



Student Guide



REDEFINING EDUCATION

An In-Depth Look at the Unparalleled
Opportunities at Reliance College



INTRODUCTION

Reliance College...

Where students learn how to take charge of their own future with confidence.

If you know exactly what you want to do in life, it may seem like you have many good college choices. But the world is changing at a faster and faster pace. We need education for today and tomorrow...not yesterday. So, many students wonder: what is my best path?

Too many colleges tell students what to think, feel, do, and say, not how to solve real problems and pursue emerging opportunities. Navigate your life as you envision it, both personally and professionally, equipped with proven entrepreneurial know-how to...

- Identify the factors driving change of all kinds...scientific, social, technological, political, economic, psychological, and philosophical.
- Discover emerging trends, opportunities and challenges.
- Find and learn the practical skills you will need to succeed.
- Choose the best direction forward.
- Understand freedom and know how to protect it.

In sum: how to be self-reliant and to lead or contribute to projects and teams without being told what to do or how to do it.

Our College is quite different from others!

At Reliance College, you will:

- Learn by doing and participating with real-world projects and expert mentors, designed to get you well-employed after graduation.
- Learn through connecting many disciplines: for example, physics and esthetics, history and risk analysis, psychology and economics. As Steve Jobs said: “The world’s not divided in narrow strips.”



- Thrive in an environment of free inquiry where you can express your reasonable, fact-based opinions and not worry about direct repercussions.
- Develop great lifelong friendships and alliances that will enhance your life, professionally and personally.
- Do all this at a reasonable cost, entirely funded by private money and scholarships; no government loans.

OVERVIEW

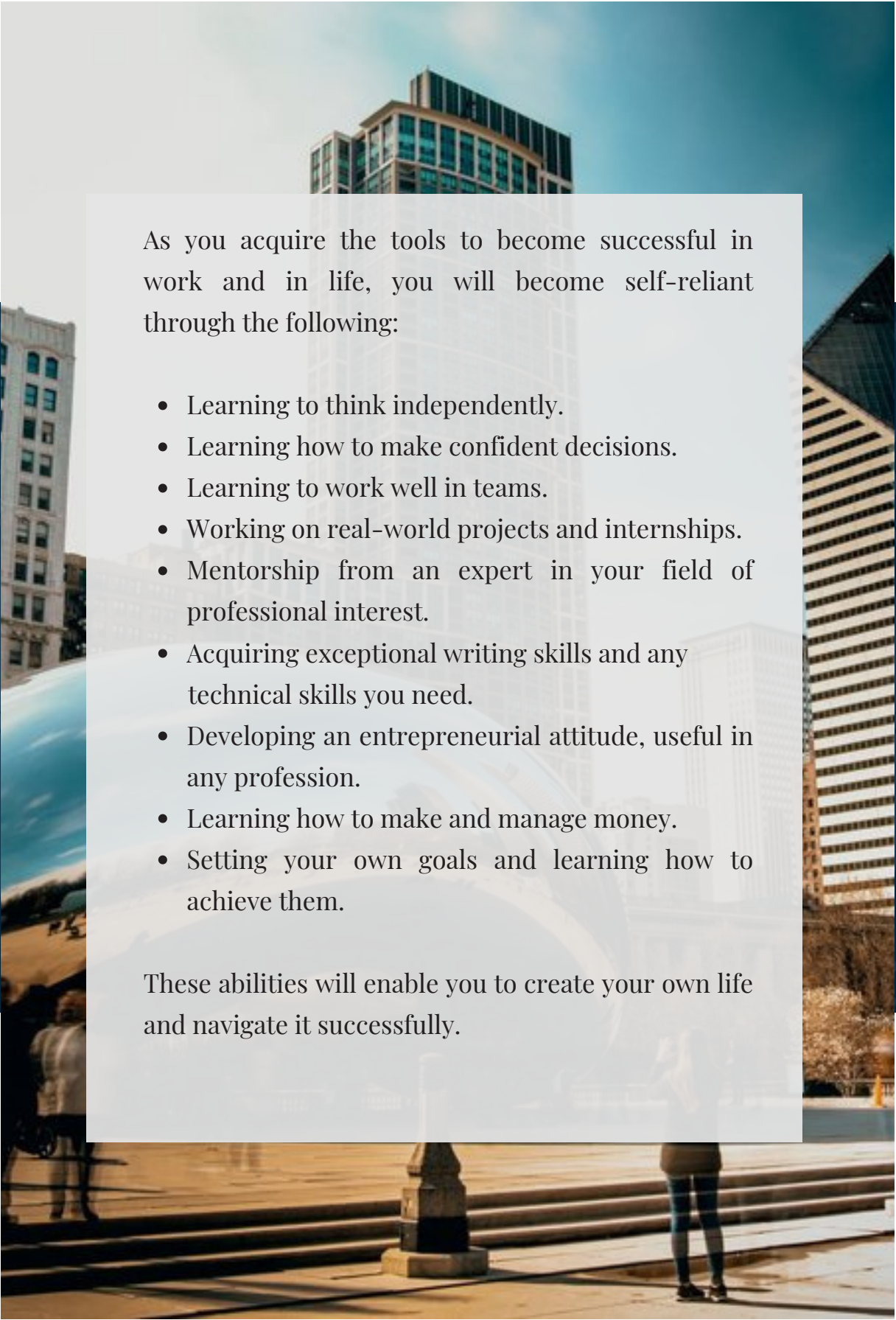


To make a difference in the world, you have to see the difference.

