
FALL 2022

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Schedule subject to change.

SESSION I (SEPTEMBER 12–OCTOBER 7) • SESSION II (OCTOBER 17–NOVEMBER 11)

ARTS, CULTURE & HUMANITIES

“Eight Great Composers and Eight Great Symphonies” Jonathan Palevsky

Sessions I and II; Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.

Starting in the Classical period the symphony has been the vehicle of choice for composers to make their grand public expressions. Each week we will examine the life of a particular composer regarding one or perhaps two of his amazing symphonies.

“The Musica Britannica” Marc Bellassai

Sessions II; Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.

An exploration of English music from the renaissance to the 18th century, as well as the architectural spaces in which it echoed.

ONLINE COURSE: “Immigrants in America: Stories of Jazz, Blues, Rock, and Popular Culture”

Emanuel Abramovits

Sessions I and II; Fridays, 11:00 a.m.

This course documents the fertile interaction between minorities that transformed, not only the music of the 20th century, but the whole industry of entertainment and its huge impact on American popular culture.

“Four Plays Everyone Should Know” Greg Jones

Sessions II; Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.

Using a lively mix of lectures, video clips, live performance, and Q&A, the course traces connections and offers new insights on the following plays: “La Ronde”, “The Sea Gull”, “Mrs. Warren’s Profession”, and “Six Characters in Search of an Author”.

ONLINE COURSE: “Caravaggio (1571-1610) His Art and Times” Joseph Cassar

Sessions I and II; Mondays, 11:15 a.m.

This course covers the short but prolific artistic life of Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio, the most important painter of the Baroque period. The lectures will focus on his production in Rome as well as on the Mediterranean island of Malta where he was the official painter of the Knights of St John.

THIS COURSE WILL NOT BE RECORDED

“Powerful Words: The Art of Myra Kukiiyaut” Katharine Fernstrom

Sessions I and II; Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.

The late Myra Kukiiyaut (1929-2006) of Baker Lake, Canada, left a legacy of artwork depicting Inuit life, and indigenous religious debates about conversion to Christianity vs traditional Shamanism. Her scenes of daily life, and her cosmological figures from Inuit oral tradition, are exotic and colorful.

ONLINE COURSE: “Photography in War and Conflict: The Next Chapter” Steve Dembo

Sessions I and II; Fridays, 9:30 a.m.

This course will present a brief introduction to the photography and photographers of war and conflict from the 19th century to today. This course is a continuation of a previous course, but it is not necessary to have taken the previous course.

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ARTS, CULTURE & HUMANITIES

ONLINE COURSE: “The Films of Vincent Price, Master of Menace” Arnold T. Blumberg

Sessions I; Fridays, 1:00 p.m.

Vincent Price has become an indelible pop culture icon, often copied, and parodied but never equaled. This course will look at Price’s lengthy career, with a focus on the fear-filled films that made his name synonymous with Halloween and horror.

ONLINE COURSE: The Films of Janet Leigh” Arnold T. Blumberg

Sessions II; Fridays, 1:00 p.m.

This course will look at the career of Janet Leigh, and how she was so much more than just ‘that girl in the shower’ and a modern horror icon.

“Reading, Writing, and the Pilcrow” Robin Tress

Sessions I; Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.

This course traces the chronological development of the physical materials of reading and writing.

“The Examined Life: Philosophical Discussions” Charles Fortin

Sessions I; Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m.

During sessions, we will learn how to formulate philosophical questions, the kinds of questions that are most suitable for satisfying our curiosity and deepening our understanding in transformative ways.

“Plato: The Father of Western Philosophy” Ed Fotheringill

Sessions I; Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.

In this course, we will examine the major themes and principles of Platonic philosophy. Special attention will be given to three Platonic dialogues: The Apology (a discussion about the life of Socrates), The Phaedo (reflections on death), and the Symposium (reflections on the nature of love). If you are interested in the origins of Western philosophy, this course will inform and inspire you.

“Parting Ways: How Judaism and Christianity Became Two Religions” Floyd Herman

Sessions I and II; Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.

This course will examine how Judaism and Christianity grew from the religion of the Hebrew Bible and how they developed on different paths. What led to the parting of the ways?

