

The Foundations for American Leadership project is designed to provide current and future leaders with a solid grounding in the core principles that are essential for maintaining America's constitutional republic and free market economy.

It is fundamentally important that every generation of American citizens be well-educated about America's history, the principles of American government, the basics of our free market economy and our role in the world, and have the ability to apply that knowledge within the context of current events.

Rather than focusing on leadership methods and strategies, this program will focus on providing participants with the foundation from which to lead. This program is about preparing for leadership by learning America's core founding principles and how these principles should be applied in every sphere of our culture.

What makes America special among all the nations in the history of the world are the ideals on which America was founded. As current events show, there is a great need to ensure that the next generation of American leaders in both the public and private sectors are well-grounded in and committed to these principles.

### Purpose

Like faith, the benefits of liberty with their commensurate responsibilities must be passed from generation to generation. Consequently, it is critical that America's leadership be well-connected to the roots of the American order. The objective of the Foundations for American Leadership project is to revive a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the important religious, economic, and political principles that are indispensable to the future of our country and how these principles should be applied to solving problems in the public and private sector.

Throughout the program, attention will be given to the discussion of the value and significance of these core concepts and their relevance in the context of the full range of current issues.

**Program Dates:** September 2011 through May 2012. The classes meet from 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. for breakfast in the Rotunda on the campus of Samford University on the second Thursday of each month. A second class will convene 8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.

**Fees:** None. These events have been underwritten by a generous grant. It includes meals, books and other reading materials.

**Enrollment:** Participants can register by contacting Jo Anne Lindley at [joannel@alabamapolicy.org](mailto:joannel@alabamapolicy.org), or by calling the Alabama Policy Institute (API) at (205) 870.9900. Class size is limited so early registration is recommended.

**Sept. 8** Civic Virtue and the American Founding Fathers - Their Views on the Role of Religion and Public Morality in a Republic (Modern Debate: The Separation of Church and State) *Gary Palmer*

**October 13** - Constitutional Principle #1 - Rule of Law and Individual Rights (Modern Debate: Religious Liberty; Right to Bear Arms; Political Speech) *Dr. Richard Brake*

**November 10** - Constitutional Principle #2 - Separation of Powers & Checks and Balances (Modern Debate: Obama's Czars; Federal Budget Process; Cap and Trade)

**December 8** - Constitutional Principle #3 - Federalism (Modern Debate: HEALTH CARE; Nullification) *Dr. Scott Beaulier*

**January 12** - Constitutional Renewal and Reform (Modern Debate: Balanced Budget Amendment/Line Item Veto; Limits on Supreme Court; Re-invigorating Federalism; Gold Standard)

**February 9** - The Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist Debate (Modern Debate: The Reserved Powers of the States 10th Amendment vs. The "Elastic" Powers of the Federal Government (i.e Commerce, Substantive Due Process))

**March 1** - The Progressive Critique of the Founding Fathers - A "Living" Constitution (Modern Debate: Judicial Activism; An Imperial Presidency; The Assault on Federalism and Separation of Powers) *Dr. Richard Brake*

**April 12** - Free Markets, Balanced Budgets, and Sound Money - The Founding Fathers on Property Rights, the Danger of Deficits, and a Sound Currency (Modern Debate: The Debt Debate; The Fed; Kelo Decision)

**May 3** - "We Hold These Truths" - Unalienable Rights and the Proper Role of Government according to the Declaration (Modern Debate: Negative vs. Positive Rights, i.e. health care, housing, environment, etc.)