We offer a unique college educational experience that cultivates self-reliance and the entrepreneurial spirit. Our privately funded institution fosters an environment of free inquiry, exploring the full range of ideas, and focuses on intellectual and personal growth.

Our interdisciplinary curriculum integrates social and physical sciences, mathematics, literature, arts, history, economics, writing, rhetoric, personal finance, and entrepreneurship. You develop rigorous skills in reasoning, writing, and teamwork while building market value with a multi-year portfolio of real-world experiences.

Learning from accomplished professionals and studying classic works taken from “the best that has been thought and said,” you gain a deep understanding of the world around you. Flexible program options and immersive city life in the Chicago area further enhance the Reliance College experience.



As you acquire the tools to become successful in work and in life, you will become self-reliant through the following:

- Learning to think independently.
- Learning how to make confident decisions.
- Learning to work well in teams.
- Working on real-world projects and internships.
- Mentorship from an expert in your field of professional interest.
- Acquiring exceptional writing skills and any technical skills you need.
- Developing an entrepreneurial attitude, useful in any profession.
- Learning how to make and manage money.
- Setting your own goals and learning how to achieve them.

These abilities will enable you to create your own life and navigate it successfully.

History and Mission of Reliance College

Founded by entrepreneurs who have successfully built businesses with a positive impact, the mission of Reliance College is to provide a superior education that empowers the individual to be autonomous. Our commitment lies in providing a thorough education that underscores the importance of reasoning well and fostering an environment of intellectual freedom. Our competitive difference is the way we provide that education. It is specially crafted to instill the mores, the habits of thought and action, necessary to live as self-reliant individuals. We help you become the entrepreneur of your own life.



Extraordinary Methodology

Reliance College offers a specially crafted teaching methodology that combines Montessori educational philosophy appropriate to the young adult, exceptional training in thinking and personal self-understanding, and real-world problem-solving. This approach is designed to cultivate creative, self-reliant, intellectually independent people with vigorous practical skills who can thrive in today's complex society.

What You'll Get - Knowledge, Skills, and Experience

We offer a college education that prepares you with the knowledge, skills, and experience you need to identify and implement your best path. We are laser-focused on helping you become independent. We will help you learn how to make money because money is an important and useful tool for living that enables you to have more choices. But, more importantly, we will help you figure out what the money is for to help you live your best way. You'll learn how to propel yourself, personally and professionally, into a rewarding, engaging, successful life.



We combine deep, challenging, and personally empowering liberal arts education with real-world practicums and the development of crucial teamwork, writing, problem-solving, scientific, and mathematical skills. This combination develops the life skills you need to productively navigate industry, technology, business, the arts, sciences or whatever endeavor you choose to pursue. You will also gain the self-knowledge and awareness you need to navigate a flourishing personal life.

Our program draws from the kind of education and experience that enabled the people of early America to become outstanding scientists and political philosophers like Thomas Jefferson, business people and revolutionists like John Hancock, entrepreneurs and civic organizers like Benjamin Franklin, legal experts and political architects like James Madison, statesmen like John Adams and scientific farmers and crucial leaders, like George Washington. You can learn how to be multi-talented like them, too.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

History and Successes of Our Programs

Since 2009, the team that is bringing you Reliance College has offered week-long, weekend, overseas, and online programs for young people and working and retired adults under the umbrella of **The Great Connections Seminars**. Among these, our week-long Summer Seminar is preeminent. It is a compressed version of the full Reliance program, and our results have been outstanding. From one intensive week, 75% of students walk away reporting that “my life has been transformed.”

Mya Hardamon, a 16 year old student at Lane Tech College Prep High School in Chicago wrote: “This seminar took me out of my comfort zone in so many ways, but because of that I’ve grown immensely. I’ve gained more social skills interacting with all the different types of people and learning to put myself out there. Additionally, at first, I was nervous to speak up in discussions and especially when I had a differing opinion with others. But as time went on, I realized that in the space provided I was free to express my true opinion without persecution. This seminar was so much better than I ever could’ve imagined and is an experience that



I’ll carry with me for the rest of my life. Thank you for this opportunity, your dedication to enriching the minds of the future, and for giving me the tools to have my own mind, which will forever impact the way I live my life.”



Scott McGinley, a graduate of Economics from George Mason University said:

“As a result of Summer Seminar (The Great Connections), my approach to myself has changed in the following way: I'll stop FAKING REALITY and do what's going to make my life the best it can be, because you only live once and there's no sense in wasting it.”



Twenty-year-old **Alejandro King**, studying biomedical engineering at Miami University Ohio, wrote: “Because of all the amazing discussions we have had this past week a spark has ignited in me, I've regained motivation and have found a sense of independence. With this newly acquired knowledge, I feel well-equipped to begin creating my legacy. Thank you for the opportunity to regain control of my life (which will lead to a better life).”



Ed Bachrach, a businessman and civic activist who talked to students at the 2023 program wrote to us: “I was very impressed by those who chose to attend your seminar. You are doing great work and influencing young leaders like no others in Chicago.”

