

SIGNÉ THOMAS

CURRICULUM VITA



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EDUCATION

PhD in Economics (in progress:ABD), University of Francisco Marroquín (UFM)

- **UFM Dissertation** (in progress):“The Relationships Between Economic Institutions, Poverty, Entrepreneurship, and Human Trafficking.” Dissertation Chair:James Gwartney

Masters in Applied Economics, Florida State University, (FSU) Tallahassee, FL, August 2014

- **Applied Research Project:** “Major League Soccer in Miami, FL” with Brian Drewke and Jacob Lenhoff (2014).

B.A. in Economics and International Affairs, Florida State University (FSU), Tallahassee, FL, May 2013

- **FSU Honors Thesis:** “[The Impact of Economic Freedom on Women’s Socioeconomic Status](#)” (2013). Thesis Committee Chair: Randall Holcombe

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Economic Education, Financial Literacy, Entrepreneurship, Economic Institutions, Economic Development, Formal Organizations, Market Behavior, Human Trafficking

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

K. W. Davis Visiting Lecturer: Teaching faculty for Trinity College; 2020-present.

Project Director: The Stavros Center for the Advancement of Free Enterprise and Economic Education, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL; 2019-2020.

Research Associate: DeVoe Moore Center, Florida State University; 2019-2020.

Adjunct Professor:The Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship, Florida State University; 2018-2019.

CSE Project Director: Common Sense Economics (CSE),The Stavros Center for the Advancement of Free Enterprise and Economic Education, Florida State University,Tallahassee, FL; 2014-2019.

- **Responsibilities included:** collaborate with James Gwartney to coordinate program initiatives and projects. Role includes but is not limited to teaching, marketing, course development and curriculum design (for CSE 1000, 1001, and 1002), and course building in online course learning management systems. Proficient in 3 systems: Canvas, Blackboard, Moodle. Creator and manager of intern program at the FSU Stavros Center.

Adjunct Faculty: University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS); 2016–2018.

TEACHING

Graduate:

- Instructor for CSE for Life Educators course (ECON 5010).This course teaches college educators how to promote basic economic & financial literacy, and how to teach economics and personal finance to their own students.Taught online at University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS).Adjunct Faculty. 2016–2018.

Undergraduate:

- Instructor of Record for Entrepreneurship & Society (FORG 226) at Trinity College. J-term 2021-present.
- Instructor of Record for Formal Organizations and Market Behavior (FORG 201) at Trinity College. Fall 2020-present.

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- Instructor of Record for Personal Finance (ECO 3041) at Florida State University. Taught both seated and online sections of this course. Spring 2019: Seated class, large section (74 students); Summer 2019: Online class.
- Instructor for Survey of Economics – Common Sense Economics course (ECON 1310). This course teaches students introductory level economics & personal finance. Taught online at UCCS. Adjunct Faculty. 2016–2017.
- Co-instructor with James Gwartney for Principles of Microeconomics (ECO 2023) and Principles of Macroeconomics (ECO 2013) seated classes (both regular and Honors sections) at FSU. 2015-present.
- Co-instructor with Joe Calhoun for Personal Finance (ECO 3041) at FSU. Fall 2018.

PUBLISHED TEXTBOOKS, VOLUMES, LESSON PLANS, AND CURRICULUM

- **Forthcoming:** *Economic Episodes of Civics and Government* (with Scott Niederjohn and Mark Schug). Wohl Publishing. (2021).
- “Off-Campus Colloquia As Immersive Study and Active Learning: CapitaF, Milton and Rose Friedman’s Home” (with Sam Staley). (2021). *Off-Campus Study, Study Abroad, and Study Away: Leaving the Blackboard Behind*.
- “Development of Interactive Classroom Activities to Teach Economic Freedom to Students of Various Learning Styles.” Chapter 1 in [Teaching Economics: Perspectives on Innovative Economics Education](#), Springer (2019). (Also available on Amazon, [here](#).)
- *JA Economics*, Junior Achievement (2019). Contributing writer.
- [Lessons in Economic Freedom](#), Fraser Institute (2018). Author and content developer of lessons and interactive activities for instructors to use in the classroom; content of curriculum is the basis of a new teacher workshop series across Canada about Economic Freedom of the World.
- How Markets Work course: Content developer for all the curriculum assessments for this college course by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI); also assisted in the creation and production of an economics video series for the course. (2016)

PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS)

- Working Paper: “Designed to Learn: Lessons from CapitaF Colloquia in Political Economy for Student-Centered Learning Pedagogies” (with Sam Staley).
- Working Paper: “Choke-slammng the Vote: Negative Shocks, The Media, and Election Outcomes” (with Arthur Nelson).
- Working Paper: “Read, Watch, Listen, Do: Pre and Post Assessment of Economic Reasoning Measurement”

ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND/OR PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

- “[Why Save?](#)” (with John Morton), Module K of Common Sense Personal Finance course, 2015
- “[Building Wealth Over Time](#),” (with John Morton and Scott Niederjohn), Module K of Common Sense Personal Finance course, 2015

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE IN ECON EDUCATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Copyeditor for *Economics: Private and Public Choice*, 17th ed. (Gwartney et al., Cengage Learning, 2020.)
- Participant in the American Institute for Economic Research (AIER)’s economics rap video “Mises vs. Marx: The March of History,” produced by Emergent Order. Filmed: July 24-25, 2019 in San Antonio, TX. [Video](#) released on Oct. 15, 2019.
- Faculty advisor to FSU’s chapter of Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL), 2019-

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2020. My student Max Michel, who founded the FSU chapter, was elected as the National President of FBLA-PBL (2019-2020).

- Copyeditor for *Economics: Private and Public Choice, 16th ed.* (Gwartney, James D., et al. Cengage Learning, 2018.)
- Content provider, copyeditor, and infographic creator of *Common Sense Economics: What Everyone Should Know About Wealth and Prosperity, 3rd ed.* (by Gwartney, James D., et al., St. Martin's Press, 2016.)
- Content provider and copyeditor of testbank for *Economics: Private and Public Choice, 16th ed.* and Cengage's testbanks for *Economics: Private and Public Choice* in their online MindTap program, 2017-2018.
- Content provider and copyeditor of testbank for *Common Sense Economics: What Everyone Should Know About Wealth and Prosperity, 3rd ed.*, 2015-2016.
- Copyeditor for 8 supplementary modules for Common Sense Economics and Common Sense Personal Finance curriculum, 2015: Module E: Economics, Work, and Happiness; Module F: Economics, Markets, and Morality; Module G: The Economics of Poverty; Module H: Economics of the Environment; Module I: Smart Choices for Earning More Income; Module J: Smart Choices for Managing Credit; Module K: Smart Choices for Saving and Investing; Module L: Smart Choices for Insurance.

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, WEBINARS, SPEECHES, AND INVITED TALKS

- **Invited:** Economic Freedom of the World Teacher Workshop Webinar Series: Delivered 4 webinars for the Fraser Institute in Oct. 2021 for a cohort of Canadian educators. The 4-part series included: "An Introduction to the Importance of Economic Institutions and the Measurement of Economic Freedom" on Oct. 20. "Economic Freedom's Impact on Standards of Living" on Oct. 21; "EFW Research and Making Use of the Interactive Website" on Oct. 27; "Economic Freedom and Women's Well-being" on Oct. 28, 2021.
- Speaker for professional development webinars via the New Jersey Council for Economic Education: Economic Institutions and Why They Matter teacher webinar on Tues. April 20, 2021, and Economic Freedom and How It Impacts Women's Lives webinar on Tues. April 27, 2021
- "Dream, Learn, Pitch" webinar (judging entrepreneurship pitches) for Charles Horner's students at Radnor High School in Radnor, PA, on Feb. 10, 2021.
- What You Need to Know About Money Before 20 webinar for Dr. Carrie Turner-Gray's high school students at Johnson High School in San Antonio, TX, on Dec. 8, 2020.
- What You Need to Know About Money Before 20 webinar (personal finance webinar) for Georgia State University college students on Oct. 30, 2020. (154 students in attendance.)
- Economics of Price Controls webinar for Todd DeJong's economics students at Sandy High School; Sandy, OR; Oct. 26, 2020
- Economic Freedom of the World Teacher Workshop Webinar Series: Delivered 4 webinars for the Fraser Institute in Oct. 2020 for a cohort of Canadian educators. The 4-part series included: "An Introduction to the Importance of Economic Institutions and the Measurement of Economic Freedom" on Oct. 22; "Economic Freedom's Impact on Standards of Living" on Oct. 23; "EFW Research and Making Use of the Interactive Website" on Oct. 29; "Economic Freedom and Women's Well-being" on Oct. 30, 2020.
- Economic Institutions and Why They Matter webinar (x 4) for 4 classes of Derek D'Angelo's economics students at Eisenhower High School; Shelby Township, MI; Oct. 7, 2020
- Economic Freedom of the World Teacher Workshop Webinar Series: Delivered 4 webinars for the Fraser Institute in Sept. 2020 for a cohort of Canadian educators. The 4-part series included: "An Introduction to the Importance of Economic Institutions and the Measurement of Economic Freedom" on Sept. 14; "Economic Freedom's Impact on Standards of Living" on Sept. 15; "EFW Research and Making Use of the

