

SHARED LEARNING ASSOCIATION OF CHAPEL HILL

Classes at: Christ United Methodist Church, 105 Market Street in Southern Village, Chapel Hill

COURSE CATALOG FOR THE WINTER TERM, 2020, January 13 – April 17, 14 weeks. Register by DECEMBER 31st (SPRING TERM is April 20 – June 9th, 2020: 8 weeks, Mondays & Tuesdays)

DAYS	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
MONDAY	VIEWS ON THE NEWS [Alice Parsons & Gordon Taylor]	HOW TO LOOK AT AND UNDERSTAND GREAT ART, II FILLED. WAIT LIST ONLY [Bonnie Sullivan]
	THE UNIVERSE: QUARKS TO BLACK HOLES, PART I [Barry Lentz]	GREAT TRIALS IN HISTORY, II <i>eight meetings, Jan. 13 – March 9</i> [Anne Marie Durand-Kennett] HISTORY SIMPLIFIED, II <i>four meetings, March 16 - April 13</i> [Greg Hesterberg]
	DOCUMENTARY FILMS, II [Hank Becker]	CONTROVERSIES [Meyer Liberman]
TUESDAY	EARLY CHRISTIANITIES [Barry Lentz]	PLAY READING AND DISCUSSION [Raleigh Mann & Marsha Back]
	ANCIENT EGYPT -- A HISTORY [Gregg Hesterberg & David Birnbaum]	HOW MYTH HAS SHAPED OUR WORLD, CULTURE AND RELIGION, II [Nancy Goudreau]
	THE ROMANTIC PERIOD IN MUSIC: THE SCHUMANNS & BRAHMS [Peggy Stevermer]	THE OTHER SIDE OF HISTORY: DAILY LIFE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD, II [Maria Salgado]
WEDNESDAY	WRITING AND SHARING PERSONAL HISTORY [Bobbie Luber & Mary Freedman]	PRACTICING BASIC SPANISH CONVERSATION FILLED. WAIT LIST ONLY [Edwin & Mary Ann Nirdlinger]
	READING AND DISCUSSING GREAT SHORT STORIES [Marcy Sacarakis]	ENJOYING BROADWAY MUSICALS [Pat DeTitta]
	EVERYDAY ENGINEERING [Michael Goodyear]	GREAT DECISIONS [Jane Misch]
WED 2:00-3:30 PM	PRIZING PROUST, IN SEARCH OF LOST TIME, Volume IV, SODOM & GOMORRAH [Nancy Goudreau]	
THURSDAY	DEUTSCHE KONVERSATIONS GRUPPE [Ken Kustin]	DIGGING DEEPER INTO CURRENT ISSUES [Hank Becker]
	FROM YAO TO MAO: 5000 YEARS OF CHINESE DEVELOPMENT [Bisharah Libbus]	TWO HUNDRED YEARS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD [Bisharah Libbus]
	SCIENCE CAFE [Alan Ziegler]	
FRIDAY	BOOK CLUB <u>1st</u> FRIDAY OF THE MONTH [Abbie Tom & Suzanne Haff]	
	SPANISH DISCUSSION GROUP <u>2nd & 4th</u> FRIDAY OF THE MONTH [Edwin & Mary Nirdlinger]	
	S.L. PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR [Glenn Wrighton]	

****In December 2019, the Shared Learning Winter Catalog will be posted on line at www.sharedlearning.us . ** New Students are welcomed to ALL courses, unless indicated otherwise. ****Room Assignments** will be posted on-line at the start of the term. ****Inclement Weather Policy:** Shared Learning classes are canceled when Chapel Hill-Carrboro public schools are closed. If public schools open late, our 9:30 – 11:00 classes are canceled. CHECK: www.chccs.k12.nc.us To receive a paper copy of this catalog, email: maryafreedman@gmail.com**

SHARED LEARNING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

If you have questions, contact the Moderator(s) directly.