This feedback on our programs is typical. In 2012, **Jessica Murr** was a 17-year-old Hohonegagh High School student near Rockford, IL. She was so shy she would email her mother rather than talk to her, and she refused to get her driver's license. Not only did she actively participate in the program, she returned home to talk to her mother for 2 hours, promptly went out and got her license, and created a job for herself tutoring adults.

In 2015, **Derick Ansah**, a junior from the Bronx attending the State University of New York New Paltz, wrote "Where I come from, people cannot even picture themselves doing what I've done this week. I am now a growing example of what everyone in my community can do for themselves. I have gained more power with the amount of new ideas shared, sights seen, and people met. It has added to my own personal, physical, and mental power to design my life." His instructor wrote to us after the summer: "His question asking manner in class increased in acuity and form. It's as if he grew 2 years worth in your short 1 week course."





Montessori-Inspired Education for Young Adults

We are bringing to the college level the Montessori Method's principles of self-mastery. Drawing on this educational philosophy, Reliance College emphasizes individualization, developmental needs, and the most effective learning methodologies. This approach fosters personal growth and encourages you to think critically and creatively.

“Help me do it myself” is the core of the Montessori classroom, where the physical and psychological environment is carefully structured so that you have as much freedom as possible to follow your needs. Its purpose is to enable individuals to learn at their own pace and develop academic, social, and personal knowledge. You learn self-responsibility and how to behave in civil society, respecting property rights and the rights and individuality of others – in short, everything needed to become a successful person.



The Montessori Method recognizes that learning is a self-initiated process and you learn best when you can engage with the wider scope of human affairs and are equipped with practical knowledge. In line with the Method, we ask big questions about the origin of the universe and life, the nature of civilizations and how they developed the discovery of freedom, and the question of free will—and how these issues are related to everyday life and how to choose one’s values and goals. In this way, we help you discover what created our current world, and how to navigate it successfully.

Our teaching process is one of discovery – we craft material, and discussions, and work to aid you in discovering the answers. We call our teachers “tutors” because they are guides, not directing authorities. They don’t provide answers; they coach you, whatever your ideas, values, and beliefs, in how to find answers to your own questions by using reason and evidence to arrive at the truth

Carefully Crafted Collaborative Seminars

Reliance College’s curriculum includes classic Great Books and select modern texts, covering a wide range of disciplines and ideological perspectives. The Great Books are a collection of the most influential thinking in civilization, often called “the classics.” You study a diverse selection of materials from across the ideological spectrum, to ensure you develop a comprehensive understanding of crucial subjects, from philosophy to history, poetry to physics.



Emphasis on Connections between Knowledge and Action

Our unique curriculum organization is designed to help you grasp the connections between knowledge and action, both within individual subjects and in relation to practical life. This focus on the applicability of learning ensures you develop the skills necessary to succeed in your chosen career and navigate the complexities of modern society.

Focused Skills Courses

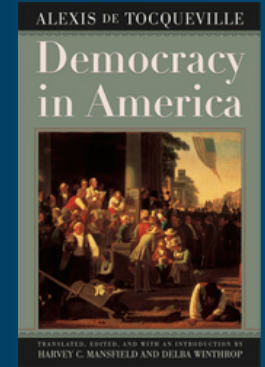
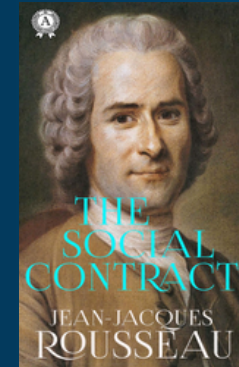
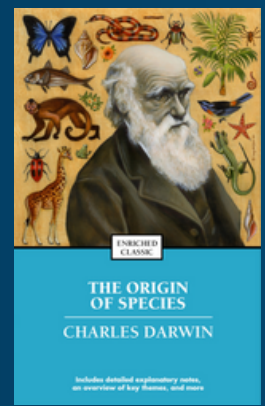
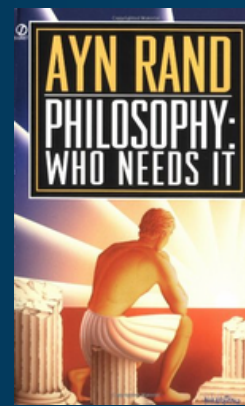
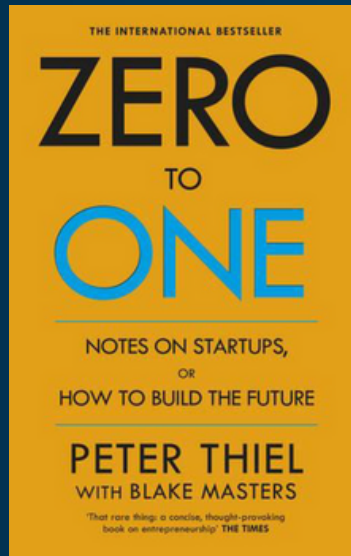
Reliance College offers focused skills courses in areas such as logic, professional-level writing, science, mathematics, economics, data analysis, technology, and innovation. These courses provide you with essential skills that complement your broader education and prepare you for success in various professional settings.

