Entrepreneurship

Discussion Colloquium

Sponsored by the Institute for Humane Studies

186 pages

Reader Abstract: This reader offers participants an opportunity to explore the topic of entrepreneurship in an academic fashion. It mainly focuses on the intellectual contributions of economists from the Austrian tradition but also draws from the popular source of Peter Thiel's *Zero to One*.

Session 1: Introduction to Entrepreneurship (45 pages)


Session Abstract: This first session offers an introduction to the economics of entrepreneurship. It starts with Ludwig Von Mises and his foundational work *Human Action*. Then contrasting definitions of entrepreneurship from Joseph Schumpeter and Israel Kirzner. Finally it ends on William Baumol's work which builds off of Schumpeter's analysis.

Session 2: Innovation and the Market Process (62 pages)


- Preface, pages 1-3.
- Chapter 1, "The Challenge of the Future," pages 5-11.
- Chapter 3, "All the Happy Companies are Different," pages 23-34.
- Chapter 4, "The Ideology of Competition," pages 35-43.

Session Abstract: This session explores deeper into the role of entrepreneurship as part of the market process. The first piece is more from Israel Kirzner. The second work is a collection of chapters from Peter Thiel's *Zero to One*, written for a popular audience.
Session 3: Sustainability and Entrepreneurship (24 pages)


- Chapter 2, "Rethinking the Way We Think," pages 9-26.

Session Abstract: This third session is focused around chapters from Free Market Environmentalism. This session helps participants understand the relationship between entrepreneurship and solving social problems.

Session 4: Economics and Entrepreneurship (55 pages)


Session Abstract: This final session further fleshes out the economics of entrepreneurship and some of it's potential policy implications. It starts with Russell Sobel's work which seeks to understand the relationship between economic policy and entrepreneurial activity. Then Friedrich Hayek's work explains the relationship between competition and the process of economic discovery. Finally this session ends with Meg Tuszynski and Dean Stansel's work exploring how the state may or may not be able to offer incentives for entrepreneurial activity.