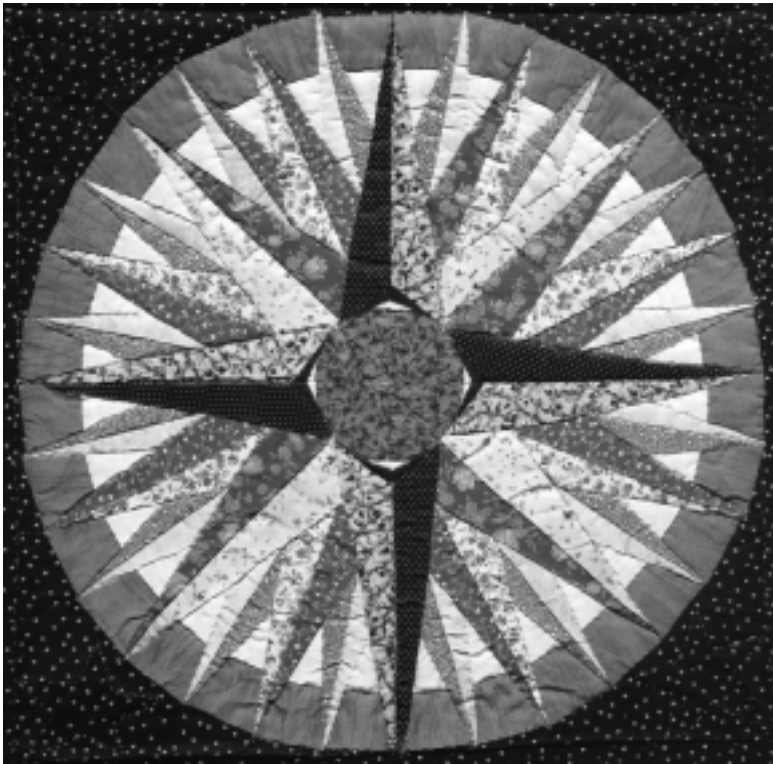


Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute

Spring Semester 2024



Sponsored by



THE ROAD SCHOLAR INSTITUTE NETWORK

EXPLORERS LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
OF SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
10 FEDERAL STREET, SUITE 10, SALEM, MA 01970
978.744.0804

Spring Semester 2024

Members and presenters join in active peer learning to share their knowledge and experience by creating, coordinating and participating in courses on a voluntary basis. We provide programs that are challenging, thought-provoking, sometimes controversial and frequently interactive. These vary in length from a day to a semester; range in format from lectures and discussions to hands-on workshops and field trips; and cover topics from the arts and sciences to current events and foreign affairs.

The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute offers two academic terms a year, beginning in September and March. **Members may enroll in up to eight courses per semester.** Classes meet for one and one half to two hours, either mornings or afternoons. Classes are held Monday through Thursday. Between terms there are Intersession programs which are open to the public. Members and their guests are welcome to attend all Intersession events.

On the cover: Mariner Compass Design by Kay Piemonte.

WELCOME TO EXPLORERS

Growing older in America is characterized by rapid changes. We are discarding negative stereotypes and seizing control of our lives. New social innovations are now the expected, not the exception. The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute is such an innovation. When we retire, we may miss the intellectual challenges and interpersonal relationships that made our lives interesting during our careers. Like our muscles, our minds need exercise to stay young. The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute recognizes this need and invites people 50 years or older to join us in exercising our minds and keeping vital.

As older adults, we can be intense, self-motivated learners. We explore new subjects and share our collective knowledge and experiences. The Explorers Lifelong Learning Institute encourages us to continue learning, to expand our horizons, and to enhance our personal development. There are no academic admissions requirements, examinations, no grades; learning is its own reward. Our greatest resource is the exuberant wisdom of our membership.

EXPLORERS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

- Attend Explorers academic courses as well as Intersession programs

CODE OF CONDUCT

Explorers provides programs which are challenging, thought-provoking, sometimes controversial and frequently interactive.

