

**SHARED LEARNING ASSOCIATION OF CHAPEL HILL
SCHEDULE AND COURSE CATALOG FOR THE SPRING TERM, 2018**

www.sharedlearning.us

Meeting at Expand Church, 114 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill 27514

- * Registration Period: **NOVEMBER 20th -- DECEMBER 29th, 2017**
- * Classes begin **January 8** and end **April 20, 2018**. Spring break: March 12-16.
- * NOTE: The free SUMMER TERM runs **April 30 - June 26**. Check web for info.

	9:15 – 10:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m. -- 12:30 p.m.
MONDAY	<i>Views on the News</i> [Alice Parsons & Gordon Taylor]	<i>Controversies in the World</i> [Hank Becker]
	<i>Geologic Wonders in the U.S. Parks, II</i> [Rosalinde Milazzo]	<i>The Louvre</i> [Jane Levy & Margaret Weinstein]
	<i>Human Geography: Social, Cultural, Political, Economic</i> [Hank Becker]	
TUESDAY	<i>How the Earth Works</i> [Rosalinde Milazzo]	<i>The Movie Experience</i> [Glenn Wrighton]
	<i>Holy Land Revealed</i> [Dave Birnbaum]	<i>How To Draw, III</i> [Nancy Goudreau]
		<i>Selected Play Readings & Discussion</i> [Meyer Liberman & Alan Tom]
WEDNESDAY	<i>Short Stories</i> [Marcy Sacarakis & Jane Maske]	<i>Spanish, Intermediate</i> [Violet Simon] Note: class meets at Carol Woods Retirement Community, Chapel Hill
	<i>Personal History</i> [Bobbie Lubker]	<i>The History of Spain</i> [Pat De Titta]
	<i>History and Nature of the Universe</i> [Barry Lentz]	<i>Great Decisions</i> [Jane Misch]
		<i>Early Classic British Literature, III</i> [Nancy Goudreau]
THURSDAY	<i>What Does It Mean To Be Human</i> [Alan Ziegler]	<i>Experiencing Medieval Europe</i> [Ann-Marie Durand-Kennet]
	<i>The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience</i> [Bisharah Libbus]	<i>Science and Religion</i> [Bisharah Libbus]
		<i>Memory and the Human Lifespan</i> [Don Misch]
FRIDAY	<i>Modern American Essays</i> [Phil Lassiter]	<i>Book Club</i> [Abbie Tom & Suzanne Haff] Note: 1 st Friday, starts Feb.
	<i>Controversies Book Club</i> [Hank Becker] Notes: ***11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Third Fridays, February-April.	<i>Use & Mastery of the New Shared Learning Website</i> [Hank Becker] Note: Fridays, January 19 and 26 and February 2.
	<i>Let's Go to the Movies</i> [Glenn Wrighton & Barbara Becker] Note: 2 nd Friday of the month, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.	<i>Gray Lindgren Lectures</i> [Meyer Liberman] Note: Fridays, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm: February 23 and March 30.

* The *SPRING CATALOG* will be on-line during the LAST week of November. * ROOM ASSIGNMENTS will be made at the start of term. * INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY: *Shared Learning* classes are canceled when Chapel Hill-Carrboro public schools and UNC are closed. The 9:15 a.m. *Shared Learning* classes are cancelled when public schools and UNC open late.

If you have questions about any course, feel free to contact the moderator(s).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BOOK CLUB Moderators: Abbie Tom (919-933-8972, abtom@mindspring.com) & Suzanne Haff (suzhaff@gmail.com, 919-933-9329). Class members in the fall, 2017 course have selected the following three books and volunteer moderators for the spring term: **February 2: *The Hare with Amber Eyes***, Edmund de Waal, led by Anne Marie; **March 2: *Gold Mountain*** by Lisa See, led by Carolyn; and **April 2: *The Last Jew*** by Noah Gordon, led by Abbie. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **First Fridays, starts Feb. 2, 11:00-12:30.**