ANCIENT EGYPT – A HISTORY Co-Moderators: Greg Hesterberg (513.304.5901, greghesterberg@me.com) & David Birnbaum). Egypt is the world's oldest continuous civilization – 3000 years BCE. In this *Great Courses* series of lectures, we will look at and discuss Ancient Egypt in depth, from its earliest origins to the last dynasty of pharaohs, the Ptolemies, including Shakespeare's and Elizabeth Taylor's Cleopatra VII. Some topics to be highlighted: *pyramid construction/decline; *consistency of the Nile; *outstanding pharaohs; *road to the afterlife. Greg and David will show two lectures per meeting. Both have toured Egypt, so will add their impressions. **Tuesday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

BOOK CLUB Co-moderators: Abbie Tom (919-933-8972, abtom@mindspring.com) and Suzanne Haff (919-933-9329, suzhaff@gmail.com). Class members from Fall 2019 have selected the following titles and voluntary moderators for the winter term: **February 7, *It Can't Happen Here*** by Sinclair Lewis - Roz will moderate; **March 6, *The Leavers*** by Lisa Ko - Bonnie will moderate; and **April 3, *Emilie du Chatelet*** by Judith Zinsse - Anne Marie will moderate. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome to join us. ***First Fridays of the Month (Feb. - April), 9:30 – 11:00.***

CONTROVERSIES Moderator: Meyer Liberman (919-417-0674, miblerman@nc.rr.com). This is a seminar-type course, based on careful reading of one or two books. Participants are responsible for presenting an overview of one week's reading selection. The book(s) for the Winter 2020 semester will be selected by the Fall 2019 class members, posted on the *Shared Learning* website and reflected in any catalog updates. **NOTES: * To promote discussion, enrollment is limited to 20.** *Also, through Dec. 15th, 2019, participants from the prior semester have priority for registration. **Monday, 11:15 - 12:45.**

DAILY LIFE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD, PART II Moderator Maria Salgado (919-240-7439, salgadomaria@hotmail.com). We will continue delving into the daily lives of ancient peoples, i.e.: the poor, sick, disabled, elderly, refugees, slaves, serfs, women, children, common soldiers and farmers. We will explore the social, cultural, economic, religious, and medical realities to learn about everyday living in Roman times, Celtic and Anglo-Saxon Britain, Viking raids, the coming of Christianity, and the Crusades. The class ends with an in-depth look at life in the Middle Ages. Maria will show two lectures per meeting with pauses for questions and other information. **Tuesday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

DEUTSCHE KONVERSATIONS GRUPPE Moderator: Kenneth Kustin (858-450-2979, kkustin123@att.net). For those German speakers who wish to maintain their fluency, this course will provide you with informal and cordial opportunities to converse in German. We'll refer to articles in German newspapers/magazines and select interesting topics about current German and American events. Each class meeting will be conducted entirely in German and not include German grammar instructions. **NOTE: German speakers new to the class are welcome. Thursday, 9:30 - 11:00.**

DIGGING DEEPER INTO CURRENT ISSUES Moderator: Hank Becker (919-932-7356, hjbecker@uci.edu). We will examine arguments and evidence in the writing of top news journalists. Each week, with three to four 4 days notice, the moderator will select two electronically-available "starter" articles, each with links to other articles or research papers, that elaborate on or contest the premise. Most starter articles will be by *New York Times* writers (e.g., Max Fisher; Thomas Edsall), but a *Times* subscription will not be needed. Class participants will be expected to have read those articles and several of the links. Participants will share their "deeper" knowledge of their chosen linked articles. **Thursday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

DOCUMENTARY FILMS, II Moderator: Hank Becker (hjbecker@uci.edu, 919-932-7356). Each week, we will view one documentary film from sources, that include PBS and the university-supported website Kanopy.com. Topics include: *Gender and Culture; *Race, Class and Society; *the Culture of Consumerism; *Politics and Current Events; *the Environment; *Socio-Linguistics; *Art, Film & Music; and others. Viewing sections of films will be interspersed with conversation among participants about the issues raised in each film. **Monday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