With this in mind we expect the following from our members and presenters: • that

they be considerate and respectful.

- that even in moments of disagreement they exercise good manners: keeping in mind that disagreement can be viewed as positive.
- that they take responsibility for their words and actions.

We join in active peer learning in order to share our knowledge and experience and in order to learn and grow together.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The **6 month, non-refundable** single membership fee of **\$175** or domestic partnership **non-refundable** membership of **\$305** admits **new** members from **March-August**.

Notification will be sent to those confirmed; all others will be placed on a waiting list.

Fee reductions are available based on need. Your request will remain confidential and should be mailed to:

Fee Reduction Committee, c/o Explorers LLI
10 Federal Street, Suite 10
Salem, MA 01970

Explorers Center

Telephone: 978.744.0804 Email: explorers@verizon.net Complete catalogue online: explorerslli.org

Office Manager: Dawn Plona

Webmaster: Marian Aylward

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2024 SPRING SCHEDULE

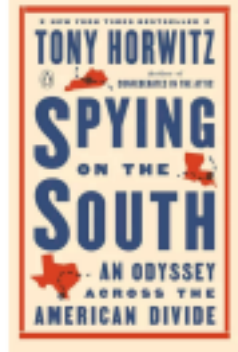
Only Members Are Eligible to Register for Courses.

BOOK CLUB

Monday 10-11 am ZOOM Coordinator: Roz Eschelbacher

All Explorers Welcome! First or second Monday of the month. No sign up necessary, but helpful if you enroll to get the link. Does not count as one of your courses.

Book Club will not be counted as one of your eight courses. It is limited to members only.



February 5:

***Spying on the South* by Tony Horwitz**

Frederick Law Olmsted toured some of the Southern states before the beginning of the Civil War describing what he saw. Tony Horwitz tried to replicate that journey around 2017. Then it was slave vs. free state. Now it is red vs. blue. How have the themes changed?

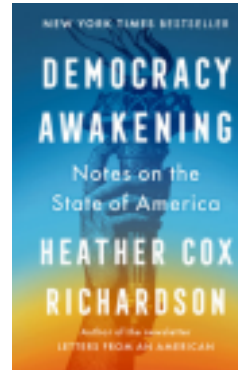
Discussion Leader: **Bob Hooker**

March 4:

***Democracy Awakening* by Heather Cox Richardson**

Historian, essayist who writes daily, brings a sweeping connect the dots account of how we got to where we are now, 2023.

Discussion Leader: **Dr. Peter Sheckman**

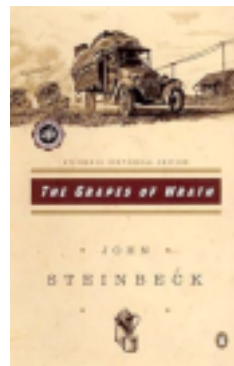


April 1:

***Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck**

Pulitzer Prize-winning controversial epic of the Great Depression. Depicts the struggle to retain dignity and to preserve the family in the face of disaster and adversity, 1939.

Discussion Leader: **Anita Mehlman**

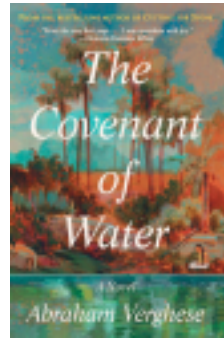


May 6:

***The Covenant of Water*
by Abraham Verghese**

Epic family saga of three generations in southwest India by the author of *Cutting for Stone*, 2023.

Discussion Leader: **TJ Jefferson**

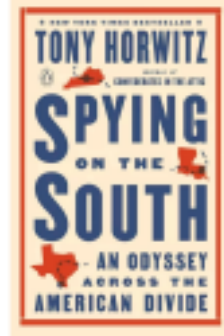


June 3:

***Spying on the South*
by Tony Horwitz**

Frederick Law Olmsted toured some of the Southern states before the beginning of the Civil War describing what he saw. Tony Horwitz tried to replicate that journey around 2017. Then it was slave vs. free state. Now it is red vs. blue. How have the themes changed?

