

# Fine Arts, Theater & Music

## 20th Century Irish Theater

The course will survey Irish theater in the 20th century. While there will be references to other plays and playwrights, we will focus on four major plays: John Millington Synge's *The Playboy of the Western World*, Sean O'Casey's *The Plough and the Stars*; Brian Friel's *Translations* and Conor McPherson's *The Weir*. The classes will look at the plays themselves, the historical context in which they were written and, where possible, recorded scenes to suggest how they might work on the stage.

*Recommended Readings:* *The Playboy of the Western World*, John Millington Synge; *The Plough and the Stars*, Sean O'Casey; *Translations*, Brian Friel; *The Weir*, Conor McPherson.

**Michael Collins** is a teaching professor of English and dean emeritus at Georgetown University. He is editor of *Shakespeare's Sweet Thunder: Essays on the Early Comedies*; *Reading What's There: Essays on Shakespeare in Honor of Stephen Booth*; and (with Michael Scott) *Christian Shakespeare: Question Mark*. He has published numerous essays on Shakespeare and on 20th British dramatists and has taught courses on Shakespeare and 20th century British theater.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/-9rgt0avv2I>



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1047.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/5 – 4/2	Tu	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Collins, Michael	\$55.00	49

## Antônio Carlos Jobim: Brazil's Musical Gift to the World

Antônio Carlos ("Tom") Jobim, best known for megahits like "The Girl from Ipanema" and "Corcovado" (aka "Quiet Nights of Quiet Stars"), composed a wealth of beautiful music before, during and after the *Bossa Nova* heyday of the 1960s. Jazz critics place him alongside Gershwin, Berlin, Rodgers and Porter; they consider him "one of the creative wonders of the second half of the 20th century" and characterize his style as "unmatched in its delicate sensuality."

This course explores Jobim's music and life, beginning with his childhood and his years as a struggling nightclub pianist and fledgling composer. We will devote a fair amount of time to *Bossa Nova* – that is, after all, what launched Jobim's music to worldwide fame. What is *Bossa Nova*, anyway? We will talk about that – where it came from, what is different about it and its lasting impact. We will take a virtual field trip to Rio. Then we will follow the new directions his music and life took after the initial surge of *Bossa Nova*, including the time he spent in the United States and his love of nature and concern for the environment. Along the way, we will meet many of Jobim's collaborators – singers, musicians and lyricists – and learn the backstories to some of his works.

We will listen to a lot of music, including both familiar songs and many that will be new to you, with translations of Portuguese lyrics. Of course, we will hear what James Fallows of *The Atlantic* has termed "the absolute classic version" of "the greatest song ever recorded." And we will see in action the Banda Nova – the band Jobim formed with family and friends to take his music around the world during his *anos dourados*, those golden years of the last decade of his life.

Hopefully, by the end of the course, you will have a greater appreciation for Jobim's music and feel that you know him as a person.

*Independent Reading: Bossa Nova: The Story of the Brazilian Music That Seduced the World*, Ruy Castro; *Getz/Gilberto*, Bryan McCann (backstories on the songs and people involved in this iconic LP).

*Recommended websites:* [vimeo.com/95835648](https://vimeo.com/95835648) ("Bossa Nova: the Brazilian Music That Charmed the World"); [jobim.org/jobim/handle/2010/4135/browse?locale=en](https://jobim.org/jobim/handle/2010/4135/browse?locale=en) (sheet music for many of Jobim's works).

**Richard Juhnke** holds a BA in economics from Rice University and a JD from the University of Chicago. He specialized in the economic regulation of the airline and telecommunications industries. Throughout his legal career, his offices were always in close proximity to major record stores, enabling him to nurture his life-long interest in music during lunch-hour excursions.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/0gRtyWmHWKw>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1005.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 308	3/6 – 4/17	We	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Juhnke, Richard	\$55.00	40

## Japanese Woodblock Prints: Ukiyo-e and Beyond

Japanese woodblock prints are not only one of the most fascinating – and fun – genres in East Asian art, they are also an especially good window into the society and era in which they were made. With tremendous variety in theme and content, they range from inexpensive prints illustrating the latest fashion or most popular celebrity, to elaborate works meant to shape an idealized image of Japan, to prints that served as a medium for personal expression.

We will take a chronological approach, beginning with a deep dive into *ukiyo-e*, "pictures of the floating world." Produced in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, they reflect the interests and pastimes of a witty, pleasure-loving and irreverent urban society. This is the realm of such artists as Hokusai, Hiroshige and Utamaro. The following Meiji period sees the introduction of action-packed compositions and a new propagandistic role for prints. In woodblock prints of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, we find two basic responses to Japan's modernization: one that builds on classical *ukiyo-e* to create scenes evoking traditional Japan, and another that seeks to align printmaking more closely with modern ideas of artistic creation. Finally, we will look at postwar and contemporary woodblock prints that use an age-old medium to speak to us in new and exciting ways.