EARLY CHRISTIANITIES Moderator, Barry Lentz (uncbrl@gmail.com, 919-824-8807). Early "Christians" read and passionately followed a wide variety of very different scriptures (e.g., Ebionite, Marcionite, Gnostic and Coptic). Bart Ehrman, a world re-known New Testament scholar at UNC-CH, has published – 30 books on Christian theology. He authored the *Great Course* that we will watch that summarizes these early scriptures and their evolution into the Nicean Creed (325 CE) and Orthodox Church. We'll augment this course with class discussion and other input. **Tuesday, 9:30 - 11:00.**

ENJOYING BROADWAY MUSICALS Moderator: Pat De Titta (919-929-2129, patdetitta@bellsouth.net). Come and enjoy this series of documentaries, filmed musicals and episodes from an extensive 2004 *PBS Special* which presents the evolution of this uniquely American art form. Hosted by Julie Andrews, each PBS episode explores the works of a different era -- from George M. Cohan in 1893 to Mel Brooks in 2004. Pat will supplement the *Special* with excerpts from filmed stage or Hollywood productions. **Wednesday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

EVERYDAY ENGINEERING: UNDERSTANDING THE MARVELS OF DAILY LIFE, PART I Moderator: Mike Goodyear (michael.goodyear@rocketmail.com, 919-968-0931). Professor Stephen Ressler (*The Great Courses*) will increase our appreciation of the function and design of the many things we take for granted in modern everyday life - such as, building structures, water management, energy, generation and delivery of power, & devising communication systems. Mike will show 2 lectures per meeting with time for discussion. **Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

FROM YAO TO MAO: 5000 YEARS OF CHINESE DEVELOPMENT Moderator: Bisharah Libbus (919-771-6567, blibbus@gmail.com). Our professor (from a *Great Course* series) will explore how the Chinese evolved over thousands of years in their: *self-awareness; *understanding of the cosmos, nature and their world; *metaphysical insights into Buddhism and Daoism – all while experiencing a pattern of national ebb and flow that fractured and unified the country and central Chinese authority. Bisharah will show two lectures per session and make time for class discussion. **Thursday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

GREAT DECISIONS. Moderator, Jane Misch (mischplace@mindspring.com, 919-918-3649). *Great Decisions* is a national program, sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association. UNC's *International Studies Department* schedules lectures that happen at 7:00 pm, on Tuesday evenings, in Carroll Hall on UNC campus. We attend the evening lectures, and, on Wednesdays, at CUMC, *Shared Learning members* and *UNC students* gather to discuss. To-pics: *Climate Change; *India & Pakistan; *Red Sea Security; *Modern Slavery; *China in Latin America; *Philippines & US; *AI & Da-ta. NOTE: **GREAT DECISIONS** will not start til the end of January. When decided, the schedule will be emailed. **Wednesday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

GREAT TRIALS IN HISTORY, II Moderator: Anne Marie Durand-Kennett (amayamdk@aol.com, 919 960-0028). Anne-Marie will continue her Spring 2019 course and will cover eight lectures, one per week from a *Great Course* series. We'll begin with the infamous trial of nine black teen-age boys falsely accused of rape in Scottsboro, AL, in 1931, and end with the equally infamous trial of O.J. Simpson in 1995. Other topics: the nature of evil in the Nuremberg trials and the trial of Alger Hiss, State Department official and Communist agent. Anne-Marie will provide ample time for dis-cussion. **NOTE: the course will begin January 13 and end on March 9.** **Monday 11:15 – 12:45.**

HISTORY SIMPLIFIED Moderator: Greg Hesterberg (513-304-5901, greghesterberg@me.com). Want to better and more simply understand history and the world we live in today? A few years ago, Greg felt he needed a way to do just that and so, conducted a personal critical thinking project, based on his past history studies – to develop a few useful principles. In this four meeting course, he will share his results: three simple elements to use as 'lenses' or 'drivers.' Using them, you should be able to make clearer sense of the world we live in, as well as human history. And, you will be able to make some degree of sense about what the future holds. **Note: class begins March 16 – ends April 13. Monday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

