

SAINTS GLOBAL
LEADER GUIDE

FREE TRADE

INTELLECTUAL CORE

Version 2026.1



Free Trade



PURPOSE & IDENTITY

SKILL BADGE PURPOSE

To develop an informed, disciplined understanding of capitalism and free trade, emphasizing how voluntary exchange, markets, and rule of law drive prosperity in the United States and the global economy.

DEVELOPMENT CORE: INTELLECTUAL

This badge develops intellectual attributes through focused activities and reflection. Saints will grow in this area while building practical skills.


CORE FOCUSES

- Principles of capitalism and free markets
- Voluntary exchange and comparative advantage
- Trade, productivity, and economic growth
- U.S. economic system and global trade leadership
- Moral responsibility, fairness, and stewardship in commerce

TIME COMMITMENT	RECOMMENDED AGE
4-6 weeks (suggested)	13+



SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

-  **CIVIC DISCOURSE**
Discussions should remain respectful, fact-based, and focused on understanding economic principles rather than partisan advocacy.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Troopmaster: _____

Emergency: _____



THE DPAR METHOD

Saints Global uses the DPAR method for skill badge completion. As a leader, you should practice DPAR yourself when preparing to teach.

D

DISCOVER

Learn foundational knowledge and concepts. Research, study, and explore the topic.

YOUR ROLE AS LEADER:

- Immerse yourself in the material before teaching
- Study each requirement—understand what AND why
- Anticipate questions saints might ask

P

PLAN

Create a personal action plan with goals and timeline.

YOUR ROLE AS LEADER:

- Design your teaching approach for each requirement
- Gather materials and prepare discussion questions
- Consider how to adapt for different learning styles

A

ACT

Execute through hands-on practice with leader guidance.

YOUR ROLE AS LEADER:

- Shift from teacher to guide—step back
- Create safe space for practice and mistakes
- Model the skills yourself when helpful

R

REFLECT

Review what was learned and share experiences gained.

YOUR ROLE AS LEADER:

- Facilitate meaningful conversations
- Ask open-ended questions, listen more than speak
- Celebrate growth and help saints see their progress



STEP 1: DISCOVER

LEADER PREPARATION

- ☐ Review all DISCOVER requirements thoroughly
- ☐ Gather necessary resources and materials
- ☐ Prepare discussion questions and activities
- ☐ Identify potential challenges saints may face

STEP 1: DISCOVER — TEACHING GUIDE

Requirement 1a: Explain the core principles of capitalism and free trade, including private property, voluntary exchange, competition, and profit.

HOW TO TEACH

- Use everyday examples such as buying food or clothing
- Contrast voluntary exchange with forced exchange
- Explain why profit signals value creation
- Connect freedom in markets to personal responsibility

Completion: Saint clearly explains core capitalist and free trade principles.

Requirement 1b: Describe how free trade operates within the U.S. economy and how it connects the United States to global markets.

HOW TO TEACH

- Trace a common product from raw material to consumer
- Identify imported and exported components
- Discuss how trade partners benefit on both sides
- Reinforce the role of trade in everyday life

Completion: Saint accurately describes U.S. participation in global trade.



STEP 2: PLAN

LEADER PREPARATION

- ☐ Review all PLAN requirements thoroughly
- ☐ Gather necessary resources and materials
- ☐ Prepare discussion questions and activities
- ☐ Identify potential challenges saints may face

STEP 2: PLAN — TEACHING GUIDE

Requirement 2a: Explain comparative advantage and how specialization increases productivity and wealth.

HOW TO TEACH

- Use a simple two-country or two-person example
- Compare self-sufficiency vs specialization outcomes
- Explain opportunity cost in practical terms
- Apply the concept to a U.S. industry

Completion: Saint explains comparative advantage correctly.

Requirement 2b: Analyze the role of rules, contracts, and property rights in supporting free markets.

HOW TO TEACH

- Discuss what happens when contracts are not enforced
- Explain why trust matters in trade
- Connect rule of law to investment confidence
- Use U.S. legal protections as examples

Completion: Saint explains why rule of law is essential to free trade.



STEP 3: ACT

LEADER PREPARATION

- ☐ Review all ACT requirements thoroughly
- ☐ Gather necessary resources and materials
- ☐ Prepare discussion questions and activities
- ☐ Identify potential challenges saints may face

STEP 3: ACT — TEACHING GUIDE

Requirement 3a: Conduct a simple trade simulation showing how voluntary exchange benefits all parties involved.

HOW TO TEACH

- Use tangible items or role-play scenarios
- Require explanation after each exchange
- Highlight mutual benefit rather than equality
- Debrief outcomes as a group

Completion: Saint demonstrates voluntary exchange with clear reasoning.

Requirement 3b: Evaluate a real U.S. trade good or industry and explain how free trade affects workers, consumers, and producers.

HOW TO TEACH

- Encourage use of reliable sources
- Balance benefits with honest challenges
- Avoid slogans—require explanation
- Connect analysis back to core principles

Completion: Saint explains impacts of free trade on a U.S. industry.

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STEP 3: ACT — TEACHING GUIDE (CONTINUED)

Requirement 3c: Explain the difference between free trade and protectionism and demonstrate the economic effects of each.

HOW TO TEACH

- Use simple price examples
- Compare short-term vs long-term effects
- Discuss unintended consequences
- Reinforce consumer impact

Completion: Saint accurately contrasts free trade and protectionism.



STEP 4: REFLECT

LEADER PREPARATION

- ☐ Review all REFLECT requirements thoroughly
- ☐ Gather necessary resources and materials
- ☐ Prepare discussion questions and activities
- ☐ Identify potential challenges saints may face

STEP 4: REFLECT — TEACHING GUIDE

Requirement 4a: Explain how free trade and capitalism encourage innovation, opportunity, and higher standards of living.

HOW TO TEACH

- Connect innovation to competition
- Discuss productivity and wage growth
- Use historical or modern U.S. examples
- Encourage personal reflection on opportunity

Completion: Saint connects free trade to prosperity and innovation.

Requirement 4b: Describe how ethical behavior, fairness, and stewardship should guide participation in free markets.

HOW TO TEACH

- Discuss honesty and responsibility in trade
- Address exploitation and corruption concerns
- Connect ethics to long-term trust
- Encourage personal accountability

Completion: Saint explains ethical responsibilities within free markets.



RESOURCES & CONTACT

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Saints Global Resource Library — Online materials and guides
- DPAR Method Quick Reference — Printable guide for leaders
- Child and Youth Program Guidebook — LDS Church Official Documentation for Children and Youth
- For the Strength of Youth — A Guide for Making Choices

SAINTS GLOBAL CONTACT INFORMATION

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Thank you for leading Saints Global!

Your dedication makes a difference in the lives of our children and youth.