**Carol Morland**, PhD, has worked, studied and traveled extensively in East Asia. She has served as a Smithsonian Journeys expert on tours to Japan and has taught at a variety of institutions including the University of Hawaii and Temple University-Japan. She served as an editor at *Orientalism* magazine in Hong Kong and curator of Japanese prints at the Honolulu Museum of Art. At present, she is editing a Japanese-English dictionary of art terms.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/FgsAzqwr4M>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1046.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 121	3/5 – 4/2	Tu	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Morland, Carol	\$55.00	33

## Radio: A Look Behind the Scenes

Since the 1920s, the role of radio broadcasting has remained a form of entertainment in American life, as well as a source for up-to-date news and discussions on pop culture, technology, art, sports and humor. This four-session course will provide a look behind the scenes: how radio has changed and its future; the process of selecting program topics and music; what it takes to produce a program; and how to make scheduling decisions. Participants will learn about the roles and responsibilities of the station manager, program director, news reporter and editor, producer, technical engineer and on-air host. They will also meet a nationally syndicated podcaster and people who work behind the scenes at three radio stations.

After the conclusion of this course, WAMU will offer small group tours of the station, located at 4401 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, D.C. The tours last 45 minutes and include the newsroom, a broadcasting studio, production rooms, the *Hot Jazz Saturday Night* studio and an on-air host.

### **The Evolution of Public Radio to Public Media at WAMU** (Allison Kennedy 4/2)

Walk the WAMU timeline to discuss its history and lessons learned on what impacts programming. The instructor will talk about production of local and national programs, the partnership with National Public Radio and American University, how engineers are essential for every radio show and the voices heard on-air and online sharing news and information on which listeners rely.

*Recommended Websites:* [wamu.org](http://wamu.org) and [dcist.com](http://dcist.com)

### **Growing from Nascent Concept to National Syndication** (Lynn Borton 4/9)

Good radio is rooted in a mix of curiosity, entrepreneurial elbow grease, technical skill and willingness to try. This session will draw on lessons learned from the instructor's own journey from "complete newbie" to national syndication as producer and host of the weekly half-hour radio show and podcast, *Choose To Be Curious*.

*Recommended Website:* <https://lynnborton.com/>

### **Raising Your Voice on WERA Radio Arlington** (Jeff Hoffman 4/16)

The instructor will discuss WERA, a broadcast station owned and operated by nonprofit Arlington Independent Media, which created the station. He will review how to produce a show, from content creation to air time; and ways to get involved through potential new programming.

*Recommended Website:* [www.wera.fm/](http://www.wera.fm/)

### **A Trusted Daily Companion: Classical Music Radio (and More) at WETA** (Jodi Beznoska 4/30)

WETA Classical plays a surprisingly vital role in the lives of its listeners. Go behind the scenes with the WETA classical team and learn about the station's history, why audiences care so much about it and the station's plans for the future.

*Recommended Website:* [weta.org](http://weta.org)

**Allison Kennedy**, associate director for Donor and Audience Relations at WAMU, leads its listener and member services and gift processing unit. In that role, she manages station tours and the volunteer program. Her team handles listener and member inquiries through a variety of platforms including web, phone and email. She identifies avenues for increasing audience engagement including key messaging, events and volunteer opportunities. She also leads data collection and tracking to provide feedback to departments across the organization.

**Lynn Borton** is producer and host of the award-winning, *Choose To Be Curious*, a show all about curiosity, featuring research, theory and conversations about curiosity in work and life. She describes herself as a facilitator – of conversations and transformation – with more than 30 years of experience in strategic governance and change management in the nonprofit sector.

**Jeff Hoffman** produces *Happy Joyous and Free*, which airs weekday mornings on WERA 96.7 FM in Arlington. Prior to retirement, he worked in sales, marketing, communications and operations for numerous New York and Washington, D.C., media companies. He is a grateful husband, father and grandfather; supports people in recovery from addiction; and is a Red Cross blood donor ambassador.

**Jodi Beznoska** is senior director of communications at WETA, the home of WETA Classical. She has more than 20 years of experience in the nonprofit arts and public media fields, including five years with National Public Radio's *From the Top*, a showcase for outstanding young classically trained musicians. She has a master's degree in business from the Bolz Center for Arts Administration at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she served on the alumni advisory board for 11 years and has guest lectured on arts marketing and communications since 2020.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/8pm0x4ksNK8>

Class will not meet April 23.



