7:30–8:15 a.m.   Check-in and breakfast
8:15–8:30 a.m.   Opening remarks
    Michael L. Gillette, Humanities Texas
8:30–9:15 a.m.   The Articles of Confederation
    Denver Brunsman, The George Washington University
9:20–10:05 a.m.  Compromises in Adopting the Constitution
    Joseph Kobylka, Southern Methodist University
10:05–10:25 a.m.  Break and group photo
10:25–10:35 a.m.  Humanities Texas educational resources
10:35–11:20 a.m.  The Bill of Rights
    Carol Berkin, Baruch College
11:25 a.m.–12:10 p.m.  Teaching the Constitution and the Bill of Rights
    Charles Flanagan, National Archives
12:10–1:00 p.m.   Lunch
1:00–3:15 p.m.   Primary source seminars
3:15–3:30 p.m.   Final announcements
CAROL BERKIN is Presidential Professor of History Emerita at Baruch College & the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She is the author of several books, including First Generations: Women in Colonial America; A Brilliant Solution: Inventing the American Constitution; Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America’s Independence; Civil War Wives: the Life and Times of Angelina Grimke Weld, Varina Howell Davis, and Julia Dent Grant; Wondrous Beauty: The Life and Adventures of Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte; The Bill of Rights: The Fight to Secure America’s Liberties; and, most recently, A Sovereign People: The Crises of the 1790s and the Birth of American Nationalism. Berkin is a frequent contributor to PBS and History Channel television documentaries on early American and Revolutionary era-history and serves on the scholarly boards of several professional organizations including the Museum of American Women and the New-York Historical Society’s Center for Women’s History.


CHARLES FLANAGAN is outreach supervisor at the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. Previously, he was a high school teacher for thirty years. During his last two decades in the classroom, Flanagan was the humanities department chair and history teacher at the Key School in Annapolis, Maryland. While at Key, he led the development of an interdisciplinary literature and history curriculum that featured hands-on learning with classic literature and primary sources in history. Flanagan has a BA from Assumption College, an MA from St. John’s College, and a PhD in American studies from the University of Maryland.

JOSEPH F. KOBYLKA is associate professor of history at Southern Methodist University. He earned his BA in government and history at Beloit College and his PhD in political science from the University of Minnesota. Since joining the SMU faculty in 1983, he has published three books—The Politics of Obscenity, Public Interest Law: An Annotated Bibliography, and The Supreme Court and Legal Change: Abortion and the Death Penalty—and several journal articles and book chapters. His teaching interests touch on American constitutional law and politics, judicial decision-making, and American political thought. He is currently finishing a biography of former Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun and will then turn to a study of recent church-state litigation. Professor Kobylka assisted in developing the award-winning 2007 PBS series The Supreme Court. His “Cycles of American Political Thought”—thirty-six lectures on the development of political philosophy in America—was published by The Teaching Company in late 2006. Selected twice by SMU to give the Opening Convocation Address (2001, 2014) and recipient of four SMU research grants and fellowships, Kobylka has also won numerous teaching and service awards at SMU. He serves as faculty advisor to the Honor Council, the Political Science Symposium, and Pi Sigma Alpha.