CONTROVERSIES: AMERICA'S ECONOMIC CHALLENGES Moderator: Hank Becker (932-7356, hjbecker@uci.edu). This seminar-type course is based on readings from one book. Participants take turns presenting an overview, based on one week's reading selection. The book to be read during Spring is ***Five Easy Theses: Common-Sense Solutions to America's Greatest Economic Challenges*** (2016), by James Stone. **NOTES:** Enrollment is **limited to 20 people**. Also, through December 15th, participants from the prior semester have priority for registration. **Monday, 11:00-12:30.**

EARLY CLASSIC BRITISH LITERATURE III Moderator: Nancy Goudreau, (nagoudreau@yahoo.com, 703-329-2933). In each ½ hour lecture per class, the *Great Courses* professor will review British classics, from mid- to the end of 1700's. And we'll read excerpts from the classics and review more information about the authors, their works and concurrent history. Some authors include: Daniel Defoe, Samuel Richardson, Henry Fielding, Laurence Sterne, William Blake. Students will get texts for oral reading from the internet and public and personal libraries. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **Wednesday, 11:00-12:30.**

EXPERIENCING MEDIEVAL EUROPE Moderator: Anne-Marie Durand-Kennett (amayamdk@aol.com, 919-914-6247). Via our *Great Courses* lecturer, we will explore the sites, civic life and status of residents in 12 European cities during the Middle Ages (1000's - 1500's), starting in Rothenburg (Germany) to Siena (Italy), plus, medieval Medina, Palermo, York, Avignon, Carcassone, Barcelona, Dubrovnik, Krakow, Prague and Bruges. Also, our lecturer will enlighten us about the complex nature of society per city. During one or two lectures per class, members can share their travel experiences and knowledge about the sites. **Thursday, 11:00-12:30.**

GEOLOGIC WONDERS OF THE U.S. PARKS: A GEOLOGY OF NORTH AMERICA, II Moderator: Rosalinde Milazzo (919-942-6716). This *Great Courses* lecture series will introduce us to the geological forces that created the topography of 100+ spectacular sites, now occupied by North American national parks, and to their foundations of active or soon-to-act volatile geologic processes. Rosalinde will show two lectures per meeting. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **Monday, 9:15-10:45.**

GREAT DECISIONS Moderator Jane Misch (919-918-3649, mischplace@mindspring.com) A nationwide program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association, ***Great Decisions*** gives us the opportunity to interact with UNC students in discussions about current foreign policy issues. Topics include: *Pax Americana; Russia's Foreign Policy; China and America; media and foreign policy; Turkey; U.S. Military Global Engagement; South Africa; and Global Health*. Lectures are held on Tuesday evenings at 8 PM in Carroll Hall on the UNC campus. Follow-up discussions are held at *Shared Learning* at 11 AM on Wednesday mornings. Briefing booklets are available online at the U.S. Foreign Policy Association website. **NOTE:** This course does **NOT** follow the regular *Shared Learning* schedule and will start several weeks after other SL courses begin. Jane will email start dates to registrants. **Wednesday (1ST date TBA), 11:00-12:30.**

HISTORY AND NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE Moderator Barry Lentz (uncbrl@gmail.com). Barry is a semi-retired bio-physicist (not a physicist) and has always loved physics. This course (from Mark Whittle's "Cosmology" *Great Course*) has fascinated him for a while, and he'd like to establish a group of *Shared Learning members* who would want to join him in exploring the mysteries of the Universe. He promises gentle going: by covering only one lecture per class meeting; by attempting to paraphrase content; and by responding to participants' questions or confusion about the material. **Wednesday, 9:15-10:45.**

THE HISTORY OF SPAIN Moderator: Pat De Titta (919-929-2129, patdetitta@bellsouth.net). Our *Great Course* professor will guide us through Spain's history from its first prehistoric settlement to its 20th century civil war. We'll also learn about its contributions to European art, literature, music, theology, architecture and learning. The class will consist of two, thirty minute DVD lectures, divided by discussion and a break. **Wednesday, 11:00-12:30.**