Discussion Leader: **Bob Hooker**

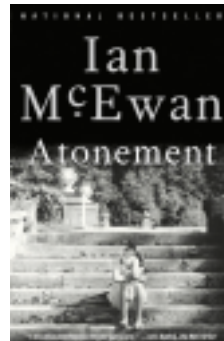


July 8:

***Atonement*
by Ian McEwan**

Novel of love, war, childhood and class, guilt and forgiveness, 2003.

Discussion Leader: **Linda Medwid**

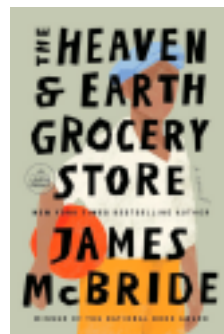


August 5:

***The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*
by James McBride**

Set in Pre WW2 rural Pennsylvania, the novel explores the challenges and bonds of marginalized groups in order to survive, 2023.

Discussion Leader: **TBA**



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Course listings are in-person unless specified as a remote offering by the course's facilitator.

Members may register for up to 8 courses both in-person and remote offerings, as the schedule permits.

Remote links will be sent along with registration confirmations.

MONDAY

101 Art History

Monday 9-11 am

Class Leader: **Barry Poretsky**

March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 22, 29

Some artists have staying power. Others are being re-evaluated. Others have faded. Which painters, sculptors, architects, and designers, born in 1906, were the innovators?

Course Format: discussion, video

Supplies: pens

Limited to 15



102 Ben Franklin – The Wisdom of the Man

Monday 9:30-11 am

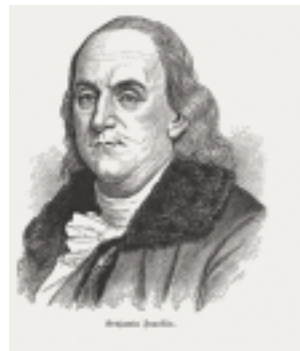
Class Leader: **Peter Gilligan**

March 4, 11, 18

This course will explain his gifts and wisdom to our country from an historic perspective.

Course Format: Discussion

Suggested books or supplies: *Poor Richard's Almanack*



103 Everyday Law for Successful Living ZOOM

Monday 9:30-11 am

Class Leaders: **Andrea A.J. Witt, Esq., CELA and Christine Hurley, Esq.**

March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8

This seminar focuses on everyday legal issues and solutions that seniors should reflect upon and consider to ensure that they

remain in control of their financial and health care decisions, and to protect themselves and their assets. Each 2-hour long session will offer lecture, group discussion and case presentation with detailed focus on a particular area:



1. Achieving Your Goals with Essential Estate Planning Documents
2. Trusts: What They Are, What They Can and Cannot Accomplish, and How They Can be an Indispensable Part of Your Estate Plan.
3. The Perils of Probate: Administering an Estate Through Probate, and How to Avoid the Process Entirely.
4. Real Estate 101: Best Tips and Tricks for Both the Buyer and The Seller.
5. Navigating the Guardianship and Conservatorship Process.
6. Protecting Your Assets: What the Nursing Home Won't Tell You About Avoiding the "Spend-Down"

Participants should finish the course with a better understanding of their legal rights, Estate planning options, and how to protect their loved ones and their assets.

104 Play Reading *Limited to 15*

Monday 11:30-1:30 pm

Class Leaders: **John Archer**

March 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 22

How do our 2 plays (that we will be reading out loud), dissect, discuss, affect us today in our lives or do they?

Course Format: We will be reading 3 plays and watching some videos.

