, for our president and commander in chief to have the courage to meet with leaders of other countries — whether they be adversaries or potential adversaries — in order to achieve peace and security.

Bernie Sanders – United States Senator, <https://berniesanders.com/>

- **Abortion:** Sanders wants to “Guarantee health care through Medicare for All, repeal the Hyde Amendment and fully fund Planned Parenthood, Title X, and other initiatives that protect women’s health, access to contraception, and the availability of a safe and legal abortion.” Sanders also wants to “Oppose all efforts to undermine or overturn Roe v. Wade, and appoint federal judges who will uphold women’s most fundamental rights.”
- **Healthcare:** Sanders wants to “Create a Medicare for All, single-payer, national health insurance program to provide everyone in America with comprehensive health care coverage, free at the point of service. This means “no networks, no premiums, no deductibles, no copays, [and] no surprise bills. Medicare coverage will be expanded and improved to include: include dental, hearing, vision, and home- and community-based long-term care, in-patient and out-patient services, mental health and substance abuse treatment, reproductive and maternity care, prescription drugs, and more.” Sanders wants to “Stop the pharmaceutical industry from ripping off the American people by making sure that no one in America pays over \$200 a year for the medicine they need by capping what Americans pay for prescription drugs under Medicare for All.”
- **Gun Control:** Sanders wants to “Take on the NRA and its corrupting effect on Washington, expand background checks, and end the gun show loophole”. Sanders believes that “All gun purchases should be subject to the same background check standards”, and wants to “ban the sale and distribution of assault weapons.” Sanders believes that “Assault weapons are designed and sold as tools of war and there is absolutely no reason why these firearms should be sold to civilians”. Sanders also wants to “Prohibit high-capacity ammunition magazines, implement a buyback program to get assault weapons off the streets, regulate assault weapons in the same way that we currently regulate fully automatic weapons — a system that essentially makes them unlawful to own, crackdown on “straw purchases” where people buy guns for criminals, support “red flag” laws and legislation to ensure we keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers and stalkers, and ban the 3-D printing of firearms and bump stocks.
- **Foreign Policy:** Sanders wants to “implement a foreign policy which focuses on democracy, human rights, diplomacy and peace, and economic fairness, allow Congress to reassert its Constitutional role in war-making, so that no president can wage unauthorized and unconstitutional interventions overseas, follow the American people, who do not want endless war, and end U.S. support for the Saudi-led intervention in Yemen, which has created the world’s worst humanitarian catastrophe.”

Republican Candidates for President

Donald J. Trump* – President of the United States, <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

- **Abortion:** President Trump worked with the Congress to sign a bill overturning an Obama midnight regulation that prohibited States from defunding abortion service providers. The Trump Administration published guidance which promises to enforce the Obamacare requirement that taxpayer dollars should not support abortion coverage in exchange plans, reinstated the Mexico City Policy to ban any U.S. foreign aid to organizations that perform abortions, and signed a Congressional Review Act bill to allow states to restrict Planned Parenthood Funding.
- **Healthcare:** As part of the landmark Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, President Trump repealed the individual mandate, which forced people to buy expensive insurance and taxed those who couldn't afford it. President Trump signed a six-year extension of CHIP to fund healthcare for 9 million. President Trump has mobilized his entire administration to address drug addiction and opioid abuse by declaring the opioid crisis a nationwide public health emergency. President Trump created a bipartisan opioid commission that issued 56 recommendations to help defeat the opioid crisis. Under President Trump, the FDA has approved the largest number of generic drugs in history.
- **Gun Control:** Trump believes in removing guns from dangerous people, not all people. He does agree with arming school employees but does not believe teachers should be armed. He agrees with allowing teachers to carry so long as they have gun training. Disagrees with gun-free zones in schools and military bases. He does not believe people on the terror watch-list should be able to purchase guns. Believes mental health is more important than gun control. He wants to protect the Second Amendment and address mental health.
- **Foreign Policy:** Strongly against Iran getting a nuclear weapon. Prefers doctrine of patriotism over globalism. Offer foreign aid only to American allies. He strongly supports standing behind Israel. He supports restoring democracy in Venezuela and Cuba. He has an "America first" ideology when it comes to foreign trade.

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

was founded in February 1994 by students majoring in Political Science for the purpose of:

- providing an organized forum for undergraduate students majoring in political science at North Georgia College and State University to discuss their mutual interests and concerns;
- providing an official structure to represent and advocate the interests of said students; and
- conducting activities and sponsor programs which promote the spirit of scholarship in political science and which provide opportunities for social activity.

Membership in the PSSA is open to majors and non-majors alike. Any student interested in promoting political awareness and activity is welcome to join.

For information, contact
Prof. Carl Cavalli in the POLS/INTL Department (carl.cavalli@ung.edu)

Find Us On Facebook: "PSSA"

<https://www.facebook.com/UNGPSSA/>

Supporting organization:

THE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT

For Civic Engagement is a national, multi-campus initiative that seeks to foster informed civic engagement in the United States. The project seeks to create a greater intellectual understanding and commitment to participate in the civic life of the United States.

Focused on undergraduates at public colleges and universities, the American Democracy Project has created a collaborative network of 166 public colleges and universities, representing more than 1.5 million students that are member institutions of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). The three-year project, sponsored by AASCU in collaboration with The New York Times, will provide opportunities for participating campuses to engage in activities and projects designed to increase the number of undergraduate students are committed to meaningful civic actions.

For information, see: <https://ung.edu/american-democracy-project/index.php>

Advance voting ends on 3/20
Primary day is Tuesday, March 24th
Remember to VOTE!

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