

New Frontiers of Objectivism (NFO) and Prometheus Fellowship

Prometheus Fellowship program:

- **Grants:**
 - In Jan. 2022, SFL was awarded \$2,311,325 for a two-year Prometheus Fellowship program
- **Description of the program:**
 - The Fellowship was launched on May 17, 2022 on Zoom, in attendance of the first cohort of fifty Fellows, Wolf von Laer, Kenneth Wagner, Martin Hooss, Annie Vinther-Sanz, and Craig Biddle, who gave the keynote launch talk.
 - This program is designed to teach SFL's top leaders from around the world about Ayn Rand's philosophy and how it can help them to succeed in their personal and professional lives and advance freedom on solid ground.
 - During the two-year program, the Fellows will engage in an in-depth study of Objectivism, participating in online seminars as well as live, in-person events; working with study partners; writing papers; and giving oral presentations.
 - They will also participate in a mentorship program in which they initially will be mentees, and, after graduating, mentors for incoming Fellows.
 - Students For Liberty comprises a worldwide network of students and young professionals who want to succeed in life and advance liberty, which is the perfect organization through which to present and discuss Rand's ideas.
- **Main people involved with the Fellowship:**
 - Martin Hooss, Program/Content Development (Martin reports to Andre Freo for this project)
 - Andre Freo, Fellowship Program Director
 - Olufemi Ogunjobi, Career Guidance & Mentorship Manager
- **Fellows (selected from 320 applicants):**
 - Countries represented: 29
 - Number of Fellows: 71
- **Content and reading lists:**
 - Topics and homework for the first in-person Fellowship seminar in Miami, Oct. 12-14:

- Section I: Objectivist (Metaphysics and) Epistemology— 97 pages—taught by Carrie-Ann Biondi
 - Section II: History of Philosophy—94 pages—taught by Andrew Bernstein
 - Section III: Innovators in Sculpture—6 pages— taught by Dianne L. Durante 6
 - Section IV: The Virtue of Black-and-White Thinking —8 pages—taught by Craig Biddle
 - Section V: Heralding The Age of Admiration: Why Destroying Robin Hood Won’t Suffice—21 pages—taught by Martin Hooss
 - Section VI: The Importance of Free Speech—77 pages— taught by Eric Daniels
- Reading list and homework:
- **Section I: Objectivist (Metaphysics and) Epistemology**
 - Peikoff, Leonard. “Reality.” *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*
 - Peikoff, Leonard. “Sense Perception and Volition.” *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*.
 - Peikoff, Leonard. “Reason.” *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*
 - **Section II: History of Philosophy**
 - Rand, Ayn. “For the New Intellectual.” *For the New Intellectual: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*.
 - Bernstein, Andrew. [“Heroes and Villains in Western Philosophy.”](#) TOS 17.1 (2022)
 - **Section III: Innovators in Sculpture**
 - Durante, Dianne L. Introduction. *Innovators in Sculpture*.
 - **Section IV: The Virtue of Black-and-White Thinking**
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Cult of Moral Grayness.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*.
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Moral Meaning of Capitalism.” *For the New Intellectual: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*
 - **Section V: Heralding The Age of Admiration: Why Destroying Robin Hood Won’t Suffice**
 - Rand, Ayn. “How Does One Lead a Rational Life in an Irrational Society?” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*
 - Peikoff, Leonard. “Justice as Rationality in the Evaluation of Men.” *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*
 - **Section VI: The Importance of Free Speech**
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Property Status of Airwaves.” *Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal*.