Plays:

1. *An Enemy of the People* by Henrik Ibsen (read for first class)
2. *The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov
3. *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett

105 World War I

Monday 11:30-1:30 pm

Class Leader: **Edward Finglas**

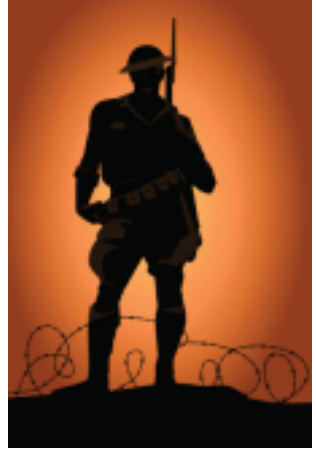
March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8, 22, 29; May 6, 13

2024 marks the 110th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I, a conflict whose negative consequences persist to this day. This course will offer a general treatment of the conflict, utilizing Hew Strachan's book and accompanying videos.

Course Format: Each class will begin with a video presentation lasting approximately 50 minutes, followed by a break. This will be followed by a lecture/discussion session lasting one hour.

Required books or supplies: Strachan, Hew, *The First World War* Penguin Books 2005 ISBN 978-0-14-303518-3

Required reading for first class: Strachan, Introduction and Chapter I



106 *The New Yorker* Poem Limited to 30 Monday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: **Claire Keyes**

April 1, 8, 22, 29; May 6

Many of us are baffled by the poetry which appears in *The New Yorker*.

Most of us skip these poems to get to the non-fiction, fiction and criticism that we find more readable

and more enjoyable. This course will take up poetry appearing in recent issues of *The New Yorker*. Are these poems truly inscrutable or do we give them too hasty a reading? What about these poems merited their publication in one of our premier magazines?

Course Format: this course will be part lecture, part discussion.

Topics to be covered: Each class will be devoted to 3-5 poems which have appeared in *The New Yorker* magazine.

Text: Photocopies of the poems will be provided.

Required reading for first class: none. We will read and discuss poems from the handout.

Recommended background reading: How to Read a Poem from www.Poets.org. The website for the Academy of American Poets.



TUESDAY

201 Lend Me Your Ear

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Marilyn Day**

March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9

We will read and listen to memorable speeches throughout history by all sorts of speakers: men and women of many nationalities, races, ages and times. We will discuss the techniques that make a speech great and what the impact of the speeches is on us, today's audience.

Course Format: Reading, discussion

Required books or supplies: *Lend Me Your Ears* by William Safire, 1997 ed. ISBN: 978-0393040050, available used on Amazon

202 Poetry and My Life Poetry *Limited to 25*

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Dr. Clemens Schoenebeck**

April 2, 9, 16, 23

This course will offer Dr. Schoenebeck's personal life story and how this led to poetry, how he writes and develops poems, and how poetry engenders personal understanding and growth.

Books or supplies required for course participants: - of interest

C. Schoenebeck *Where the Time Went: Poems at Eighty*

C. Schoenebeck *Dancing With Fireflies*

203 Film Club

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Rick Cacace**

April 16, 30; May 14, 28

Participants will view a movie in advance of the meeting (all films available on Netflix). We will discuss the movie in the meeting.

Course Format: moderated discussion of the film

Required books or supplies: Participants should view the film on Netflix or some other media in advance.

Required for first class: View *Oh Brother, where Art Thou*.

April 16

Oh Brother, where Art Thou (2000) Comedy

The Coen Brothers comedy classic. The classic Greek story of the Odyssey set in Depression era Alabama.

April 30

Lucy (2014) Science Fiction

A woman inadvertently caught in a dark deal, turns into a super warrior to get her revenge.

May 14

The Irishman (2019) Crime

Based on the story of Frank Sheeran, a truck driver, who becomes a Mafia hitman, and eventually is involved with Jimmy Hoffa.

May 28

Rebecca (2020) Romance

Young newlywed arrives at her husband's imposing estate and finds herself battling the shadow of the first wife, Rebecca, whose legacy lives on long after her death.

204 Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Tuesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Mary Jo Wagner**

April 23; May 7, 21; June 4

Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) are medicines and health practices that are not usually used by doctors. CM is used in addition to standard treatments, while AM is used instead of standard treatments.