HOW MYTH HAS SHAPED WORLD CULTURE AND RELIGION, PART II Moderator: Nancy Goudreau (703-3292933, nagoudreau@yahoo.com). What secures your place in the existing world? What powers can shift our personal destinies? Ancient peoples struggled to understand such questions about existence and so, created myths, in order to justify their belief systems, attitudes and behaviors. In **Part II** of this course, we will review one lecture per meeting (*Great Courses*) and some supporting historical information, in order to discover and understand world myths about *divine pantheons, heroes, tricksters* and *places*. **NOTE: New students are welcome.** **Tuesday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

HOW TO LOOK AT AND UNDERSTAND GREAT ART, PART II Moderator: Bonnie Sullivan (bonniesull@gmail.com). In **Part I**, a *Great Courses* professor taught us to use analytic tools, to analyze artistic masterpieces, based on line, color, shape, composition, perspective, point of view, symbols and historical context. In **Part II**, she will use those tools with period masterpieces to help us appreciate and discuss Western Art – from the **Renaissance to the 20th Century**. In each class, Bonnie will show a 1/2 hour dvd lecture, plus short videos, narrated by other art historians on the works, referenced per class. Thus, ample time for discussion. **NOTE: Limited to first 35 registrants. Monday, 11:15 - 12:45. FILLED. WAIT LIST ONLY.**

PLAY READING AND DISCUSSION Co-Moderators: Raleigh Mann (rmann1@icloud.com) and Marsha Back (919-381-7694, mback47@gmail.com). We'll continue to read aloud and discuss plays by celebrated 20th Century American playwright **Arthur Miller**, plus view dvd movie renditions of his works. Also, students are invited to contribute biographical information, theatrical context and analysis of his plays and movies. Participants must purchase a book that includes Miller's plays. **NOTES: **Class size is limited to 15** with priority given to former students who register by Dec. 15. ****Contact Marsha** with questions and the title of the book for purchase. **Tuesday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

PRACTICING BASIC SPANISH CONVERSATION Co-Moderators: Edwin & Mary Ann Nirdlinger (enirdlinger@gmail.com, 419-490-3110). This course continues from previous terms and is appropriate: *for those who took those classes or *for anyone interested in doing a little catch up work or *for those with some Spanish knowledge. We will use **The Ultimate Spanish Review & Practice** text, second/third edition, by Ronni L. Gordon & David M. Stillman. Bring the book to each class. During part, we'll review the previous week's assignment. Primarily, we'll practice reading aloud and talking in Spanish. **NOTE: Class size is limited to 15** to enable all to practice speaking. **Wednesday, 11:15 – 12:45. FILLED. WAIT LIST ONLY**

PRIZING PROUST, IN SEARCH OF LOST TIME, SODOM & GOMMORAH, Vol. IV Moderator: Nancy Goudreau (703-329-2933, nagoudreau@yahoo.com). We continue to relish the sumptuous, but challenging prose of Marcel Proust. If you have recently read *Volumes I, II, and, III* of *In Search of Lost Time*, you are welcome to attend our reviews and discussions of **Sodom and Gommorah, Volume IV**...based on our reading 70 pages per week. We use *Modern Library* editions, C. K. Scott Moncrieff & Terrance Kilmartin translation. **Wednesday 2:00-3:30pm**

READING AND DISCUSSING GREAT SHORT STORIES Moderator: Marcy Sacarakis (marcy4479@gmail.com, 610-428-9916). Class members will discuss one story each week from publications, such as, *The Best American Short Stories* or *The O'Henry Prize Short Stories*, both available for purchase from local bookstores or Amazon. We will participate in in-depth discussions about how the author develops his/her writing style, plot, characters and theme -- and how the story resonates with us. Each class ends with a poetry reading, chosen by a class member. **Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