THE HOLY LAND REVEALED Moderator: Dave Birnbaum (919-942-8469, birnbaum_david@hotmail.com). As the birthplace of Judaism, Islam and Christianity, the Holy Land is a critical and dynamic region in the world. While ancient written sources attest to historical events, physical artifacts, collected during the last 200 years, have also confirmed past realities. Dr. Jodi Magness, UNC award-winning archeologist and *Great Course* professor developed this course, in order to share her findings and assumptions. Dave (who participated on one dig with Jodi and made several visits to other digs) will show two lectures per meeting. **Tuesday, 9:15-10:45.**

HOW THE EARTH WORKS, II Moderator: Rosalinde Milazzo (919-942-6716). This *Great Courses* series will give us the big picture of how various natural forces worked and are still working, separately or together, to make life on planet earth possible. Forces include: fire, climate, volcanoes, plate tectonics, salt and fresh water, and time. Rosalinde will show two lectures per meeting. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **Tuesday, 9:15-10:45.**

HOW TO DRAW, PART III Moderator: Nancy Goudreau (703-329-2933, nagoudreau@yahoo.com). This course continues from Spring/Fall, 2017. Armed with drawing materials/tools, we attend to *Great Courses* lectures: *to learn and use practical techniques/methods during many practices; *to become familiar with core principles; and *to make progress that we can recognize. Nancy will show half or all of a ½ hour lecture per class meeting. **NOTES:** Participants from the fall 2017 term have priority for registration, received by Dec. 20th. Also, **NEW** students are welcome, but should purchase/review the *Great Courses* \$7.00 manual, Lectures 1-20. **Tuesday, 11:00–12:50.**

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY: SOCIAL, CULTURAL, POLITICAL & ECONOMIC Moderator: Hank Becker (919-932-7356, hjbecker@uci.edu). We will discuss the interplay between geography and a wide variety of issues in the social sciences. Some topics include: mapmaking; geographic determinism; population growth; economic and cultural globalization; migration; urbanization; and the geography of language. The course will combine DVD watching and discussion of readings. Articles or book excerpts will be available on the course website for on-line reading and downloading. **Monday, 9:15-10:45.**

THE LOUVRE Moderators: Jane Levy (919-067-5736, janeleiferlevy@gmail.com) and Margaret Weinstein (919-969-6874, drsidney@bellsouth.net). Well-known art historian Richard Bretell (*Great Courses* and University of Texas) selects the best and most important art works in the Louvre, from the Middle Ages to the 19th Century. He will focus on just a few paintings per lecture to prepare viewers for a first-time visit or to serve as their study guide. So, we'll learn how an academic expert appreciates art. Jane and Margaret will show one lecture per meeting, followed by class discussion. **Monday, 11:00-12:30.**

MEMORY AND HUMAN LIFESPAN Moderator Don Misch (919-918-3649, mischplace@mindspring.com) Steve Joordens from the *Great Courses* will explore how memory factors into the development and quality of our lives, addressing such questions as: How is memory defined? How does it work? Does memory change as we age? Can memory will be improved at any age? How does the brain process memory? How do certain diseases affect memory? Is memory loss reversible? How do animals remember? Don will show two lectures per class meeting. **Thursday, 11:00-12:30.**

MODERN AMERICAN ESSAYS Moderator: Phil Lassiter (734-308-0414, philip.lassiter@icloud.com). Every essay tells a story, but an author doesn't presume it will be of interest to strangers. Yet, because an author needs to express and / or share written thoughts, it's a risk he/she is willing to take. With spirit and good humor, our lively group discusses the winning American essays from the previous year, bringing to bear our own personal life experiences. Our source is the collection of essays in *Best American Essays, 2017*. **NOTE:** We welcome **NEW** members. **Friday, 9:15-10:45.**