Complementary, Alternative, or Integrative Health: What's in a Name? NCCIH (nih.gov)

Course Format: Four practitioners will discuss: Acupuncture, Homeopathy, Naturopathic Medicine, Myofascial Release.

Required books or supplies: No books. For self-study: library books, internet searches. A handout will be provided at each session to include definition, where to find, and recommended books for further study.

Suggested books or supplies: Complementary, Alternative, or Integrative Health: What's in a Name? National Institutes of Health, <https://www.nccih.nih.gov/health/complementary-alternative-or-integrative-health—whats-in-a-name>

Complementary and Integrative Medicine, National Library of Medicine <https://medlineplus.gov/complementaryandintegrativemedicine.html>

Types of Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Johns Hopkins Medicine <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/types-of-complementary-and-alternative-medicine>

April 23

Acupuncture-Speaker TBA

May 7

What is Homeopathy? Homeopathy is an Alternative and Complementary Medicine that is safe and effective using natural remedies that work to **reduce** imbalance that cause disease...also simultaneously **strengthening** the individual's "Life Force" restoring Harmony and Balance to the whole organism at all levels of Mind, Body, Spirit and Emotions. Susan Keefe, CCH, <http://www.susanshomeopathy.com/>

May 21

Naturopathic Medicine-Speaker TBA

June 4

Learn How to Get out of Pain and Keep Moving with Myofascial Release

You might attribute your pain to sore muscles, joint stiffness and getting older but it's probably coming from something you've never heard of – your **fascia** (connective tissue). Learn about your fascial system, the safe and gentle technique myofascial release, as well as some simple self-care techniques to take home. Jessica Eddy-Storey, OTR/L, LMT, RYT, Owner Transform Myofascial Release, <https://www.transformmfr.com/>

**205 Discussing Divisive Issues with Civility
Tuesday 9:30-11 am**

Limited to 20

Class Leader: **Dr. Herb Selesnick**

May 7, 14, 21, 28

A professionally facilitated group discussion of some of the most divisive issues polarizing the American people.

Course Format: A participative group conversation organized and moderated by an experienced facilitator.

206 The Making of Symphonic Performance

Tuesday 11:30-1 pm

Class Leader: **Dr. Peter Sheckman**

February 13; April 16

We will learn about the repertoire, the composers and the performances of the BPO 2023-2024 season – prior to each concert.

Course Format: Lecture/Listening/Discussion

Required books or supplies: *The Art of Possibility* Benjamin Zander, Rosamund Stone Zander

207 Chamber Music

Tuesday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: **Rome Pozgay**

March 19, 26; April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7

This course provides insight into the chamber music experience by addressing: What is Chamber Music and Why Do We Care About it? Using audio/visual examples, the course will address the audience and performers' chamber music experience and examine the social aspect of chamber music in both informal and formal settings. Course notes will be provided: they include hundreds of internet links for the exploration of recorded chamber music events.

Course Format: Slide presentation with audio/visual examples of chamber music performance and performance practices.

Suggested books or supplies: View and listen to chamber music videos on YouTube and/or attend live chamber music concerts. Live performance and streamed performance suggestions: Boston Artists Ensemble, Boston Chamber Music Society and Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

WEDNESDAY

301 Photo 1

Limited to 10

Wednesday 9:30-11:30 am

Class Leader: **Karen Gourley Lehman**

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24

This fun, hands-on workshop-style class will give you an overview of photography as an art form. It's designed for all levels, from the beginner/hobbyist to the accomplished. You will make new images to share with the class for constructive feedback so you may begin to develop a better "eye." We will consider color and black + white, and cover a broad range of artists and their work throughout the history of the medium, including contemporary times. Participants will learn about and ultimately create hand-made cyanotype prints—an ancient printing process using digital film—from their own images.

Whereas this is not a Portrait Class, there will be an emphasis on photographing people, and you'll be encouraged to shoot pictures outside of class-time – of family, friends and anyone else in your life. You'll spend some class-time learning how to make an image-making device: iPhone, droid or a manual digital camera.

