



## One Southlake 2025 Scholarship & Grant Overview

(Scholarship is also available at: <https://onesouthlake.com/scholarship>)

One Southlake is a 501(c)3, history enrichment program whose mission is to educate people about what it's like NOT to grow up in the United States through the stories of people who have immigrated here.

The program creates a deeper appreciation of America's founding and history through the eyes of people who lacked the liberties and opportunities many of us take for granted.

The One Southlake Scholarship for 2025 provides College and Technical School Scholarships to exceptional students. It requires several hours of online coursework, an essay or video presentation and an application. It is open to 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders, including home-school students, in the below-listed Texas counties.

One student will be awarded:

- First Prize: \$2,000
- Second Prize: \$1,500
- Third Prize: \$1,000

The One Southlake Teacher Grant requires a teacher to write a brief essay on the assigned topic. One high school teacher from the referenced North Texas counties below will win:

- \$500 Grant

### **Application Requirements:**

1. April 1, 2025: Application due by 11:59 p.m.
2. Must be a U.S. Citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States of America

3. Must provide all required elements outlined below.

**To Apply Students must:**

- be enrolled as a full-time, or home-schooled, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11th or 12th grader in one of the following Texas countries: Tarrant, Wise, Parker, Denton, or Palo Pinto.
- plan to attend accredited undergraduate colleges and universities, or vocational/technical and trade schools.
- upload an unofficial transcript (or home-school official equivalent) in the online application portal or have it emailed to OneSouthlake@gmail.com
- fill out the online application; upload your essay or video presentation; and the additional documentation described below.

**To Apply Teachers must:**

- be a high school teacher in one of the following Texas countries: Tarrant, Wise, Parker, Denton, or Palo Pinto.
- fill out the online application and upload your essay (prompt below).

**Awarding of the Scholarships & Grant:**

Scholarship winners will be recognized at their school or at a private presentation at a date to be determined where a check will be presented to the student toward their continuing education. Teacher grant winners will be notified directly.

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ESSAY PROMPT AND RULES**



ONE SOUTHLAKE™

### **One Southlake Scholarship & Grant Project**

The One Southlake 2025 Scholarship is an opportunity to do a deep into the subject of Marxism, Socialism and Communism. You'll see rare historical footage, read and hear from college professors, and listen to eyewitnesses who have experienced the loss of individual freedoms, property or who were politically persecuted.

First Prize: \$2,000

Second Prize: \$1,500

Third Prize: \$1,000

Teacher Grant: \$500

#### **Teacher Grant:**

Review the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation's teacher guide "[\*Communism: Its Ideology, Its History, and Its Legacy.\*](#)" Familiarize yourself with

VOC's [Streamable Learning Education Videos](#). Links:

<https://victimsofcommunism.org/communism-101/>

<https://victimsofcommunism.org/streamable-learning/>

Describe how you teach this subject now and how you might incorporate some of these enrichment tools, including the VOC's "Communism 101," "Tools of Communism," and "Communism and Religion," and survivors of communism as guest speakers into your course curriculum. Describe challenges, if any, to teaching these subjects.

#### **Submit your essay at the Teacher Grant Application Portal:**

<https://form.jotform.com/240517795390059>

## **Student Scholarship**

For this year's scholarship, One Southlake is using the free online curriculums of Hillsdale College and Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, two 501(c)3 educational institutions. One Southlake doesn't benefit financially from working with either organization.

\*Parents and Students please note: the Hillsdale College class is a college-level curriculum; it contains archival images of victims of communism that are graphic in nature. If you'd prefer not to view the images, please select the second option.

### **Step 1: Select and complete one of the learning modules below**



#### **Learn**

A. Marxism, Socialism, Communism from Hillsdale College: Take Hillsdale's free online [class](https://online.hillsdale.edu/pages/onesouthlake) (<https://online.hillsdale.edu/pages/onesouthlake>), a combination of brief videos with quizzes. Estimated completion time is 3.5 hours. *Save your completion certificate as a PDF file. You must upload this with your submission.*

Or

B. Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation curriculum: Read the following chapters: [Chapter 1: Communism 101](#); [Chapter 2 Tools of Communism](#) and [Chapter 3 Communism and Religion](#). Answer the questions from this abridged lesson plan found below on pages 7-9. Supplemental material is recommended but not required. *Save your answers in a PDF file and upload this with your submission.*

### **Step 2: Choose one of the following two methods below to show us what you learned.**



A. **Write:** 700 - 1,000-word essay on the prompt below. See essay details below.

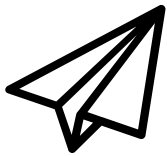
Or



**B. Video:** Create a TED-talk video presentation answering the prompt below. Feel free to use graphics to illustrate your points. Source your work. Make sure your video is no longer than 10 minutes, and you own the right to use all music & images on the video. Make sure your video does not contain inappropriate language, images or sounds.

**PROMPT:**

Marx wrote that true communism can only be achieved through brute force and oppression, and the denial of natural rights such as speech, religion, assembly and private property ownership. Describe the societal effects of socialist and/or communist government implementation of such tactics in pursuit of the promised communist utopia, and briefly explain how contemporary Marxist attitudes, such as controlled or compelled speech, left unchecked, could potentially erode the freedoms Americans enjoy today. What conclusions have you drawn from studying this issue? (In your response, refer to real-world examples you learned from either the VOC's Witness Project [testimonies](#) or from a One Southlake survivor of communism.)