“The Infancy Narratives in Matthew’s & Luke’s Gospels” Father Bob Albright

Sessions I and II; Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.

This course will involve studying both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. To adapt a quote from the late Pope John Paul II, the Old Testament is intrinsic to the New Testament. One cannot know the Jewish Jesus story without knowing the Hebrew texts of the Old Testament.

“Welcome to American Sign Language” Kathleen Hajdamacha

Sessions I; Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.

Interested in learning a new language? This course will offer an introduction to American Sign Language as well as insights into Deaf culture and community.

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SOCIAL SCIENCES

“The Presidents and the Jews” David Saltzberg

Sessions I; Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.

Presidents have powerful and complex responsibilities for U.S. residents. This course will investigate the relationship between the presidents and the American Jewish community from Revolutionary times to the Civil War to FDR and through more recent times.

ONLINE COURSE: “Muslims in the Neighborhood” Saima Sitwat

Sessions I and II; Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

In this class, we will explore Islamic vocabulary from Allah-u-Akbar to Jihad and Sharia and how American Muslims practice their faith in everyday lives. The result will be a nuanced understanding of Muslims and Islamic faith in the American society.

“The Reconstruction Period: America's First Civil Rights Movement” Bob Baer

Sessions I and II; Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.

The class will explore issues dividing the nation in the post-war years, such as the Congressional Reconstruction efforts, impeachment of Andrew Johnson, movements to promote political and civil rights, and the birth of the Klu Klux Klan.

“A Long Shadow: Ideology in the German-Soviet War 1941-1945, and Contemporary Geopolitics” Jonathan Cordish

Sessions II; Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.

The course will focus on the rival ideologies that precipitated the German-Soviet conflict, and how this clash of ideologies turned the Eastern Front into a battleground of unprecedented scale, brutality, and human calamity.

“The Red Scare” Bill Barry

Sessions II; Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m.

The period after World War II brought political repression known as “McCarthyism,” and officially sponsored by The House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). This class will follow the history of the period, its relation to today’s current events, with an emphasis on the HUAC hearings at Sparrows Point and their impact on individuals and families in Baltimore County.

“Capitalism, Government, Money, and the Future of the World” Mark Yourek

Sessions II*; Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m.; Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.

In this course, we will take a close look at how capitalism has evolved over its history; how our essential economic infrastructure has emerged and evolved, and how, at various times, government has affected the economy, either for good or bad, and either effectively or ineffectively. *Note: This course will meet on consecutive days. If you register for this course, plan to attend both the Wednesday and the Thursday class meetings.

ONLINE COURSE: “The Horrific History of Eugenics in America” Barbara Blumberg Ressin

Sessions II; Mondays, 9:30 a.m.

There is a horrifying history of eugenics in the U.S. [selective human breeding] that is not widely known. In the late 1800s and the first 45 years of the 1900s, Eugenics was practiced in over 30 states. The U.S. eugenicists worked with the German scientists in a very collaborative way. Eventually, Germany modeled their eugenics program after ours. The Nazis used the book “The Passing of the Great Race” written by American author Madison Grant, as the example they followed as an excuse for their atrocities at the Nuremberg trials. Learn about this ugly chapter in our history and how it had world-wide ramifications.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

“World War of Physics: History of Atomic Projects” Greg Pevzner

Sessions II; Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.

This course recounts the history of atomic projects – colossal undertakings that were initiated during and immediately after WWII to develop nuclear weapons. While Americans are familiar with the US project, usually called the Manhattan project, similar projects in the United Kingdom, Germany and Soviet Union are less known.

ONLINE COURSE: “World of Water” Jim O’Leary

Sessions I and II; Mondays, 9:30 a.m.

We live on a water world, a blue planet where oceans form the majority of the surface. Water is essential for life, and one of the most common aspects of our lives. See how water is used and misused around Earth, where there is abundance and scarcity and how conflicts over water will intensify in coming decades.

“Developing Technologies and Their Social Implications” Guillermo Warley

Sessions I; Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m.

We will focus on the concepts of artificial intelligence and deep learning, as well as autonomous vehicles, drones and, time permitting, other technology developments. Learn what these technologies are, how they are quickly evolving, and their potential uses and benefits as well as their limitations, challenges, and some of the ethical dilemmas that they bring about.