Note: Due to the studio nature and sequential aspect of this class, the number of students is limited to 10; attendance is strongly encouraged and appreciated.

The Lab Fee of \$12 covers digital film, chemistry, cotton paper/fabric for cyanotype prints.

Course Format: lecture, demonstration, group discussion and critique, in class photo sessions, cyanotype printing.

302 Whitney, Dionne, Aretha and Ella – Four Grand Divas of American Music

Wednesday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Bill Sano**

March 6, 13, 20, 27

March 6: Whitney Houston (1963-2012), daughter of a gospel singer, cousin of Dionne, sold over 200 million records in her short career. Forever facing addiction and personal problems, her vocal impact on the world will never be forgotten.

March 13: Dionne Warwick (born 1940) is a first cousin to Whitney Houston. She will always be remembered for her interpretation of songs by Burt Bacharach and Hal David: “That’s What Friends are For” and “Do you know the way to San Jose”.

March 20: Aretha Franklin (1942-2018), Godmother to Whitney Houston, was born in Memphis, the daughter of a Baptist minister. She would forever be remembered as “The Queen of Soul.”

March 27: Ella Fitzgerald (1917-1996), dubbed “The First Lady of Song,” grew up in Harlem under very difficult circumstances. Credited with her ability at scat singing, Mal Torme pointed out that Ella didn’t invent scat singing, she just perfected it!

Course Format: Lecture with recorded music.

Suggested Reading for first class: Internet bio of Whitney Houston.

303 From the Hole through the Hall to the Hoard: *How a Hobbit Took a Trip and Fell into History*

Limited to 20

Wednesday 9:30-11:00 am

Class Leader: **Dr. Rose Wolf**

May 1, 8, 15

In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit, Tolkien wrote, then wondered: what were hobbits? Small people fond of good food and quiet living. But Bilbo Baggins was different, and when a wizard chose him to lead dwarves to reclaim treasure, it changed his world—and all Middle-Earth.

Course Format: Lecture and discussion, with media presentation

THE HOBBIT by J.R.R. Tolkien (Paperback, Ballantine Books, 1982; ISBN #0-345-33968-1)

Many editions of this masterwork are available secondhand at a modest price from Amazon or EBay. The same is true for Carpenter’s TOLKIEN (below), though that biography may have to be imported from England, so please allow time for its arrival if you wish to acquire a copy you can use for class and keep afterwards.

Required reading for first class: You’ll probably read *THE HOBBIT* IN ITS ENTIRETY, DUE TO ITS SHORT LENGTH, BEFORE OUR INITIAL SESSION. However, we’ll divide the treatment of the book into two sections for the first class, we’ll cover Chapters One (An Unexpected Party) through Nine (Barrels Out of Bond); and for the second Chapters Ten (A Warm Welcome) through Nineteen (The Last Stage).

Suggested books or supplies: *TOLKIEN: A Biography* by Humphrey Carpenter (Paperback; Ballantine Books, 1977, ISBN #0-345-27256-0)

This book is suggested rather than required, though Carpenter's classic biography is so readable it will feel like another piece of fiction. To really understand *THE HOBBIT* and Tolkien's other writings, it's helpful to learn about the forces that shaped both the master and his works: his childhood, love of languages, and experiences in the First World War.

304 Awakening the Sage Within — II

Limited to 20

Wednesday 11:30-1 pm

Class Leader: **Susan Crowley**

March 6, 13, 20, 27

This course is only available to participants who completed Awakening the Sage Within in Fall 2023.

We will take a deeper look at several of the concepts introduced last fall in ASW: Expanding Elder Consciousness; Life Review; Mortality; Legacy.

For those who have interest in the topics above, but have not taken the Awakening the Sage Within basic course, it will be offered again in Fall 2024.

Course Format: This course is highly interactive and focuses on self reflection. There will be opportunities for sharing in small and or large groups to the degree one desires. Guided visualization exercises; worksheets; and optional homework will be included.

Required books or supplies: Journal or notebook for reflective thoughts and exercises.