THE ROMANTIC PERIOD IN MUSIC: The SCHUMANNS & BRAHMS Moderator: Peggy Stevermer (919-923-2534, pstevermer@nc.rr.com). In this course, we will study what is referred to as the early "Romantic Period" in European Music and its relation to the literature and art of the same period of history by concentrating on the lives and music of **Clara and Robert Schumann** and **Johannes Brahms**. In addition to lectures from the *Great Courses*, we'll listen to and discuss other music and materials of the era. Peggy will show one lecture per class, plus will share extra materials and musical excerpts. **Tuesday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

SCIENCE CAFE Moderator: Alan Ziegler (919-433-7343, alanzieg2@gmail.com). Each week, one or more volunteers will select a topic or item of interest, as reported in a scientific news source and on accessible scientific-oriented websites. Files or links will be provided to students for reading before the class meets. We'll discuss the potential social, economic and/or philosophic implications of the selected articles. Sample past topics: *potential effects and trade-offs of different climate change approaches; *implications of finding microscopic life on Mars; *ethical implications for manipulating and engineering DNA. **NOTE:** general knowledge of contemporary science is helpful. **Thursday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

Shared Learning Photography Seminar: Moderator: Glenn Wrighton (919-929-3406, mdwgcw@live.com). Novice and expert photographers will meet to explore photographic topics selected by the group, as well as to share photos taken by participants. Topics areas may include photo editing, tips for taking photos, digital camera technology and sharing photos, explored with lecture, videos, discussion and live demonstration as appropriate. **2nd and 4th Friday of the month, 9:30 – 11:00**

SPANISH DISCUSSION GROUP Moderators: Edwin & Mary Ann Nirdlinger (419-490-3110, enirdlinger@gmail.com). This informal discussion group is intended for those with some competency in Spanish who would like to get together and chat on various topics. There will be **no instruction**. The meetings are designed for us to enjoy sharing information in Spanish and to socialize with other Spanish speakers. **Second & Fourth Friday of the month, 9:30 – 11:00.**

TWO HUNDRED YEARS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD Moderator: Bisharah Libbus (919-771-6567, blibbus@gmail.com). What characterizes our modern age and thinking? And how did that come about? We will listen to and discuss two lectures per week from a *Great Course* series, which recounts the revolution of thought in 17th and 18th century Europe, especially in the development of steps that established the 'scientific method' – that questioned the nature of reality. Coincident with the blossoming of art in the Renaissance, great philosophers and scientists began transforming all aspects of human inquiry, thereby gradually birthing the modern age. **Thursday, 11:15 – 12:45.**

THE UNIVERSE: QUARKS TO BLACK HOLES, PART I Moderator: Barry Lentz (uncbrl@gmail.com, 919-824-8807). **Part I.** The composition and nature of the Universe and how we have learned about it is the subject of this course. It uses a "Great Course" by Mark Whittle (University of Virginia) supplemented by later developments. **Part II** (Fall, 2020) will add Sean Carroll's (Cal Tech) "Great Course" The Higgs Boson and Beyond to address atoms and molecules that evolved from subatomic particles that condensed during the "Big Bang." Don't worry if you have not studied lots of physics; extensive background notes will be provided, and we will discuss questions and class comments in class. **NOTE:** class size is limited to 15. **Monday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

VIEWS ON THE NEWS Moderators: Gordon Taylor (919-545-0686, gmaxt@centurylink.net) and Alice Parsons (919-642-0606, amparson@uci.edu). Our informal round table discussions focus on local, state, national and world events. In each meeting, a volunteer presents current subjects, about which participants exchange views. The conversations are managed with respect by the moderators and are open to all points of view. **NOTE: The class meets every Monday all year round,** with new topics per meeting. **Monday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

WRITING AND SHARING PERSONAL HISTORY Moderators: Bobbie Lubker (919-967-2996, blubker@live.unc.edu) and Mary Ann Freedman (919-593-3335, maryafreedman@gmail.com). Only we can document our personal experiences, reactions and perceptions during our dynamic times. We will support each other's individual efforts to record in writing what we have lived through and to encourage and aid our developing a sense of accomplishment – to make our writing more engaging to both readers or listeners. Thus, we will all write, read aloud our writing, listen to everyone and appreciate the telling of the experience or insight. **NOTE: NEW students are welcome.** **Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:00.**

