

FREE ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

An Interdisciplinary Program for
Public School Teachers



Presented by

MASTER OF LIBERAL STUDIES
PROGRAM

Southern Methodist University
Dallas, Texas

The Texas State Legislature has required public schools to “give instruction on the essentials of the free enterprise system.” The Free Enterprise Institute was established to assist teachers in fulfilling this requirement in their schools. The Institute was made possible with partial funding by Mr. William B. Moss and the Philip R. Jonsson Foundation. Full-tuition scholarships for two courses are available to elementary and secondary public school teachers.

In an annual rotation the Master of Liberal Studies program offers four courses which address the free enterprise system, its history and evolution. Eligible public school teachers may apply for scholarship funds to cover tuition for any two of these four designated courses. All Free Enterprise courses may be applied towards the Master of Liberal Studies Degree at Southern Methodist University.

THE COURSES

SOSC 6332: Ideas Shaping the American Character

Examines the ideas that have shaped the American character from colonial era through the 20th century. Economic ideas are emphasized as a basic concern affecting all other areas of American thought: religious, scientific, political, and social. Specific attention is given to those ideas undergirding the free enterprise system as an economic concomitant to democracy

SOSC 6343: America: The Politics of a Capitalist Democracy

Examines the special relationship between American democratic politics and the free market economy as well as the rationale of free enterprise. Individuals interested in the political and philosophical questions raised by our system of democratic capitalism will find the course particularly relevant. Current issues, problems, values, and criticisms of the free enterprise system will be discussed.

SOSC 6344: American Economic History I

American economic history applies economics to history and history to economics. The methods of economics are used to explore historical issues, and historical examples are used to understand the process of economic development. Historical period reaches from colonial times to the Civil War.

SOSC 6345: American Economic History II

Continuation of SOSC 6344, covering historical and economic development from the Civil War to the present time.

THE FACULTY

Dr. Diane Betts is an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the History and Economics departments at Southern Methodist University. She has taught courses in economic history in the Master of Liberal Studies Program since 1988.

Dr. Brad Carter is an Associate Professor in the Political Science Department at Southern Methodist University. His specialty is political theory with an emphasis on how democracy changes institutions.

Dr. Jody Potts is an Adjunct Lecturer and has been active in the SMU History Department and the Master of Liberal Studies Program since 1971. She is also the successful author and publisher of an innovative History textbook.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

In order to apply, interested individuals need to complete the following application form and return it to the Master of Liberal Studies Office along with a one time \$50 application fee. For more information about the Free Enterprise Institute or about the Master of Liberal Studies Program contact the MLS Office at 214-768-4273 or email mls@smu.edu.