Individualized Real-World Problem Solving

Each year, you will work on a mid-year practicum, wrestling with real-world problems in an area of career interest, guided by professional mentors. This practical experience not only reinforces the lessons learned in the classroom but also allows you to develop the special skills and experience necessary to excel in your chosen professional field, whether, for example, in technology, finance, architecture, physics, or teaching.



Degree Programs and Majors



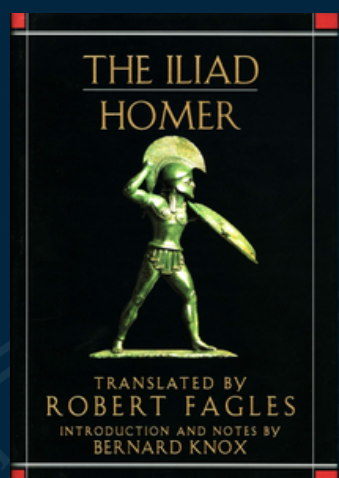
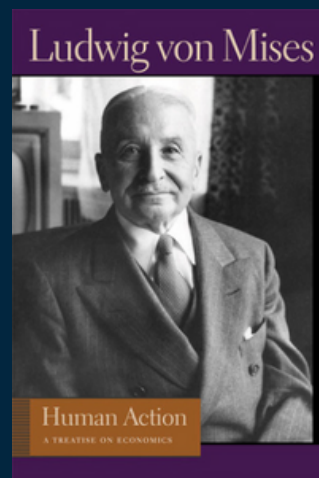
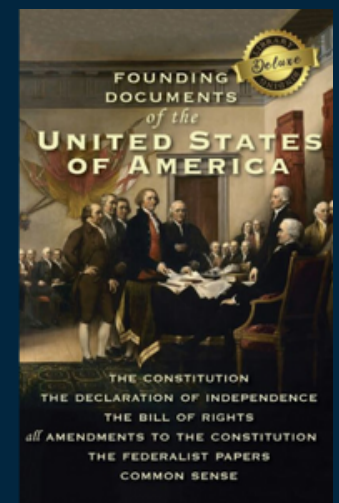
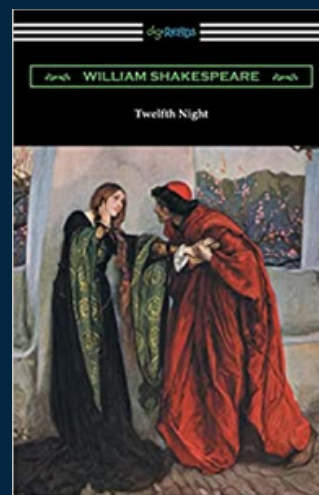
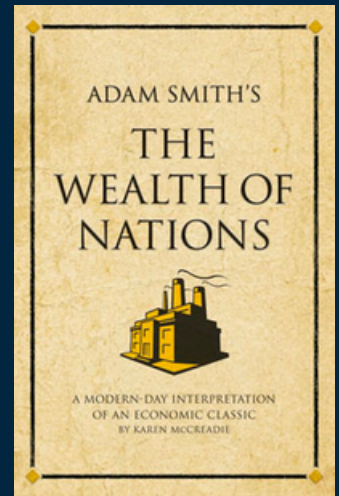
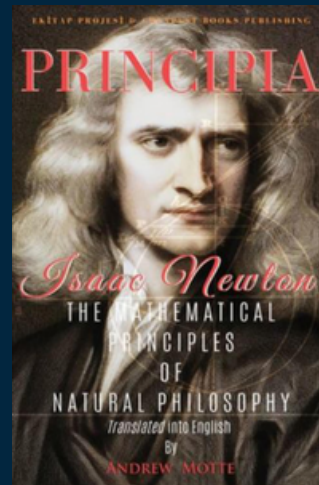
Our curriculum entails an in-depth exploration of philosophy, sciences, economics, logic, mathematics, literature, psychology, and finance, among others. These areas are studied in conjunction with significant questions of human existence and history, constantly challenging students to ask: How does this influence my life?

For instance, in the first academic year, students will delve into probing questions such as:

- **What is Enlightenment?"** — a journey into self-awareness and mastery of one's mind.
- **How can we evolve personally?** — exceptional examples and methods of self-development.
- **How do we acquire knowledge?** — key works on human knowledge acquisition.
- **How should we live?** — diverse conceptions of an ideal life.
- **How should we coexist?** — varying theories of social organization.
- **What is it like to live in a market society?** — economics, business, and entrepreneurship.
- **What does it mean to live in a scientific and technologically driven society?** — science and technology, ancient and modern.
- **What role does art play in a fulfilling life?** — how visual arts, music, drama, literature and architecture shape human existence.

Your second, third, and fourth years each revolve around similarly fundamental questions, such as the origin and history of the universe, of life, of civilizations, of language, of mathematics, of art, of science, of technology, of conflict and law, the relation of individual and social purpose, and questions of human freedom. The chosen readings for these units, selections from the Great Books classics and meaningful modern texts, are mandatory reading.

However, you have individual choice in your readings for a one-on-one tutorial each week. At these tutorials, you will engage in in-depth discussions on the readings, as well as review your personal and professional goals and progress.



Our “Socratic Scribbling” course ensures you master professional-level writing, combining classical rhetoric techniques with the requirements and objectives of contemporary life.