- Rand, Ayn. “The Cashing-In: The Student ‘Rebellion.’” *Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal*.
 - Rand, Ayn. “Censorship: Local and Express.” *Philosophy: Who Needs It*. New York:
 - Rand, Ayn. “Freedom of Speech.” *The Ayn Rand Column: Written for the Los Angeles Times*.
- Topics and Homework for Online Sessions (May - August 2022)
- Section I: Introduction: Who Is Ayn Rand and What Is Objectivism?
 - Texts: 15 pages
 - Rand, Ayn. “Introducing Objectivism.” *The Voice of Reason: Essays in Objectivist Thought*. Ed. Leonard Peikoff. New York: Meridian, 1990. 3-5.
 - Biddle, Craig. “What Is Objectivism?” *TheObjectiveStandard.org*. Feb 5 2014.
 - Videos: 109 minutes
 - “Ayn Rand - Her Philosophy in Two Minutes.” Ayn Rand Institute. YouTube.com. 21 Sep 2015. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asery3UeBj4> (2 minutes)
 - “Understanding Ayn Rand.” PragerU. YouTube.com. 22 Mar 2021. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRDLL_ZiPf4 (6 minutes)
 - “The Mike Wallace Interview with Ayn Rand.” Ayn Rand Institute. YouTube.com. 19 Jul 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHI2PqwRcY0> (27 minutes)
 - “Ayn Rand Documentary” [=Ayn Rand In her Own Words]. Write Like. YouTube.com. 4 Sep 2021. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Gu5VimYn8A> (74 minutes)
 - Section II: Politics: Capitalism over Collectivism
 - Texts: 44 pages
 - Rand, Ayn. “American’s Persecuted Minority: Big Business.” *Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal*. 2nd ed. New York: Signet, [1966] 1967. 40-62.
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Anti-Industrial Revolution.” *Return of the Primitive: The Ant-Industrial Revolution*. Ed. Peter Schwartz. New York: Meridian, [1971] 1999. 270-290.
 - Video: 64 minutes
 - Eric Daniels. “Free Speech without Compromise.” Learn Liberty. YouTube.com. 24 Feb 2022. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sq3P_pSfZs4
 - Section III: Economics: Free Markets over Central Planning
 - Texts: 40 pages
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Meaning of Money.” *For the New Intellectual: The Philosophy*

- of Ayn Rand*. New York: Signet, [1961] 1963. 97-104.
- Hooss, Martin. “Objectivism contra Utilitarianism in Economic Thought: The Need for a Moral Defense of Capitalism.” Prague: SFL, 2022.
 - “The Economics, Politics and Morality of Fiat Money: An Interview with Pro-Capitalist Economist Raymond Niles.” *CapitalismMagazine.com*. 14 Dec 2020.
- Video: 66 minutes
 - Raymond Niles. “Objectivism & Economics: A Powerful Combination for Defending Liberty.” Learn Liberty YouTube.com. 14 Apr 2022.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX-H3DY06Rw&t=2s>
 - Section IV: Bridging Politics & Ethics: Rand’s Theory of Rights
 - Texts: 40 pages
 - Rand, Ayn. “Man’s Rights.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 108-117.
 - Rand, Ayn. “Collectivized Rights.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 118-124.
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Nature of Government.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 125-134.
 - Biddle, Craig. “Ayn Rand’s Theory of Rights: The Moral Foundation of a Free Society.” TOS 6.3 (2011).
 - Video: 75 minutes
 - “The Secular Source and Nature of Rights with Craig Biddle.” The Objective Standard. YouTube.com. 12 Sep 2018.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaiQUceCpIY>
 - Section V: Ethics: A New Morality of Rational Self-Interest
 - Texts: 49 pages
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Soul of an Individualist.” *For the New Intellectual: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*. New York: Signet, [1961] 1963. 83-93.
 - Rand, Ayn. “The Ethics of Emergencies.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 49-56.
 - Rand, Ayn. “The ‘Conflicts’ of Men’s Interests.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 57-65.
 - Rand, Ayn. “Doesn’t Life Require Compromise?” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 79-81.