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1049.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/2 – 4/30	Tu	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Multiple Instructors, -	\$55.00	48

## Storied American Art Museums

There are intriguing stories behind the creation of many American art museums, stories filled with eccentric and fascinating characters and their avidly acquired fortunes and equally avidly acquired art. We will look into those characters and the little-known stories behind major museums including the Isabella Stewart Gardner, the Phillips Collection, the Morgan, the Frick, the National Gallery, the Metropolitan, the Cloisters, and more. All date to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century or since, and all have fascinating – and quintessentially American – tales to tell behind the glorious art and grand stately buildings.

**Tom Manteuffel** is a retired consultant in cybersecurity with a longtime interest in art. He has taught classes on the Renaissance in Florence and Northern Europe, on Renaissance patrons, the French Color Revolution, and on the history of the National Gallery of Art.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/gJR2uto80Cw>



This course will be offered virtually and students will attend via Zoom. Additionally, class sessions will be recorded and made available to registered students for asynchronous viewing.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1044.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/13 – 4/3	We	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Manteuffel, Tom	\$55.00	49

## Theater Appreciation: New Works Edition

Do you enjoy evenings at the theater but want to know more about what you are seeing? Have you ever wondered if knowing about the historical context of a play, a theater company or a performance style would help you better enjoy the production? If so, this is the class for you! This course will focus solely on new works: two musicals, a dance-theater performance and a play. Through a series of readings and guided

discussions, we will educate ourselves as forthcoming audience members about these new productions presented at four theaters in the DC area.

First, we will discuss the show before we see it, exploring what clues are available to us via the show summary, the venue's website, source documents and publicity materials. Next, we will see the production on our own. In the following week's class session, we will explore what we saw, considering performance style, technique and production values. We will also discuss the process and challenges of new work development. Discussions of the plays and the productions will be facilitated by an instructor trained in theater history and dramatic theory.

*Four New Productions:* Students should see these productions on their own during the following dates to participate fully in class:

- *Penelope* at Signature Theater (between 4/11 and 4/16)
- *Message in a Bottle* at The Kennedy Center (between 4/18 and 4/21)
- *Unknown Soldier* at Arena Stage (between 4/25 and 4/30)
- *Problems Between Sisters* at Studio Theatre (between 5/8 and 5/14)

*Recommended reading:*

- Homer's *Odyssey*
- *True West* by Sam Shepard

**D. Ohlandt** holds a PhD in theater studies from the University of Michigan. As a college professor, she taught theater history and practice for over 15 years; and directed community, university and regional theater. She has taught this course for Encore Learning since 2009.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/JFNm0NEqIAw>



This course will be offered in-person at Fairlington Community Center.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1045.43	Fairlington Community Center, 100	4/2 – 5/14	Tu	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Ohlandt, D.	\$55.00	33

## Virginia Opera Presents: A History of Opera

Opera was created in Italy during the late Renaissance. Ever since, artists and audiences have used this art form to explore diverse sounds, stories and cultures. The instructor, Virginia Opera's resident scholar, will explore the chronological history of the art form. Each session will focus on the operatic traditions of one century, from 1600 to 2000, with special attention to how operatic styles, composers and artists influence the art we produce today. This special series will contextualize what you see and hear in the opera house and help you understand the old stories we still sing today.

**Joshua Borths** is the resident scholar of Virginia Opera. With more than a decade of experience in opera, he has worked as an educator, stage director, arts administrator and dramaturg with companies such as Arizona Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Opera Columbus, Pensacola Opera and more. He has taught at the University of Richmond, the University of Maryland and Capital University, among others. His work has been featured in *Opera News* and TED-Ed.



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
1048.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/17 – 5/8	We	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Borths, Joshua	\$55.00	39

# Health & Wellness

## In-Depth Systems Check To Keep You Going Longer

Many of us know the basics regarding diet, exercise and sleep, but what are evidence-based health indicators? What information, tools and strategies help provide an overall “systems check” to ensure we are on the right track? This four-session course is intended for a live (and lively) audience. Bring your questions and prepare to move, engage and inspire others on the health and wellness journey.

1. **Exercise for Bone Health** (Caroline Morris 4/8)

This session will dispel myths about exercise and bone density. We will review normal bone aging and the low bone mineral density conditions of osteopenia and osteoporosis: how they are diagnosed, their impact on daily life and what you can do to improve bone health and quality of life. This includes functional assessments related to bone health as well as live exercises. If you choose to participate actively, wear nonrestrictive clothing and supportive shoes.

2. **Stronger Living: Fundamentals of Strength Training** (Erin Dalisay 4/15)

This session will cover the best types of exercises to improve strength of large muscle groups and reduce risk of injury from falls. Learn how to modify these exercises and the number of repetitions necessary for true muscle change while reducing risk of preventable diseases.