**Step 3: Submit**

Link to the Student Scholarship Application Portal:

<https://form.jotform.com/240447074737056>

Upload your answers to the VOC chapter assignment or Hillsdale Class Certificate, along with your essay and unofficial transcript or other information to the scholarship portal. Deadline is April 1, 2025, 11:59 p.m. \*Finalists might be asked to speak at a One Southlake event honoring our winners!

**Essay & Video Rules & Guidelines:**

1. Essay Format: A qualifying essay will be 700 - 1,000 words (not including bibliography), double spaced, 12-point font, and 1-inch margins.

2. Use of Artificial Intelligence. It is prohibited to use any software or program which utilizes artificial intelligence to create your essay or video. If your essay receives a score of 40 percent or higher on two different AI detectors, it will automatically be eliminated.
3. Construction of Entry: You are responsible for the research, design, and creation of your entry. You may seek guidance from your teachers as you research and analyze your material, but your conclusions must be your own. You may have reasonable help preparing your project e.g. a mentor may provide context on your topic as both a primary or secondary source.
4. Annotated Bibliography: An annotated bibliography is required for all entries. List only those sources that contributed to the development of your entry, i.e., sources that provided usable information or new perspectives in preparing your entry. Sources of visual and audio materials and oral interviews must be included. Combine photos or other materials from the same collection in a single citation. Your annotated bibliography is not included in the word count. Note: Oral history transcripts, correspondence between you and experts, questionnaires, and other primary or secondary materials used as sources for your entry should be cited in your bibliography but not included as attachments to your bibliography.
5. Plagiarism: You must acknowledge in your annotated bibliography all sources used in your entry. Failure to credit sources is plagiarism and will result in disqualification.
6. Permission to Publish: Winning papers sometimes are published by contest officials; you must be prepared to give permission for such publication.

**Information about Judging:** Judging will be double blind with volunteers using a rubric that allots the following weight:

- Demonstration of Understanding of material (70%)
- Clarity of Presentation (30%)

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VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM  
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

A One Southlake 2025 Scholarship “Learn” Option. If you’re not able to access the websites through links in this document, please visit <https://onesouthlake.com/voc-assessment>

Read the following chapters: [Chapter 1: Communism 101](#); [Chapter 2 Tools of Communism](#) and [Chapter 3 Communism and Religion](#) and answer the questions below. Questions adapted from the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation lesson plans for Chapters 1-3. *Remember to save all answers as a PDF to submit with your application.*

**Communism: A History of Repression,  
Violence, and Victims**

**Chapter 1 Communism 101**

**Answer the following:**

- The tragedy of communism is that it promises a utopia, but this never becomes a reality. Why? Consider the consequences of a monopoly of power by a totalitarian leader and a fearsome security apparatus.
- What are the differences between the U.S. Bill of Rights’ 10 specified rights and the *Communist Manifesto*’s 10 measures to achieve communism?
- Watch [Communism will Always be Violent \(3 minutes\)](#). Why is violence a central component to communism as outlined by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels in the *Communist Manifesto*?

**Chapter 2 Tools of Communism**

### Answer the following:

- Why are propaganda and censorship fundamental in a communist country? How might tearing down local statues and artwork or removing certain books be considered propaganda?
- Many communist regimes maintain control over the population by disrupting family bonds and friendships, turning people against one another. Why might loyalties to something or someone other than the government be a bad thing for communism?
- Several famines resulted from communist revolutions throughout the twentieth century. What caused these?
  - Watch the following video *The Truth About Stalin's Prison Camps*: <https://youtu.be/62BQ4Ruu1tk>
  - Answer the following questions:
    - What tools from chapter 2 are prevalent in Vera's story?
    - Why were Vera and her family sent to the Gulag? What was the main reason people were sent to the Gulags?
    - What characteristics do all communist regimes share?

### Chapter 3 Communism & Religion

Watch the videos listed below as a primer on the treatment of religion in communist countries.

- *The Chinese Communist Party is Erasing Muslim Identity (1 minute)*  
<https://youtu.be/dDrdjL0bkrM>
- *The History of Christian Persecution in the Soviet Union (4 minutes)*  
<https://youtu.be/D0XSw3uMKWk>

### Answer the following:

- Why did the Communists seek to suppress or eliminate religion and why was doing so a central component of the *Communist Manifesto*?\*
- What methods did the Communists use to remove religion from society?
- How and where is religious persecution still used today?

### ***Communist Manifesto's 10 Measures to Achieve Communism***\*<sup>i</sup>

1. Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes.



2. *A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.*
3. *Abolition of all right of inheritance.*
4. *Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels.*
5. *Centralization of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly.*
6. *Centralization of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State.*
7. *Extension of factories and instruments of production owned by the State; the bringing into cultivation of wastelands, and the improvement of the soil generally in accordance with a common plan.*
8. *Equal liability of all to labor. Establishment of industrial armies, especially for agriculture.*
9. *Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of the distinction between town and country, by a more equable distribution of the population over the country.*
10. *Free education for all children in public schools. Abolition of children's factory labor in its present form. Combination of education with industrial production, &c., &c."*

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<sup>i</sup> Public Domain, *The Communist Manifesto*, photograph, Encyclopedia Britannica, accessed June 29, 2022, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Communist-Manifesto/images-videos#Images> and "The Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels," Full Text Archive, accessed June 29, 2022, <https://www.fulltextarchive.com/page/The-Communist-Manifesto/>.

**About Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation:**

The Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation (VOC) is an educational, research, and human rights nonprofit organization devoted to commemorating the more than 100 million victims of communism around the world and to pursuing the freedom of those still living under totalitarian regimes. \* The above questions are adapted and abridged from Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation's Online Curriculum. Visit the [VOC](#) to view the unabridged curriculum.