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- Interactive Website” on Sept. 21; “Economic Freedom and Women’s Well-being” on Sept. 22, 2020.
- ▶ Postponed. Economics and Prosperity Teacher Workshop in collaboration with Economics Wisconsin: the sole speaker for this professional development workshop, sponsored by The Foundation for Economic Education and the Stavros Center at FSU. Milwaukee, WI; August 7, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
 - ▶ Postponed. Economics and Prosperity Teacher Workshop in collaboration with the Michigan Council on Economic Education: the sole speaker for this professional development workshop, sponsored by The Foundation for Economic Education and the Stavros Center at FSU. Detroit, MI; June 26, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
 - ▶ Postponed. Economics and Prosperity Teacher Workshop in collaboration with the O’Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom at Southern Methodist University: the sole speaker for this professional development workshop, sponsored by The Foundation for Economic Education and the Stavros Center at FSU. Dallas, TX; June 5, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
 - ▶ Postponed. “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for high school students; King’s Fork High School; Suffolk, VA; May 28, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
 - ▶ “Explore Public Policy Issues” multi-day Fraser Institute webinar for Canadian students. “An Introduction to Economic Freedom and Why it Matters” webinar on May 26, 2020.
 - ▶ Postponed. “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for high school students; St. Francis University; Loretto, PA; May 20, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
 - ▶ “Economic Institutions and Why They Matter” webinar for Todd DeJong’s Economics students at Sandy High School; Sandy, OR; May 19, 2020.
 - ▶ “Investing for Retirement” webinar for Sarah Wallace’s Economics and Honors Economics students at West Florida High School; Pensacola, FL; May 14, 2020.
 - ▶ “What Really Caused the 2008 Financial Crisis?” webinar for Todd DeJong’s Economics students at Sandy High School; Sandy, OR; May 8, 2020.
 - ▶ “Gaining a Realistic Idea of Future Income” webinar for Sarah Wallace’s Economics and Honors Economics students at West Florida High School; Pensacola, FL; May 5, 2020.
 - ▶ “Gaining a Realistic Idea of Future Income” webinar for Ryan Olivier’s Personal Finance students at Sandy High School; Sandy, OR; May 4, 2020.
 - ▶ “Investing for Retirement” webinar for Professor Warren Smith’s Macroeconomics students at Palm Beach State College; Lake Worth, FL; April 27, 2020.
 - ▶ “The Most Powerful Force in the Universe” webinar for Stephanie McCann’s Honors Macroeconomics students at Maclay High School; Tallahassee, FL; April 24, 2020.
 - ▶ [“Economic Institutions and Why They Matter” webinar](#) with FEE and the FSU Stavros Center. Open to the public. April 23, 2020. Attendees included high school students, college students, teachers, professors, institute directors, potential donors, and more—from the U.S. and international locations. Individuals from the following institutes watched the webinar: Fraser Institute, AIER, FTCN, IHS, and FEE. Individuals from the following countries participated in the webinar: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Jersey, Mexico, Oman, Pakistan, Portugal, Sweden, the UK, and the USA.
 - ▶ “Gaining a Realistic Idea of Future Income” webinar for Professor Warren Smith’s Macroeconomics students at Palm Beach State College; Lake Worth, FL; April 22, 2020.
 - ▶ “Secondary Effects of Price Ceilings” webinar for Todd DeJong’s Economics students at Sandy High School; Sandy, OR; April 17, 2020.
 - ▶ “Gaining a Realistic Idea of Future Income” webinar for Stephanie McCann’s Honors Macroeconomics students at Maclay High School; Tallahassee, FL; April 14, 2020.

