

## Clemson Institute for the Study of Capitalism welcomes three new faculty members

This summer, the Clemson Institute for the Study of Capitalism (CISC) hired three new faculty members to teach in the CISC's Lyceum Program.

The [Lyceum Program](#) is the flagship program of the CISC. Founded in 2014, the Lyceum Program remains the only University program that studies liberty, capitalism, the American founding, and moral character.

Spencer Krauss, Ph.D., joins as the new Assistant Director of the Lyceum Program. Before joining the CISC, he was a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Great Works Academic Certificate Program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He received his B.A. in English from San Diego State University, his MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Oregon at Eugene, and his Ph.D. in Political Philosophy and American Politics from Baylor University.



Krauss became interested in the history of political philosophy while studying creative writing and literature, and he continues to maintain a research interest in how great poets and fiction writers have understood their civic and pedagogic responsibilities. He is currently working on a manuscript project, *The Homeric Defense of Poetry*.

The Institute also welcomed two new visiting scholars.

Andrew Gross, Ph.D., arrives as a Hayek Visiting Scholar and an Instructor in the Department of Political Science. Before coming to Clemson University, he was a Faculty Lecturer in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Houston – Victoria. He received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Toronto, his M.A. in Political Science from the University of Calgary, and his Ph.D. in Political Science, specializing in Political Philosophy (Ancient and Modern) and International Relations, from the University of Toronto.



Gross's dissertation took an interdisciplinary approach to Homer's *Iliad*, building on scholarship that analyzed the poem as a work of classical literature, anthropology, and political thought. He argued that the epic poem is a unified work that provides a comprehensive account of the human situation, to which politics is central. Gross's current project is on the transfiguration of the epic hero – as an individual, and in his connections to politics – from the *Iliad*, to Sophocles' *Ajax*, to Plato's *Symposium* and *Apology of Socrates*.

Samuel Postell is also a Visiting Scholar. He holds a B.A. in Politics and English from Ashland University and an M.A. from the University of Dallas in Political Theory. Before joining CISC, Postell served as the Executive Director for the Center for Liberty and Learning and professor of

American Literature, Government, Rhetoric and Economics at Founders Classical Academy in Lewisville, Texas. He has taught American Politics and American Studies courses at the University of Dallas and Midwestern State University.



Postell maintains research interests in the U.S. Congress and legislative statesmanship, politics and literature, and administrative law. He has published essays and book chapters on the Missouri Compromise, the Whig Party, and Henry Clay. He intends to defend his dissertation this fall, tentatively titled, *Rocked in the Cradle of the Revolution: Henry Clay, Legislative Statesmanship, and the Theory of Union*.

### **About the Clemson Institute for the Study of Capitalism**

The [Clemson Institute for the Study of Capitalism](#) (CISC) is America's premier university-based teaching and research center dedicated to exploring the moral, political, and economic foundations of capitalism. Founded in 2005 and housed within Clemson University's Wilbur O. and Ann Powers College of Business, the independently financed Institute is educating a new generation of students about the moral requirements of a free society.