Integrated with your learning in the liberal arts, (as described above) you will study science, math, and foreign languages in focused tutorial classes as well as economics, personal finance, technology skills, entrepreneurship, and the critical role of art in a well-lived life.

Mid-year each of your four years of study, you will undertake an individualized practicum. You will grapple with a real-world problem in an area of professional interest, guided by tutors and professional mentors, with the goal of finding and implementing a viable solution. To augment your understanding of your choices, you will read works that provide insights into the specific disciplines you choose and discover and learn what technological skills you need to succeed.



FACULTY PROFILES

AND

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

At Reliance College, we take pride in our faculty's diverse backgrounds, deep expertise, and dedication to fostering the growth of our students. Our faculty bring with them a wealth of experience from a variety of fields and share a common commitment to our mission of promoting individual freedom and enlightenment. We call our teachers "tutors" because of their exceptional ability to guide student learning.

Marsha Familiaro Enright **Head, Program Designer, and Tutor**



Holding a B.A. in Biology from Northwestern University and an M.A. in Psychology from the New School for Social Research, Marsha Familiaro Enright is an accomplished educational entrepreneur. She founded the notable **Council Oak Montessori School** in 1990 and ran it for 27 years. In 2005, she founded the predecessor to Reliance College, The Reason, Individualism, Freedom Institute. She is an international lecturer and author with research papers on such topics as neuropsychology, philosophy of biology, and education as well as culture, literature, and politics and is the author of *Teaching Freedom: Education for a Free Society*. She created the remarkable **Great Connections program** in 2009 as a compressed version of the Reliance curriculum and has successfully run it since. She has taught at Shimer College, The Foundation for Intellectual Responsibility, Buenos Aires, and Michael Polanyi College at Universidad Francisco Marroquin.

Carmen Rodriguez Alcaron

Dean and Tutor

Carmen holds a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Michael Polanyi College at Universidad Francisco Marroquin (UFM) and an M.B.A from the Acton MBA Program. With her experience as the Head of Continuing Education at UFM, she brings a wealth of knowledge and skill to her role at Reliance College. She is a graduate and a Tutor in our Great Connections programs.



Felicia Goglia

Tutor



With a B.A. in Liberal Arts from St. John's College Annapolis, Felicia Goglia is an expert in collaborative seminars. She brings a unique perspective to the table with her background as a former intelligence analyst and as a Tutor for The Great Connections.

Stephen R.C. Hicks

Tutor

Holding a B.A. (Honors) in Philosophy from the University of Guelph and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Indiana University Bloomington, Professor Hicks is a recognized expert on philosophy and culture, and lectures internationally and extensively online. He has been Visiting Professor of Business Ethics at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., Visiting Professor at Jagiellonian University, Poland, Visiting Fellow at the Social Philosophy & Policy Center in Bowling Green, Ohio, Visiting Fellow at Harris Manchester College at Oxford University in England, Senior Fellow at The Objectivist Center in New York, and Visiting Professor at the University of Kasimir the Great, Poland. He is currently a Professor of Philosophy at Rockford University and author of several notable works, including *Nietzsche and the Nazis* and *Explaining Postmodernism: From Rousseau to Foucault*. His writing has been translated into nineteen languages. He hosts the Open College Podcast.



With a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Texas-Austin, an M.A. in Philosophy from Tufts University, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Jason Walker brings a wide range of knowledge on history of philosophy, philosophy of law, social & political philosophy, art, and ethics. He has wide teaching experience including the University of Florida-St. Petersburg, George Mason University, and George Washington University. His special interests focus on the rule of law as an emergent order and objectivity in law, but his interests are wide-ranging.

Jason Walker **Tutor**



Malachy Walsh, **Writing Tutor**



Malachy Walsh holds a B.A. in Philosophy and Economics from Georgetown and an M.A. in Literature from DePaul University. Malachy was educated in and has always loved the classics or “Great Books” of a classic liberal arts education. He used this knowledge to great effect in his advertising career. As a senior partner, director of strategy and head of the account planning at J Walter Thompson, Mr. Walsh oversaw the marketing strategy for 50 of the top 500 brands in the world. Among others, he launched Motorola’s first cell phone, and helped to revive Cheese Whiz. He has vast experience in strategic planning as well as his other passion, collaborative dialogues especially on Great Books. Moreover, he has brought classical rhetoric into the modern age with his vastly informative book, *Socratic Scribbling*.

Professor Milo Schild holds a Ph.D. in Space Physics from Rice University. He is a Professor at the University of New Mexico, and Director of the W. M. Keck Statistical Literacy project to develop statistical literacy in the liberal arts. Formerly, he was Professor in Business Administration at Augsburg College for over 20 years, and chair of the Business Department. He has taught statistical literacy since 1998. He has given talks in more than a dozen countries on statistical literacy and written more than 50 papers. His articles have been published in the ASA's Stats Magazine, in the AACU's Peer Review and in books edited by leaders in mathematics and statistics education. He is the founder of Statlit.org and brings his original method of teaching statistics for all learners to our program.

