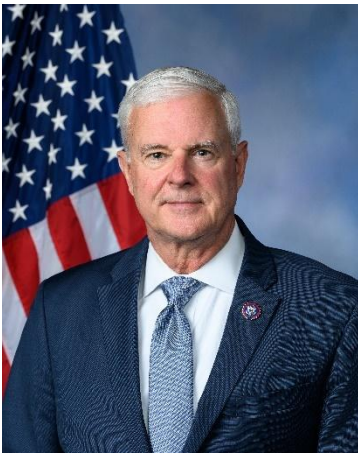




**Lunch & Guest Speaker
Spring 2025 Meeting
Wednesday, April 23, 2025
12:00 - 1:00 PM CST
Rogers, Arkansas**

U.S. Congressional Update

U.S. Congressman Steve Womack, 3rd District of Arkansas



Congressman Steve Womack has proudly represented the Third District of Arkansas since his election in 2010. He is currently a senior member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, where he is the Chairman of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Subcommittee and also sits on the Defense and Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) Subcommittees. He formerly served as the Chairman of the House Budget Committee and Chairman of the Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Womack is committed to ensuring that the voices of his constituents are represented and is widely known in the House for his perfect voting record. During his tenure, he has never missed a vote and holds the longest consecutive voting streak maintained by any current member of the U.S. House of Representatives. In his first four terms, while serving in the majority, Womack was the leadership's go-to member in presiding over the House floor. There's no better validation of his experience than when then-Speaker Paul Ryan asked him to preside over the 2016 Republican

National Convention during the contentious rules vote. Womack was also tapped by Speaker Ryan to lead the 2018 16-member, bipartisan, bicameral Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform.

Womack has a strong record of public service to the Natural State, which has been defined by a lifelong philosophy to "lead by example and lead from the front." As the former Mayor of Rogers, he is credited with leading an unprecedented expansion of the Rogers economy with more than \$1 billion in local investment. He was the 2022 recipient of the "Dick Trammel Good Neighbor Award," the Rogers community's highest honor presented to individuals who have contributed to the betterment of Rogers and the region.

Womack retired from the Arkansas Army National Guard in 2009 at the rank of Colonel with more than thirty years of service. His deployment to Sinai, Egypt in 2002 marked the first time a National Guard unit performed the mission of the Multinational Force and Observers. Womack's Task Force received accolades from the highest levels of military and civilian leaders.

Womack is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University where he was inducted into the ATU Hall of Distinction in 2014. He is a member of the Arkansas National Guard's OCS Hall of Fame. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, the Arkansas Distinguished Service Medal, and, in 2015, Womack was presented with the Harry S. Truman Award, the highest award given by the National Guard Bureau.

He also serves as the Chairman of the West Point Board of Visitors (BOV), where he supports the U.S. Military Academy – the nation's preeminent leadership development institution – in its mission to train the next generation of Army officers. He was first appointed to the BOV in 2012 and subsequently elected BOV Chairman in 2017. Womack is currently the only congressional representative from Arkansas to serve on the board.



He and his wife, Terri, have been married for 40 years. They have three sons and three grandsons. They make their home in Rogers.

Presentation Description:

This session will consist of a discussion on current U.S. Congressional events and activities.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Understand the U.S. Legislative Process.
- Discuss current action items of the House Appropriations Committee.
- Recall the importance of the role of US Domestic Energy, including Oil & Gas and Lithium Production, in enhancing national security.

Program Level: Basic

Pre-requisite: None

Advance Preparation: None

Delivery Method: Group Live

Field of Study: Economics

CPE Credits: 1.0



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**Lunch & Guest Speaker
Spring 2025 Meeting
Thursday, April 24, 2025
12:00 - 1:00 PM CST
Rogers, Arkansas**

Remembering a Hidden History: Soccer Under the Swastika— Why Studying the Holocaust Matters

Dr. Kevin Simpson, Department Chair, Psychology; Distinguished Professor of Psychology – John Brown University



Prior to arriving at JBU—his alma mater— Dr. Kevin Simpson taught for 12 years in Portland, Oregon and briefly, in the wilds of rural Utah immediately after completing his PhD in counseling psychology at the University of Denver.

In 2019, Dr. Simpson was a Fulbright Scholar to the Slovak Republic where he taught graduate courses in sport psychology and psychology of the Holocaust at Comenius University in Bratislava. Simpson has been a research fellow three times at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum (2009, 2010, 2019) and a fellow in the 2011 Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization at Northwestern University (Illinois). His academic work has taken him to many concentration camps and Holocaust memorial sites in Ukraine, Poland, France, Germany, Austria, and the former Czechoslovakia. He has also been a visiting professor in two study abroad programs in London and Vienna and for the latter appointment, Simpson taught on the genocidal legacy of National Socialism in Austria.

Dr. Simpson considers it a privilege to teach students across a wide range of courses, including: Social and Abnormal Psychology; Sport and Exercise Psychology; Counseling Theory; the Psychology and History of the Holocaust; and the Integration of Faith and Psychology. His most recent publications have been on teaching comparative genocide through study abroad in Guatemala; genius and creativity; and the use of classic and modern propaganda in the teaching of social psychology. He also writes for outdoor magazines on the application of visualization and imagery principles in sport psychology to hunting and shooting pursuits.

In 2016, Dr. Simpson finished his first book, an examination of soccer during the Holocaust, titled *Soccer under the Swastika* (Rowman & Littlefield). Relying on long-forgotten memoirs and testimonies, his book reveals the surprisingly powerful role soccer played in the lives of captives behind the walls and fences of the Nazi terror state. His book has been recently updated to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust and this revision includes new testimonies and photographs from the era. The book has also served as the basis for museum exhibitions in the United States and Slovakia.

But his true passions in life include his Texan wife, Stefanie, their two children Grace and Eli, playing soccer, skiing and mountain biking, upland bird hunting, and reveling in the ongoing successes of Manchester United football club.

Presentation Description:

The Holocaust was genocide on a scale never seen before. It is the greatest of human tragedies and a defining event in history which continues to challenge and confound human understanding. In “Soccer Under the Swastika” author and college professor Dr. Kevin Simpson takes the audience on a fascinating journey through this little-known chapter in history revealing the surprisingly meaningful role sport played during the Holocaust. These are the stories of wartime soccer players, prisoners of fascism, who found soccer to be a means of survival when surrounded by profound suffering and death.



Learning Objectives:

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Provide an introduction to a unique history of the Holocaust focusing on sport and resistance in the Nazi concentration camps.
- Explain why intolerance in a society is bad for business.
- Deepen awareness of the experiences of the victims of the Nazis and their collaborators.
- Inspire audience members to learn more about the Holocaust.

Program Level: Basic

Pre-requisite: None

Advance Preparation: None

Delivery Method: Group Live

Field of Study: Specialized Knowledge

CPE Credits: 1.0



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