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- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 91 high school students; The Sagemont School; Weston, FL; Feb. 20, 2020.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 130 high school students; Calhoun High School; Calhoun, GA; Feb 18, 2020.
- ▶ “Corporate Social Responsibility” seminar: one of three speakers for FEE’s 1-day college seminar; Ashland University; Ashland, OH; Feb. 12, 2020.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 119 high school students; Christian High School, hosted at Lindenwood Univ; St. Charles, MO; Feb. 6, 2020.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 35 high school students; Maclay Upper School, hosted at FSU; Tallahassee, FL; Jan. 15, 2020.
- ▶ “Unintended Consequences of Real-World Policies” webinar for Lesley Simone’s Grade 12 Economics high school class at Meadowvale Secondary School in Mississauga, ON, Canada; Nov. 27, 2019.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 100 high school students; Oxbridge Academy; West Palm Beach, FL; Nov. 22, 2019.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 150 high school students; Sandia High School; Albuquerque, NM; Nov. 21, 2019.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: the sole speaker for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 240 high school students; South Cobb High School; Austell, GA; Nov. 1, 2019.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 60 high school students; Pattonville High School, hosted at Lindenwood University; St. Charles, MO; Oct. 29, 2019.
- ▶ “Coercion vs. Cooperation” seminar: one of three speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 200 college students; Georgia State University Perimeter College; Dunwoody, GA; Oct. 25, 2019.
- ▶ “Economics & Government” seminar: one of two speakers for FEE’s 1-day seminar for approx. 200 high school students; Ronald Reagan High School, San Antonio, TX; Oct. 1, 2019.
- ▶ “Leadership in Action” summer seminar: one of three speakers for FEE’s 3-day seminar for high school students; University of Denver; Denver, CO; July 30 - August 2, 2019.
- ▶ “Think Like an Entrepreneur” summer seminar: one of three speakers for FEE’s 3-day seminar for high school students; Lindenwood University; St. Charles, MO; July 16-19, 2019.
- ▶ “Leadership in Action” summer seminar: one of three speakers for FEE’s 3-day seminar for high school students; Stetson University; DeLand, FL; June 27-30, 2019.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Freedom of the World: the sole instructor for the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Ottawa, ON, Canada; February 15, 2019.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Freedom of the World: the sole instructor of the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Edmonton, AL, Canada; November 2, 2018.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Freedom of the World: the sole instructor for the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Vancouver, BC, Canada; May 24, 2018.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Freedom of the World: the sole instructor for the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Mississauga, ON, Canada; May 4, 2018.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Principles: the sole instructor for the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Edmonton, AB, Canada; November 3, 2017.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Principles: co-instructor for the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Saskatoon, SK, Canada; May 19, 2017.
- ▶ Teacher Workshop on Economic Principles: co-instructor for the Fraser Institute’s workshop: Mississauga, ON, Canada; November 18, 2016.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, COLLOQUIUMS, AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- ▶ “Building Partnerships for Economic Freedom Teacher Workshops Across the U.S.” Association for Private Enterprise Education (APEE) Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL; April 13, 2021.
- ▶ “Colloquia at CapitaF, Milton and Rose Friedman’s Home.” APEE Conference, Fort Lauderdale, FL; April 12, 2021.
- ▶ “Free of Charge High School Seminars” presentation on behalf of the Foundation for Economic Education. National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS). Virtual; Dec. 4-6, 2020.
- ▶ “Economics and Government Policy: Pandemic Response” presentation at the Get Your Students Pumped Up On Personal Finance and Economics Virtual Conference by Economics Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, and the Wisconsin Governor’s Council on Financial Literacy. Virtual; Oct. 23, 2020.
- ▶ “Free Webinars and Seminars for High School Students Provided by FEE” presentation at the 2020 Virtual Teacher Institute by UWG Center for Economic Education and Financial Literacy. July 24, 2020.
- ▶ Acton University 2020 (virtual conference). June 17-18, 2020.
- ▶ Postponed. “FEE in the Classroom: Free In-Person Programs and Resources for High School Students” presentation. National Charter Schools Conference (NCSC). Orlando, FL; June 22-24, 2020. (Postponed due to COVID-19.)
- ▶ National Association of Economic Educators Conference. Jacksonville, FL. Feb. 26-28, 2020.
- ▶ “High School Economics and Government Workshop Demo” presentation on behalf of FEE. National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Conference; Austin, TX; Nov. 23, 2019.
- ▶ “Common Sense Economics: A Curriculum for Economics and Personal Finance” presentation on behalf of Common Sense Economics (CSE) and the FSU Stavros Center. New York State Economics Association (NYSEA) Conference; St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY. Sept. 28, 2019.
- ▶ Faculty discussion leader for week-long CapitaF Colloquium: facilitated book discussions on *Free to Choose*, *Capitalism and Freedom*, and *The Road to Serfdom* with Florida State University students and Ashland University students at CapitaF (Milton and Rose Friedman’s home in Vermont). West Fairlee, VT. August 18-23, 2019.
- ▶ FEEcon, Foundation for Economic Education Conference. Atlanta, GA. June 13-15, 2019.
- ▶ “Economic Freedom in the Classroom.” APEE Conference, Nassau, Bahamas; April 8, 2019.
- ▶ “Using Novels to Showcase Economics Concepts.” APEE Conference, Nassau, Bahamas; April 7, 2019.
- ▶ Mont Pelerin Society 2018 General Meeting. Gran Canaria, Spain. Sept. 30 - Oct. 6, 2018.
- ▶ “Innovative Lessons in Economic Freedom.” APEE Conference, Las Vegas, NV; April 4, 2018. Session Chair of Innovative Programs in Economics Education II.
- ▶ FEEcon, Foundation for Economic Education Conference. Atlanta, GA. June 15-17, 2017.
- ▶ “The Common Sense Approach to Personal Finance.” APEE Conference, Maui, HI; April 10, 2017.
- ▶ “The Common Sense Economics Tools for Assessing the Economic Way of Thinking.” APEE Conference, Las Vegas, NV; April 5, 2016.
- ▶ “Common Sense Economics: Quantitative Improvement in Economic Understanding” with Brandon Brice. APEE Conference, Cancun, Mexico; April 14, 2015.
- ▶ Association of Private Enterprise Education Conference, Las Vegas, NV; 2014.
- ▶ Financial Literacy and Economic Education Conference by the Council for Economic Education: Brooklyn, NY; 2017.
- ▶ Workshop in Classical Liberal Ideas: Cevro Institute, Prague and Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic; 2016.
- ▶ Economics for Heroes: Wisconsin Veterans Workshop: Pewaukee, WI; 2016.

