



## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

### *Doctor of Liberal Studies Program*

[smudls@smu.edu](mailto:smudls@smu.edu)

214.768.4273

Within the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development, Southern Methodist University's Graduate Liberal Studies program (GLS) is accepting applications for each fall semester beginning in 2015. Applications received by June 1<sup>st</sup> will receive priority review; applications received after that date are reviewed on a rolling basis until admission decisions are complete.

To maintain the high degree of individualized attention to each doctoral student, the DLS program will enroll a cohort of 15-20 highly competitive students per year.

**Criteria for Admission:** The SMU Doctor of Liberal Studies program seeks intellectually serious adult students who have earned their master's degree in a field related to their plans for advanced study. SMU encourages students with strong academic qualifications and outstanding professional/community leadership backgrounds, who have a passion for advanced interdisciplinary study with the intention of making high-level contributions to their workplace, society and the world to apply.

**How to Apply:** To apply for admission to the Doctor of Liberal Studies program, you must submit the following for consideration:

- **Completion of the SMU application**  
The application is downloadable from website as well: [www.smu.edu/dls/admission.asp](http://www.smu.edu/dls/admission.asp).
- **Official "sealed" undergraduate transcripts from all previous undergraduate and graduate study**  
You must request that official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended be sent directly by the registrar of each institution. A GPA of 3.0 or higher and graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher is desired.
- **Letter of Purpose**  
The Doctor of Liberal Studies (DLS) is designed for the experienced adult learner who has earned a master's degree but craves an opportunity to do and be more by pursuing rigorous interdisciplinary study guided by their own intellectual passion and commitment to the community. In a three-page essay, which must be included with your application, discuss the curricular area you would like to focus on as well as the ideas and questions you would like to read, write and think about, and how doing so through this program will enrich your life, your workplace/profession and have a substantive impact on society. Please include prior inquiry and experiences, formal or informal, which have influenced your decision to apply to the program.
- **Academic Writing Sample**  
Please submit a recent (preferably within the past five years) research-based academic writing sample, 10-15 pages. If this is unavailable, other writing samples of comparable length may be substituted with approval from the Graduate Liberal Studies directors.
- **Three Letters of Recommendation**  
At least one letter should be from a professor from a prior graduate program who can attest to the applicant's academic proficiency to participate in a doctoral program and one letter should be from a direct supervisor in your organization.
- **Resume/Curriculum Vita**
- **Personal Interview**  
An interview with the Program Director and Faculty Chair is **mandatory**.
- **Application Fee**  
\$75 (checks or money orders may be made payable to Southern Methodist University). Credit card payments cannot be accepted.
- **The GRE (Graduate Record Examination)**  
The GRE is not required, but applicants are welcome to submit their scores if they feel the scores would add to the strength of their application.



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**Submitting Your Application:** Individual application materials may arrive under separate cover. Please submit the completed application and mail it via postal mail to the following address:

Southern Methodist University  
Graduate Liberal Studies  
P.O. Box 750253  
Dallas, TX 75275-0253

You may also submit your application by scanning it and emailing it to [smudls@smu.edu](mailto:smudls@smu.edu).

*In order to review your application, we must have received in our office, the completed application, all official transcripts, letter of purpose, academic writing sample, three letters of recommendation and resume/curriculum vita. Please contact the GLS Office to schedule the mandatory interview.*



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**Please Print or Type:**

**Today's Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Fall 20** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Maiden

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street and Number Apt. City State Zip

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street and Number Apt. City State Zip

Employer and Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name Position

\_\_\_\_\_ County State Zip

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever applied for admission to SMU? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please provide the year and semester \_\_\_\_\_

SMU ID number if you attended previously or if you are employed by SMU: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a US Citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ If "no," what is your visa status? \_\_\_\_\_

\*For Non U.S. Citizen Only: If you are a Permanent Resident, please state your alien card identification:

**Prominent Ethnic Background:** The information you provide will be used in a nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with applicable civil rights laws, solely for required reporting under federal and/or state laws.

Please check the number that applies to you: \_\_\_\_\_ 01 American Indian or Alaska Native \_\_\_\_\_ 05 White, non-Hispanic  
\_\_\_\_\_ 02 Asian or Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_ 06 Foreign Student, Temporary Visa  
\_\_\_\_\_ 03 Black, non-Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ 07 Foreign Student, Refugee Status  
\_\_\_\_\_ 04 Hispanic or Mexican-American \_\_\_\_\_ 08 Unspecified or Other



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### Education

List in chronological order all colleges and universities attended:

#### *Undergraduate*

Institution	Major	Dates of Attendance	Degree/Year Granted
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Institution	Major	Dates of Attendance	Degree/Year Granted
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#### *Graduate*

Institution	Major	Dates of Attendance	Degree/Year Granted
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Institution	Major	Dates of Attendance	Degree/Year Granted
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### References

List below the names and addresses of the three references you have asked to write letters of recommendation for you. Please include email addresses if available.

Name
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Address	Phone Number	Email Address
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Name
------

Address	Phone Number	Email Address
---------	--------------	---------------

Name
------

Address	Phone Number	Email Address
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If you have ever been dismissed or suspended from, or denied readmission to any school, please state particulars.

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#### Criminal History

Are you currently under indictment for any crime? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or received deferred adjudication for any felony, state jail felony, or Class A misdemeanor? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever received or are you currently on probation? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

*(Disclosure in the affirmative with respect to criminal-history questions will not necessarily result in rejection of an applicant for admission. Failure to disclose such a record, if it exists, and to explain that record honestly, however, will subject a student to the University's judicial process and may result in dismissal from the University. Failure to provide an explanation for an affirmative response to this question will halt the review of your application.)*

How did you hear about the DLS program?\_\_\_\_\_

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**Southern Methodist University encourages and gives full consideration to all applicants for admission, financial aid, and employment. The University does not discriminate in access to, or employment in, its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or disability.**

*Please sign below to indicate that all the information you have included in your application is complete, accurate, and honestly presented.*

**Applicant Signature:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Please print your name:**\_\_\_\_\_