Suggested books or supplies: Notebook for handout storage. I will be sharing a variety of resources throughout the course.

305 The Power of Beauty

Limited to 20

Wednesday 11:30-1:30 pm

Class Leader: **Linda Andros**

May 8, 15

Join me in a discussion of how the beautiful women in these two novels by Edith Wharton use the power of their beauty to navigate in their society, and whether they truly understand that power and what, more precisely, is the power of beauty in any society?

Course Format: A short lecture followed by class discussion entirely.

Required books or supplies:

1. *The House of Mirth*, Edith Wharton (1905)
2. *The Custom of the Country*, Edith Wharton (1913)

Required reading for first class: Both novels listed above.

Suggested books or supplies: *The Age of Innocence*, Edith Wharton (1920)

306 Writers Group

Limited to 10

Wednesday 1-3 pm

Class Leader: **Gay Porter**

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; June 5

The Writers Group meets weekly on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3 pm throughout the year. This group functions to support intermediate and above level writers as they develop their voice and broaden their skill set.

Course Format: Writers compose their writings at home, read during the group and critique each other's writings.

307 Continuing Spanish

Wednesday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: **Marilyn Cassidy**

March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; June 5

A good, solid base in Spanish, a genuine desire to learn more, a dedication to studying, and a good sense of humor are necessary.

Course Format: conversation, reading

Required books or supplied: TBD

Suggested books or supplies: Spanish dictionary

308 My Favorite Lecture

Wednesday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: **Dr. Stephen Young**

April 3, 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8

April 3: Stephen Young (Geography and Sustainability Department)
"Journey to Central Asia"

April 10: Amy Everitt (Healthcare Studies Department)
"Breaking the Ageism Barriers"

April 17: James Gubbins (Interdisciplinary Studies)
"Creating Your Best Life"

April 24: David Silva (provost and Academic Vice President)
"Language and Culture"

May 1: Lorri Krebs (Geography and Sustainability Department)
"Ecotourism and Change: Exploring Changing Landscapes"

May 8: Stephen Young (Geography and Sustainability Department) "The Science of Climate Change and Our Future"

THURSDAY

401 Sacred Spaces – The House of Worship Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright

Thursday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Jonathan Leamon**

March 14, 21, 28; May 4, 18

Frank Lloyd Wright, often referred to as America's Greatest Architect, designed over a dozen religious structures including churches and one synagogue over his lifetime.

The religious buildings that he designed were so significant and meaningful to congregations and worshippers that efforts over the years have continuously restored the structures, and they still stand today.

Wright incorporated religious symbols and customs in each of his buildings, often by working directly with spiritual leaders of the congregation to ensure that he got things "just right."

Wright used geometric shapes in all of his buildings, and religious buildings were no exception. Wright came from a long line of preachers. Nature, God's creation, was incorporated into all of his buildings.

Unitarian Meeting House, Shorewood Hills, Wisconsin, 2018 photograph, J. Leamon

Wright's father, William Carey Wright was a Baptist minister, who later joined his mother's family in the Unitarian faith.

This course will include photographs from visits of the instructor, augmented by additional photographs and material. We will cover the following structures:

- Unity Temple Oak Park, IL
- Pettit Chapel Belvidere, IL
- Pfeiffer Chapel Lakeland, FL
- Danforth Chapel Lakeland, FL
- Community Christian Church Kansas City, MO
- Unitarian Meeting House Madison, WI
- Beth Sholom Synagogue Elkins Park, PA
- Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church Wauwatos, WI
- Pilgrim Congregational Church Redding, CA
- First Christian Church Phoenix, AZ

402 Current Events

Thursday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Frank Hawke, Tom Jefferson**

March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23

A lively discussion group meets weekly to discuss issues of local, national, and international interest. Each participant is encouraged to bring subjects of interest for discussion by the group. It is a course goal for participants to be exposed to and to understand viewpoints different from their own.