THE MOVIE EXPERIENCE, II Moderator: Glenn Wrighton (919-929-3406, mdwgcw@live.com). We'll continue to explore the history of the U.S. cinema industry to the 1970's, in an MIT OpenCourseWare course for undergrads, taught by an MIT professor who uses film clips to enhance his lectures. We'll start with Hitchcock films and cover musicals, thrillers and westerns genre. Every third session will feature a film viewing, associated with the lectures. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **Tuesday, 11:00-12:30.**

PERSONAL HISTORY Moderator: Bobbie Lubker (919-967-2996, blubker@live.unc.edu). Only we can document our personal experiences, reactions and perceptions during our dynamic times. We will support each other's individual efforts to record what we have lived through in writing and to encourage and aid our developing a sense of accomplishment – to make our writing more engaging to readers / listeners. Thus, we'll write, read aloud our writing, listen to all and appreciate. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **Wednesday, 9:15-10:45.**

SCIENCE AND RELIGION Moderator: Bisharah Libbus (919-771-6567, blibbus@gmail.com). Over time, how have Science and Faith misled/distorted/clarified/confused/boosted people's understanding of reality in the Christian Western culture? Have Science and Faith ever been complimentary? Can they be in our time? Professor Lawrence Principe (*Great Courses*) will provide a historical survey and address to-pics, e.g.: Faith and Reason; Galileo and his trial; Natural Theology; Responses to Evolution; Fundamentalism. Bisharah will screen one lecture per meeting and lead discussions. **Thursday, 11:00-12:30.**

SELECTED PLAY READINGS AND DISCUSSIONS Moderators: Meyer Liberman (mliberman@nc.rr.com, 919-417-0674) and Alan Tom (919-933-8972, alantom@mindspring.com). We will read scenes, engage in discussions, and view movie renditions of plays by such classic playwrights as: Arthur Miller, George Bernard Shaw, Edward Albee, Friedrich Durrenmatt. Other than the first play selected by the moderators, class members will collectively choose the plays for the spring term. **NOTES:** Class registration is limited to 10 students, and **NEW** students are welcome. **Tuesday, 11:00-12:30.**

SHORT STORIES Moderators: Marcy Sacarakis (610-428-9916, marcy4479@gmail.com) and Jane Maske (919-265-4009, janemaske7@gmail.com). Students will discuss one story per week from the most current edition of either *The Best American Short Stories* or *The O. Henry Prize Stories*, both available in paperback at Flyleaf Books and Amazon. We will have lively discussions about the writing, themes, plots, characters and the story's relevance to us. Classes end with poetry readings, chosen by a member. **NOTE: NEW** students are welcome. **Wednesday, 9:15-10:45.**

SPANISH, INTERMEDIATE Moderator: Violet Simon (919-969-4484, violetsimon511@yahoo.com). This class will be conducted in Spanish. The books for the course are *Quentos Hispanos de Los Estados Unidos [Spanish Stories from the U.S.]*, edited by De Julian

Olivaros, and *The Ultimate Spanish Review and Practice*, 2nd edition. Also, articles in Spanish on the internet at BBC Mundo will be assigned to be read and discussed in class. **NOTES: NEW** students are welcome. Class meets in the Community Room, Main Hall, of Carol Woods Retirement Community, Chapel Hill.

Wednesday, 11:00-12:30.

THE SPIRITUAL BRAIN: SCIENCE AND RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE Moderator: Bisharah Libbus (919-771-6567, blibbus@gmail.com). How do faith and spirituality impact life? How is a person's brain affected by his/her thinking and holding beliefs? Does the brain change one's perception of God? Neurologist Andrew Newberg from Thomas Jefferson University Hospital (and *Great Courses*) uses brain imaging techniques to understand and raise questions about how religious practices affect people's feelings, thinking and brain activity. Bisharah will show two lectures per meeting.