Lindgren Lectures

Jan. 23, Thursday: Nancy MacLean, Ph.D., Dept. of History, Duke Univ., Democracy in Chains

Feb. 27, Thursday: Katie Ziegler, Director, Ackland Art Museum, Behind the Scenes at Ackland

March 26, Thursday: Adrienne Erickcek, Ph.D., Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, UNC-CH, TBA

COURSE REGISTRATION FOR THE *SHARED LEARNING WINTER TERM, 2020*

Deadline for Winter Registration is December 31. Classes begin the week of January 13

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

IF YOU ARE A CURRENT MEMBER who has paid your yearly dues of \$60.00 per person during Fall 2019, you do not need to mail in this form. Instead, review the courses below and on www.sharedlearning.us/winter20, complete the online form OR send an email to hjbecker@uci.edu that lists your course choices...no limit as to the number of courses.

This form is for both **NEW MEMBERS** who have never enrolled in *Shared Learning* and **RETURNING MEMBERS** who have *not paid 2019-2020 dues*. Complete and mail this page to **Hank Becker, 1114 Phils Ridge Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27516**. If part of a couple, remember to indicate with initials who is taking which course...no limit as to the number of courses. Include a check payable to *Shared Learning Association* for a 2020 introductory membership fee of \$30.00 per person.

Circle your choices in the table below. Use initials to indicate who is taking which course.
If you have **QUESTIONS** about your choice(s), please contact the Moderator(s) directly.

1) <i>Ancient Egypt – A History</i>	10) <i>Everyday Engineering</i>	19) <i>Prizing Proust</i>
2) <i>Book Club</i>	11) <i>From Yao to Mao: 5000 Years of Chinese Development</i>	20) <i>Reading & Discussing Short Stories</i>
3) <i>Controversies</i>	12) <i>Great Decisions</i>	21) <i>Romantic Period: the Schumanns & Brahms</i>
4) <i>Daily Life in the Ancient World</i>	13) <i>Great Trials in History II</i>	22) <i>Science Cafe</i>
5) <i>Deutsche Konversations Gruppe</i>	14) <i>History Simplified</i>	23) <i>Spanish Discussion Group</i>
6) <i>Digging Deeper into Current Issues</i>	15) <i>How Myth has Shaped Culture, Religion, II</i>	24) <i>Two Hundred Years that Changed the World</i>
7) <i>Documentary Films II</i>	16) <i>How to Look at & Understand Great Art</i> WAIT LIST ONLY.	25) <i>Universe: Quarks to Black Holes</i>
8) <i>Early Christianities</i>	17) <i>Play Reading and Discussion</i>	26) <i>Views on the News</i>
9) <i>Enjoying Broadway Musicals</i>	18) <i>Practicing Basic Spanish Conversation</i> WAIT LIST ONLY.	27) <i>Writing and Sharing Personal History</i>
		28) <i>Shared Learning Photography Seminar</i>

PHOTOS: May Shared Learning use any photo(s) taken of yourself alone or with a group while you were participating in courses or activities? The photo(s) may perhaps be published on our website, in our print publicity materials, or in third party publications. (Circle one choice.)

Person 1: YES (Circle and sign) _____ NO

Person 2: YES (Circle and sign) _____ NO

MEMBER INFORMATION for one or two people. (Previous Members contact info: Only show changes from spring, 2019.)

Name (1): _____ E-mail for (1): _____

Name (2): _____ E-mail for (2): _____

Cell Phone (person 1): _____ Cell Phone (person 2): _____

Landline Phone: _____

Address: _____

Would you like to serve as a Course Moderator? Yes ___ Maybe ___ If so, what subject?

[See DVD list at www.sharedlearning.us/members/library-dvds]

FIRST CLASS MAIL

RETURN ADDRESS:

**H. J. Becker
1114 Phils Ridge Road
Hill, NC 27516**

Chapel