403 The Making of Modern China

Limited to 25

Thursday 11:30-1:30 pm

Class Leader: **Bob Hooker**

March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4

Chinese history and culture are very much alive in today's China. In this class we'll look at Chinese history in four parts with emphasis on the historical events and cultural characteristics that have made China what it is in the 21st century.

Part 1: The Dynasties

Part 2: Century of Humiliation

Part 3: The Mao Years

Part 4: Reform and Opening Up

404 Spanish Conversation

Limited to 10

Thursday 12-1:30 pm

Class Leader: **John and Judy Arnold**

March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25; May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; June 7

A conversation course for previously enrolled students with intermediate mastery of Spanish or approval of presenters.

Course Format: Selected readings and sharing of life experiences.

Required books or supplies: All texts will be available online.

Required reading for first class: Review your week/month/recent experiences and prepare to share with others.

405 How America's Culture Wars have Created Dueling Visions of America, 2024

Thursday 2-4 pm

Class Leader: **Michael Goldman**

March 7, 14, 21, 28

When most people think of America's 'culture wars', they think of big issues like guns, abortion, or the death penalty. In fact, America is driven by dozens and dozens of mini culture wars that have created the so-called 'Two American divide'. For seven weeks we'll look at these myriads of issues; discuss why they divide us; and ponder whether we will ever be able to see ourselves as one America again.

Course Format: Lecture

Required books or supplies: Handouts

FRIDAY

501 Supreme Court of the United States

Limited to 40

Friday 9:30-11 am

Class Leader: **Michael Eschelbacher, Tom Mela**

June 7, 14, 21, 28

An ongoing discussion of the cases being heard by the Supreme Court during the Court's October 2023 session (10/23-6/24), as well as any other developments affecting the Court which may arise. While the facilitators will provide historical background and context, the success of the course is wholly dependent on participation by the class.

Course Format: Remote (Zoom). Discussion

Required books or supplies: Relevant readings will be provided prior to each class.

502 Issues in Contemporary Politics

Limited to 24

Friday 11:30-1:30 pm

Class Leader: **Dr. Dean R. Wasserman**

April 26; May 3, 10, 17, 31

Sessions will explore and discuss our present state of politics. Topics will include forms of government and the social contract; rise of Populism; partisan politics; social media influences; and political tribalism.

Part history, sociology, and psychology, share in conversations reflecting on current American society-its promise, shortcomings, and its future.

Course Format: ZOOM

Required books or supplies: None. Reading material for each session will be sent as email attachments at least two weeks in advance.

Required reading for first class: TBD.

BULLETIN BOARD & CANCELLATIONS

Bulletin Board: There is a bulletin board at the Explorers Office at 10 Federal Street, Salem for all the schedule updates, coming events, special Salem State events and other pertinent information.

Cancellations: If Salem State University cancels classes, Explorers classes will also be cancelled. If SSU classes are delayed, Explorers classes will be cancelled. Tune in to the following for updates: **TV:** Channels 4, 5, 7 and 25.

There is also a recorded message on the Explorers telephone: (978) 744-0804.

Handicapped Information: Our quarters at 10 Federal Street are handicapped accessible. Please use the side entrance near the parking lot.

Explorers Center Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am – 4 pm

Telephone: (978) 744-0804

Email: explorers@verizon.net

Websites: salemstate.edu/explorers

Complete catalogue online) explorerslli.org

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Susan Crowley

Jonathan Leamon

Carol Damon

Ted Novakowski

Harriet Flashenberg

Gay Porter

Frank Hawke

Joan Tobin

Sandra Lawson

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES When the directive comes for the building to be evacuated, you should leave the building immediately.

Do not stop for coats or personal belongings.

Turn right and exit to St. Peter Street.

Stay with your classmates because it will be necessary to take attendance to determine that everyone is safely out of the building.

Do not re-enter the building until receiving the all clear information.

If you are handicapped and unable to negotiate the steps to St. Peter Street, it is your responsibility to arrange with someone in your class to assist your evacuation. You must exit via the Federal Street exit. Upon exit from the building please notify emergency personnel of your safe exit.