Thursday, 9:15-10:45.

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. **NOTES: NEW** students are welcome. Also, the class meets every Monday all year round.

Monday, 9:15-10:45.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN Moderator: Alan Ziegler (alanzieg2@gmail.com) From an anthropological and socio-biological/evolutionary psychological point of view, we will explore the origins of humans, the effect of evolution on our current behavior and some alternative future evolutionary possibilities. A few sample questions: How much of our behavior is governed by our evolving genes, e.g.: mating, selection / habits; warfare; family relations; any "gender" intellectual differences? Should we should try to improve our genes? Alan will use videos, YouTube clips, PowerPoints, discussion exercise handouts.

Thursday, 9:15- 10:45.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

1) CONTROVERSIES BOOK CLUB Moderator: Hank Becker (919-932-7356, hjbecker@uci.edu). Each month we will discuss one of the other books considered from the *Controversies* course: **February:** *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined*, by Stephen Pinker. **March:** *Who Are We: The Challenges to America's National Identity*, by Samuel Huntington. **April:** TBA. All Shared Learning members are invited to enroll and attend specific meetings of interest.

Third Fridays, Feb-April, 11:00-12:30.

2) GRAY LINDGREN LECTURES Committee Chairperson: Meyer Liberman (919-417-0674, mliberman@nc.rr.com). This spring, the *Shared Learning* lecture series on topical issues will be presented on Friday mornings, 11:00 a.m., in February and March. Our presenters exemplify top scholars in their fields from our rich local academic resources. **Lectures are free and open to the public. Remember to invite your friends and neighbors.** Check www.sharedlearning.us and email announcements for upcoming lectures.

* **Friday, February 23, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., William Ferris, PH.D.,** Joel R. Williamson Eminent UNC Professor of History and Senior Associate Director, Center for the Study of the American South. **TOPIC: "U.S. Southern Culture"** (tentative).

* **Friday, March 30, 11:00 a.m - 12:30 p.m., Michael H. Hunt, Ph.D.,** Everett H. Emerson Professor Emeritus, UNC Department of History. **TOPIC: "Wars in Asia"** (tentative).

3) LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES Moderators: Barbara Becker (bjbecker@uci.edu) and Glenn Wrighton (mdwgcw@live.com, 919-929-3406). Once a month, join us in viewing a film at *Shared Learning* in the darkened Expand Church sanctuary. After viewing the film, we'll discuss its themes and our reactions. Glenn and Barbara will select quality films, based on suggestions from participants. The schedule and film titles are subject to change and will be noted on our website: www.sharedlearning.us

2nd Fridays of Month, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

4) USE AND MASTERY OF THE NEW SHARED LEARNING WEBSITE Moderator: Hank Becker (919-932-7356, hjbecker@uci.edu). For course moderators and other members of *Shared Learning*, this series of workshops will help people understand and use the new website in their *Shared Learning* activities. The course will move from the most common uses to the most specialized, so participants are welcome to begin the course and stay for as many sessions as they feel useful. Topics include: *navigating the website; *posting from 'front-end' menu pages; *posting and composing pages from the 'back-end'; *incorporating external documents from the web and your own computer (photos and video). **Friday, January 19 and 26 and February 2, 11:00 - 12:30.**

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS: **PRESIDENT,** Alice Parsons (amparson@uci.edu). **VICE PRESIDENT,** Nancy Goudreau (nagoudreau@yahoo.com). **SECRETARY,** Glenn Wrighton, (mdwgcw@live.com). **TREASURER,** Don Holloway (dnholloway@aol.com). **REGISTRAR,** Hank Becker (hjbecker@uci.edu). **CURRICULUM COORDINATOR,** Sheldon Becker (stbphoto@yahoo.com). **EDITOR,** Nancy Goudreau (nagoudreau@yahoo.com). **LIBRARIAN,** Neil Stahl (nstahlgm@gmail.com). **MEMBERS- AT- LARGE:** Bisharah Libbus (blibbus@gmail.com), Rob David (rdavid111@nc.rr.com), Ben Berman (benberman47@icloud.com). **HOSPITALITY,** Jane Levy (levyjane@hotmail.com). **LECTURE CHAIRPERSON:** Meyer Liberman. (mliberman@nc.rr.com).