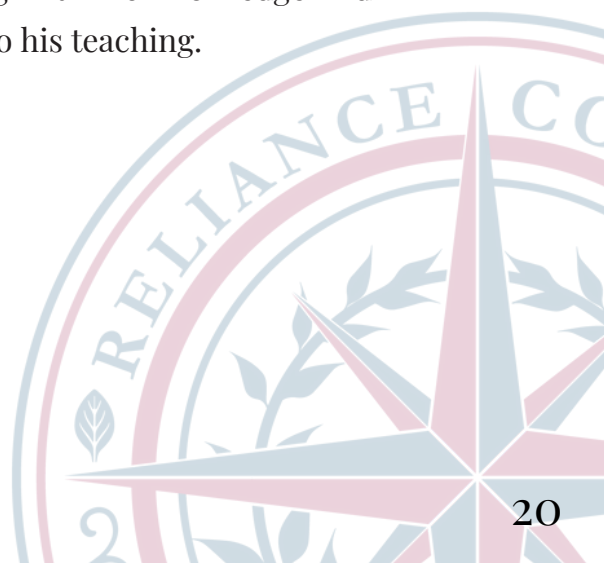
Milo Schild **Statistics Tutor**



Joel Ira Franck **Adjunct Tutor & Lecturer**



Dr. Franck holds a B.S. in Life Sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an M.D. from Yale University School of Medicine and is American Board of Neurological Surgery certified. He has practiced neurosurgery for over 40 years and holds 14 patents for innovative neurosurgical devices focusing on the treatment of whiplash injuries. He brings a deep understanding of science along with his knowledge and interest in philosophy and art to his teaching.





Practicum Mentors

Here at but a few of the talented people you will be able to tap as you work on your real-world project:

- **Ruth Baker**, J.D., Attorney at Law, **Baker and Enright**, Chicago, IL
- **Carrie Ann Biondi**, Ph.D. Philosophy, Independent Scholar, Editor and Educator, Orlando, FL
- **Larry Borland**, M.D. Pediatric Anesthesiologist, retired, Wolfeboro, NH
- **Peter Cooper**, Founder and Director, **Cooper Investments**, Melbourne, Australia
- **R. Paul Drake**, Ph.D. Physics, Johns Hopkins University, Henry Smith Carhart Professor Emeritus of Space Science, Applied Physics, and Physics at the University of Michigan, retired, Gaylord, MI
- **John Gillis**, Architect, Kansas City, and New York City
- **Jim Kandrak**, Founder and CEO Contract Guardian, entrepreneur, Cleveland, OH
- **Reena Kapoor**, M.B.A., Product Management Leader, Social Enterprise Mentor, Silicon Valley
- **Susan Mangels**, Ph.D. Policy Studies, Senior Vice President of Development Consulting Services at AC Fitzgerald, Chicago, IL
- **Ron Manners**, Electrical Engineer, Mining entrepreneur, Head, Mannwest Group and Founder of Mannkal Economic Education Foundation, Perth, Australia

Reliance College Summer Seminars

(Formally known as The Great Connections Seminars)

Founded in 2009, Reliance College Summer Seminars of the Reason, Individualism, Freedom Institute (now The Reliance College Fund), a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization, have been devoted to fostering active minds and empowering individuals to build lives of creative achievement. This program has been our “demonstration project” showing the power of Reliance College methods and curriculum, with 75% of our attendees attesting that “my life has been transformed.” In our college-level program, we use our specialized methods which strengthen reasoning skills and independent judgment. These include a focus on the objective basis of knowledge in every field, physics to poetry, as well as the relation between abstract ideas and real-world consequences. We combine these methods with content from world-changing classic texts, modern science and economics, and a special emphasis on reasoning, logic, psychological self-awareness, and practical skills, for a content-rich program. Students learn to think for themselves as well as implement ideas in the world.



A summer 2023 attendee, **Maria José Bernal** is the Executive Director of Fenalco Antioquia in Medellin, Colombia said:

“This past week has been completely enlightening and enriching to me. No matter how many times I take this seminar, I always find new things about the power of reason and Great Books. I admire your work and the huge things yet to come. I’m glad to call you a mentor.”

Students frequently return to our program again and again, to refresh themselves intellectually and motivationally, because of the program’s power. Our success in this program, year after year, lays the path for Reliance College.

The Reliance College Summer Seminar will now be the gateway to college admission at Reliance; **every applicant will be required to attend a program, allowing them to see if ours is what they want.**

Our summer seminar provides a unique opportunity for prospective students to experience our teaching methods and culture firsthand, ensuring that Reliance is the right fit for them. We are confident that this program will continue to attract motivated and enthusiastic students who are eager to learn and grow.



STUDENT LIFE

At Reliance College, we understand that your college experience extends far beyond the classroom. We're committed to offering a well-rounded, enriching student life full of opportunities for personal growth, social connection, and the joy of exploration.



Campus Facilities and Resources

To start, our classes will be conducted in a rented location in the Chicagoland area, chosen carefully with safety, transportation, and facility appropriateness in mind. We have a 5,000+ book library, and will also have subscriptions to vast online libraries and huge, local university libraries, such as that of University of Chicago or Northwestern University. For living space, we recommend students consider the fully equipped private dormitory and apartment complex, University Center, in Chicago. Here, you can access a vibrant community of 40,000 students from a variety of colleges and universities in downtown Chicago. Our staff is also available to assist students in finding individual private living quarters.