- Rand, Ayn. “How Does One Lead a Rational Life in an Irrational Society?” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 82-86.
- Rand, Ayn. “The Cult of Moral Grayness.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 87-92.
- Rand, Ayn. “Collectivized Ethics.” *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism*. New York: Signet, [1964] 2014. 93-99.
- Videos: 153 minutes
 - Smith, Tara. Being Selfish, Being Happy. Ayn Rand Institute. YouTube.com. 7 May 2020.
 - Lesson 1: “Rational Egoism.” Ayn Rand Institute. YouTube.com. 7 May 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OuyC4jP11YQ> (80 minutes)
 - Lesson 2: “Rational Happiness.” Ayn Rand Institute. YouTube.com. 7 May 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjBbvSh1tdw> (73 minutes)
- Section VIII: Esthetics: The Power of Romantic Art
- Texts: 45 pages
 - Rand, Ayn. “Philosophy and Sense of Life.” *The Romantic Manifesto: A Philosophy of Literature*. 2nd ed. New York: Signet, [1969] 1975. 14-23.
 - Rand, Ayn. “Art and Sense of Life.” *The Romantic Manifesto: A Philosophy of Literature*. 2nd ed. New York: Signet, [1969] 1975. 24-34.
 - Sures, Mary Ann. “Metaphysics in Marble.” *The Objectivist* 8.3 (1969).
 - Boeckmann, Tore. “Caspar David Friedrich and Visual Romanticism.” *TOS* 3.1 (2008).
- Section IX: Metaphysics & Epistemology: The Primacy of Existence & the Primacy Reason - Texts: 35 pages
 - Peikoff, Leonard. Selection from “Reality.” *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*. New York: Meridian, [1991] 1993. 1-23.
 - Peikoff, Leonard. Selection from “Reason.” *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand*. New York: Meridian, [1991] 1993. 152-163

- **Media:**

- SFL’s website for the Fellowship: [The Prometheus Fellowship - Students For Liberty North America](#)
- PF News Blog announcing the Fellowship: [Prometheus Foundation Awards \\$2.3 Million to Students For Liberty to Launch a Fellowship Program for the Study of Ayn Rand’s Philosophy](#)

New Frontiers of Objectivism:

- **Grant:**

- In April 2021, SFL was awarded \$726,935 for a three-phase New Frontiers of Objectivism program. (The three phases will be repeated in spring and fall of 2023 in all continents, and will end with the final phase in Feb. 2024).

- **Description of the program:**

- Local SFL Coordinators organize and host Objectivism reading groups, one-day seminars, and online webinars (henceforth called “events”).
- These events are led by the SFL Coordinators, but Objectivist intellectuals teach the Objectivism content—Craig, Eric Daniels, Martin Hooss, Angel and Thomas Walker-Werth, Isidora Kolar, Leopold Ajami, and others have taught at NFO events.
 - The reading material for the reading groups contain Rand essays as well as excerpts from Peikoff’s works. Example of reading for one session:
 - “The Good.” and “Rationality as the Primary Virtue.” from *Objectivism: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand* by Leonard Peikoff
 - “The Objectivist Ethics” from *The Virtue of Selfishness: A New Concept of Egoism* by Ayn Rand
 - “*This Is John Galt Speaking.*” from *For the New Intellectual: The Philosophy of Ayn Rand* by Ayn Rand

- **Main people involved with the NFO:**

- Martin Hooss, Educational Content Manager
- Martin reports to Kevin Flanagan, Director of Training & Engagement

- **Topics for the seminars and webinars include the following with accompanied reading:**

- “Ayn Rand and the Power of Philosophy”,
- “Politics—Capitalism over Collectivism”,
- “Ethics—Egoism over Altruism”,

- “Esthetics—Romanticism over Naturalism”,
- “Epistemology—Reason over Emotions”, and
- “Metaphysics—Reality over Faith”

- **Accumulated numbers Phases I+II (a report for Phase III is expected within the first week of December):**
 - Countries represented: 16
 - Number of reading groups/seminars: 79
 - Number of attendees: 2,964

- **Media:**
 - We posted a Prometheus Foundation News Blog about the NFO after completion of Phase II [Objectivism: Reaching New Frontiers](#)
 - SFL presentation of Martin Hooss: [Martin Hooss - Students For Liberty North America](#)
 - SFL page for Ayn Rand Letters: [New Frontiers of Objectivism - Students For Liberty North America](#)