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR CURRENT PAID-UP MEMBERS

Deadline for Spring Registration is December 29. Classes begin the week of January 8.

For current members of Shared Learning – that is, people who paid their 2017-2018 registration fee during the Fall 2017 semester, you may register for Spring classes in 3 ways:

- Complete the On-Line Registration Form at <http://sharedlearning.us/members/springform>
- Email the Registrar your choice of courses: hjbecker@uci.edu
- Complete and mail the Registration Page on the following page, which is designed mainly for people who have not yet paid a their fee for this academic year

The On-Line Registration Form gives you immediate confirmation that your form has been received. However, it does require you to first log in to the website at <http://sharedlearning.us>.

REGISTRATION FORM FOR NEW MEMBERS and RETURNING MEMBERS
Deadline for Spring Registration is December 29. Classes begin the week of January 8.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Note: For CURRENT MEMBERS who paid your yearly dues of \$60 per person during Fall, 2017, there is no need to complete or mail this form. Instead, complete the on-line form at www.sharedlearning.us/springform
OR send an email that lists your course choices to hjbecker@uci.edu

THIS FORM IS FOR

NEW MEMBERS who have never been part of Shared Learning. Complete and return this page to **Hank Becker, 1114 Phils Ridge Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.** If part of a couple, remember to indicate **who** is taking **which** course...no limit on the number of courses. Include a check **payable to Shared Learning Association for an 'introductory membership' fee of \$30.00 per person.**

AND For RETURNING Shared Learning MEMBERS who have **not paid 2017-2018 dues.** Your fee for the 2017-18 year is **\$60.00 per person** with no limit on # of courses. If part of a couple, **indicate who** is taking **which** course. Complete and return this page to the **same address** as above. **Check payable to Shared Learning Association.**

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>Book Club</i>	9) <i>The Holy Land Revealed</i>	17) <i>Personal History</i>
2) <i>Controversies: America's Economic Challenges</i>	10) <i>How the Earth Works</i>	18) <i>Science and Religion</i>
3) <i>Early Classic Brit. Literature</i>	11) <i>How To Draw III</i>	19) <i>Selected Play Readings, Discussions</i>
4) <i>Experiencing Medieval Europe</i>	12) <i>Human Geography: Social, Cultural, Political Economic</i>	20) <i>Short Stories</i>
5) <i>Geologic Wonders in U.S. Parks</i>	13) <i>The Louvre</i>	21) <i>Spanish, Intermediate</i>
6) <i>Great Decisions</i>	14) <i>Memory and the Human Lifespan</i>	22) <i>Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience</i>
7) <i>History & Nature of the Universe</i>	15) <i>Modern American Essays</i>	23) <i>Views on the News</i>
8) <i>History of Spain</i>	16) <i>The Movie Experience</i>	24) <i>What Does It Mean To Be Human?</i>

Which of these special programs (for which registration is not needed) are you possibly interested in attending? (circle your choices)

A) <i>Lindgren Lectures</i>	C) <i>Controversies Book Group</i>
B) <i>Let's Go To the Movies</i>	D) <i>Use & Mastery of the New Website</i>

MEMBER INFORMATION (for one or two people): Current members need only indicate any changes to your email, phone numbers, or home address—and your name(s)! Consider moderating a course. Help available!

Name (1) _____ Name (2) _____

E-mail (1) _____ E-mail (2), if different _____

Address _____

Phone (person 1-cell) _____ (person 2-cell) _____

Phone (home) _____ Could you serve as a Course Moderator? Yes ___ Maybe ___

What subject area would you like to moderate?: _____