Clubs, Organizations, and Extracurricular Activities

We will offer intramural sports and actively encourage our students to form clubs of interest and engage in organizations within the wider Chicago area. As part of our commitment to fostering a strong community, the College will host all-school Friday night dinners once a month and Improv Comedy nights, among other activities.

Support Services and Resources for Students

Supporting our students is at the heart of what we do. We offer extensive mentoring and guidance as part of our program, and provide additional support as needed by individuals. Our students have access to an international network of potential mentors, contacts, and projects. In regards to health services, Chicago boasts numerous distinguished medical facilities such as Northwestern Memorial Hospital, The University of Chicago Medicine, Loyola University Medical Center, as well as the Advocate Hospital system and others. We will provide information about local healthcare facilities as needed by individual students. At Reliance College, we believe in taking care of the whole student – mind, body, and spirit.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Reliance College Summer Seminar

Preparing young people to be principled, creative individuals of independent judgment, capable of succeeding and leading in tomorrow's dynamic world. See description above.

Overseas Trips

Embark on a life-changing journey with Reliance College's Overseas Trip. Immerse yourself in the history, culture, and ideas that have shaped the world as you explore iconic locations and engage with fellow travelers. This enriching experience combines learning, exploration, recreation, and camaraderie, offering you the opportunity to delve into the lives and works of influential thinkers in their native surroundings. The program includes expert instruction, seminars, guided tours, and various recreational activities, all designed to enhance your understanding and appreciation of the historical and cultural context of your destination. Attending our Overseas Trips is elective, but highly recommended for students.

Weekly Online Great Conversations Groups

The Online Great Books Conversations Program offers engaging weekly discussions on history's most important and world-changing texts. Using a unique collaborative inquiry method, participants enjoy enlightening conversations in a respectful environment, fostering personal reasoning and conclusions. Explore classic texts relevant to modern life, delving into diverse content from renowned authors. These independent sessions provide flexibility for participants to join at their convenience. Offered free, the program aims to develop principled, creative individuals with independent judgment, capable of succeeding in tomorrow's dynamic world.

Continuing Education

Soon after Reliance College opens to undergraduates, we will offer a program to working and retired adults. Are you someone looking to expand your learning, your understanding of yourself, and your direction in life? What do you want to do next in your career? In your personal life? Reliance will offer the same powerful learning program to you in a shortened form. Stay tuned!

Establishing an Inspirational Cultural Milieu

Reliance aims to be a center of great cultural offerings to the wider world. Art, music, lectures, plays, dance, dinners: we plan to host many events for people of all ages seeking an elevated cultural experience and inspiring community of intellectually and culturally active people. Stay in the loop with us and see the exciting and uplifting events we'll offer!

SUPPORT RELIANCE COLLEGE

Overview of Giving Opportunities

At Reliance College, we believe in the power of education to change lives and shape the future. We are committed to advancing reason, individualism, and freedom, values that inspire a lifelong pursuit of knowledge and personal growth. Our donors play a crucial role in this mission, providing essential resources that enable us to deliver an unparalleled educational experience. We invite you to join us in our mission by exploring the various giving opportunities available, such as scholarships, project grants, faculty endowments, and infrastructure development.

Impact of Donations on Student Experiences and College Growth

Your generosity has a direct and profound impact on our students and our community. Donations allow us to offer financial aid to deserving students, attracting a diverse and talented student body. They also fund the development of state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge educational programs that foster critical thinking, creativity, and leadership. As Reliance College continues to grow, your support enables us to maintain our commitment to excellence and innovation in education.

Information on Planned Giving and Endowments

Planned giving and endowments are powerful tools that can help secure the future of Reliance College. A planned gift, which is arranged now and allocated at a future date, can have significant tax benefits and provide lasting support for our institution. Endowments, on the other hand, are investments that generate an ongoing source of income for the college. They can be dedicated to supporting specific areas like scholarships, faculty chairs, or project initiatives. By considering a planned gift or establishing an endowment, you can create a lasting legacy at Reliance College.

[BECOME A RELIANCE COLLEGE SUPPORTER](#)



SUCCESS STORIES AND NOTABLE ALUMNI



At Reliance College, our alumni consistently demonstrate the transformative power of a Great Connections education. Their achievements and contributions to society are a testament to the skills, knowledge, and confidence they gained during their time at our institution.

Testimonials on How Reliance College's Programs Shaped Their Careers and Lives

- **Kyle Novak**, wrote to us “I wanted to send a thank you. I finished my PhD this week and prior to the defense I was thinking about the communication skills I learned in your Socratic Seminars. They must have worked because the defense was conversational and when it was done the chair said the examiners' comments were among the most positive she's seen. Throughout graduate school the things I learned in the seminars have been invaluable for speaking to professors, colleagues, and students.”
- **Brendan Moore attests**, “The Program gave me confidence that I could achieve great things. It was like something was lit inside. I acquired the intellectual tools to come to my own conclusions. And I realized how lacking my formal education was. It was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.”
- **José Rossi shares**, “Three years ago, a friend introduced me to the weekly online seminars and there I discovered a world where ideas not only mattered, but where it mattered for everyone in the class to understand them. Participating in these seminars helped me rediscover my love for knowledge, one that is sometimes hidden and timid in the face of the castrating educational system.”