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- FreedomFest Conference: Las Vegas, NV; 2015, 2014.
- Creative Teaching Ideas for Your Basic Economics Course Annual Workshop, Tallahassee, Tampa, and Miami, FL; 2013–2019.

ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Mont Pelerin Society (MPS); member, 2020-present.
- Foundation for Economic Education (FEE); member of FEE's Faculty Network, 2019-present.
- Fraser Institute; member of Fraser's Economic Educator Faculty, 2016-present.
- Council for Economic Education (CEE); member, 2017–present.
- National Association of Economic Educators (NAEE); member, 2017–present.
- James Madison Institute (JMI), Tallahassee, FL; member of Board of Advisors; 2016–present.
- Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE); member, 2014–present.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Secured a partnership with the Foundation for Economic Education to hold teacher workshops across the U.S. on the topic of economic freedom. The workshop series is named Economics and Prosperity.
- Founded a successful and sustainable fundraising event (the 2LT Justin Sisson 5K race) at Florida State University in 2014. As of the 7th annual race (which took place in February 2020), there has been a net profit of over \$200,000 raised for FSU student Veterans and Army ROTC students.
- Bestowed membership into FSU's Presidents Club and the Robert Strozier Society, 2014.
- Inaugural Guide-On Award and FSU Veteran challenge coin presented by the FSU Collegiate Veterans Association, for leading the way in support of student Veterans at FSU, 2014.
- Markets & Institutions Certificate, Economics Specialized Studies, Florida State University, 2013.
- John C Dalton Service Award presented at FSU Greek Awards, 2013.
- Certificate of Appreciation and Seminole Battalion challenge coin presented by FSU Army ROTC, 2012.
- Outstanding Youth Philanthropist, presented by the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, 2009.
- Valedictorian of Mariner High School's Class of 2009. Cape Coral, FL, 2009.