Testimonials from Parents and Alumni on the Value of their Investment

- **The mother of Jake Ilson observes,** “He came home a changed man, more adult and serious. And this change has continued.”
- **The father of Brendan Moore** reported that “He was like Columbus: he’d discovered a new world.”
- **Ryan Griggs comments,** “The experience is pretty shocking. As in: ‘wow, what if school could have been like this all along!?’ -- it would have made life so much better.”



Benefits of Investing in a Reliance College Education

Investing in a Reliance College education means investing in the development of individual autonomy and independence, deep and lasting knowledge, and practical experience that paves the way for successful career development. Our Great Connections alumni exemplify these benefits:

- **Sarah Ali told us** “Life-altering is used much too lightly, much too often. However, when I say the seminar was life-altering, I mean it with the heaviness of a woman who is in awe of her experience. My entire life I have been searching for a way to *truly* understand life--why I’m here and how I can make the most of the time I’m given.
- **Janessa Colomer says,** “I learned how to approach learning, from philosophy to mathematics, and found people who are motivated, determined, and proactive.”

These testimonials show the value of a Reliance College education. Our students will graduate with more than a degree; they step into the world with the skills, confidence, and curiosity that empowers them to design their lives and contribute meaningfully to society.

TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

At Reliance College, we believe in the value of an extraordinary education and we strive to make it accessible to as many students as possible.

Tuition and Fees

The application fee for Reliance College is \$250. The annual tuition cost is \$22,000, which can be paid quarterly in advance, providing flexibility in managing your educational expenses.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

We understand that each student's financial situation is unique, and we provide financial aid and scholarships on an individual basis. Our goal is to ensure that all students who are eager to embark on this journey with us can do so, regardless of their financial background. We provide extensive, privately funded scholarships and financial aid.

Pre-Opening Registration

As we look forward to the opening of Reliance College, we're offering a pre-opening registration. This involves a fee of \$250 deposited in our fiduciary account. The advantage of early registration is that, if accepted, students are eligible for a tuition discount.

We are committed to supporting you at every step of your academic journey, and our Financial Aid team is always ready to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have regarding tuition, fees, or financial aid.



\$250 APPLICATION FEE

FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE

ADMISSIONS

Embarking on your educational journey with Reliance College is a unique and empowering experience. Our institution combines the essence of liberal arts with a focus on individualism, freedom, and reason to offer an education that transcends the traditional.

Before you step into this transformative journey, we want you to be well-informed about our admissions process, the requirements and prerequisites, key timelines, our selection criteria, and the opportunities for you to connect with us through open house events and seminars. The following sections provide detailed information to guide you through your application process and ensure a smooth transition into our educational community.

Admissions Requirements and Prerequisites

Prospective students of Reliance College are required to provide their school transcripts as part of the application process. In addition, a completed application form and a personal statement outlining their goals and reasons for choosing Reliance College are necessary.

As part of our unique admissions process, every applicant is granted an interview with a senior member of the Reliance staff. This is to ensure a personal connection and understanding of the mission and philosophy of Reliance College.

Moreover, all applicants must attend at least one Great Connections Seminar program prior to admission. This serves both as a trial and an introduction to the methods and atmosphere of the college, providing the applicant with a clear view of our innovative educational approach.

Application Deadlines and Timelines

Reliance College operates on an academic year that begins mid-September and ends mid-May. Prospective students are required to complete their Great Connections Seminar program by August, prior to the start of the school year. We accept applications on a rolling basis, with acceptance contingent upon attendance at a Great Connections Seminar program.

ACADEMIC YEAR MID-SEPTEMBER THRU MID-MAY



Overview of the Selection Process and Criteria

Reliance College seeks students who exhibit a strong commitment to their education and personal growth. Selection is based on the applicant's dedication to participating actively in our innovative program, as demonstrated during the application process and attendance at the Great Connections Seminar.

Admissions Contact Information and Application Deadlines

Admissions are open and applications are accepted on a rolling basis until we reach our enrollment limit. For any inquiries related to the application process, deadlines, or general information, feel free to contact our admissions office.

Campus Tours and Open House Events

While we anticipate offering campus tours when our campus opens, we currently provide open house events online. These digital gatherings are excellent opportunities for students and parents alike to participate in and observe our unique seminars, providing a glimpse into the enriching experience that awaits at Reliance College. We warmly invite you to join us at these events as we continue to build and foster our life-changing educational community.



THE LAST WORD

Reliance College offers a unique, value-driven education, carefully designed to develop individual autonomy. We provide a remarkable environment that nurtures the importance of reasoning well in an environment of intellectual freedom. We believe in broadening and deepening your knowledge across various domains, while simultaneously refining your skills in logic, speaking, writing, and teamwork.

More than a traditional learning institution, we place equal emphasis on personal growth. We strive to foster your self-awareness and self-development while preparing you to navigate your personal financial and entrepreneurial ventures.

Whether you're a prospective student, a parent, a potential donor, or a future faculty member, we invite you to become a part of our mission. Students and parents, let's embark on a transformative educational journey. Donors, your generous contributions can help drive the growth of our college and make a difference in countless student lives. Aspiring faculty members, join us in our quest to provide unparalleled, individualistic education.

The Reliance College experience isn't just about the time spent within our walls; it's about the lifelong advantages and the profound impacts our unique approach to education can offer. Join us, and let's work together in paving the way for enlightened, empowered futures.



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