3. **Better Balance: What Does It Mean and How Do You Make Sure You Have It?** (Laura Mesches 4/29)

We know falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries in older adults. But are they inevitable? This session is designed to teach you where balance comes from and ways to screen yourself for fall risk. Learn what you can do to improve your balance so you can continue participating in activities most meaningful to you. Here, too, if you choose to participate actively, wear nonrestrictive clothing and supportive shoes.

4. **Wearable Tech: Health and Wellness Metrics** (Christine Crawford 5/6)

We will look at the primary domains of wearable technology and its incorporation into daily life, from entertainment to safety and health metric tracking. Wearable technology is even driving behavior change. The lecture and discussion will include common smart devices, the correlation of wearable health metrics to wellness and the future of wearables in everyday life. Bring your wearables.

**Caroline Morris**, PT, DPT, GCS, is a physical therapist, health coach and educator who is passionate about transforming the health of her patients and clients. She has spent most of her career rehabilitating patients with high medical complexity. Caroline is a staff development specialist, founder of Morris Clinic and host of the Elder Health Connection podcast.

**Erin Kennedy Dalisay**, PT, DPT, OCS, is a physical therapist specializing in orthopedic and sports rehabilitation. She helps individuals of all abilities create exercise programs that maximize their enjoyment in daily activities. She believes that mobility, sleep, nutrition and mental well-being are the pillars of health and healthy aging.

**Laura Mesches**, PT, DPT, NCS, is a physical therapist who is residency-trained and board-certified as a neurologic clinical specialist. Her passion lies in helping older adults and those with chronic neurological conditions reclaim their independence, strength and quality of life. She has experience practicing in multiple rehabilitation settings and is the founder of Neuro-Fit.

**Christine Crawford**, OTD, MSOT, OTR/L, CBIS, is an occupational therapist specializing in neurologic therapy. Her experience spans the continuum of rehabilitation care. She enjoys using OT’s holistic lens to analyze how daily life activities contribute to one’s health and well-being. Her doctoral studies focused on health promotion and chronic disease management in the aging population.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/CipFOAfVpjU>

Class will not meet April 22.





This is a hybrid course offered simultaneously virtually and in-person. Students registered for 2021.43 will attend in-person at George Mason University. Students registered for 2021.43v will attend virtually on Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
2021.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 308	4/8 – 5/6	Mo	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Multiple Instructors, -	\$55.00	40
2021.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/8 – 5/6	Mo	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Multiple Instructors, -	\$55.00	40

## Urban Agriculture - Local Food Resiliency

In this course we will explore the exciting world of urban agriculture as it is emerging in and around Arlington. What forms can it take? What are the benefits and challenges? How does it play a role in food security? How can we engage as individuals and communities? In four sessions, we will cover:

**Welcome to the Garden: Beginners, Masters and Friends of Urban Agriculture.** We will examine food production in our urban environment with a discussion on connecting design to nature, food security, climate resiliency and the solutions that urban agriculture offers. A master gardener will review the remarkable resources available to those wishing to learn more.

**Three Local Examples of Community-Supported Agriculture.** We will look at three examples of how Plot Against Hunger gardens are growing more than just vegetables in Arlington in direct support of local food banks. We will examine systems designed for maximizing yield in marginalized spaces and opportunities for community engagement. A guest will share experiences as a garden volunteer.

**Open for Business: How Indoor Vertical Farming Has Taken Root in Arlington.** We will shift our attention to the emerging industry of controlled-environment farming. What are the benefits of shortening the farm-to-fork pathway with hyper-local products? An urban farmer will talk about emerging trends and examine the role businesses might have in repurposing commercial real estate.

**Opportunities to Engage: Harvesting Hope for Tomorrow.** We will bring it all together and examine ways to get involved. Something as limited as a few containers on a balcony can be rewarding on an individual level. Joining a movement as a volunteer or leader can make a huge impact on a community level. Subtle shifts in the way we think about land use in urban environments could significantly impact our culture and the planet. Our closing discussion and call to action will inspire change, just in time for the growing season ahead!

**David Sachs**, born in Arlington, is an organic grain farmer and flour miller in Virginia's Northern Neck. He is a founding board member of the Arlington Friends of Urban Agriculture and volunteers in a variety of other community organizations. Committed to local food production, and eager to find scalable solutions, he brings dynamic problem-solving and practical wisdom from the fields.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/rZ1qQbbPVQM>



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
2020.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/18 – 5/9	Th	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Sachs, David	\$55.00	39

# History

## Ancient Greece 1

This examination of ancient Greece will begin with a look at the geography and prehistory of the Balkan Peninsula, followed by a study of two predecessor cultures — Minoan (c. 2000-1500 BC) and Mycenaean (c. 1500-1200 BC). Then we will look at Homer's mythological Greece (the Heroic Age), the Dark Age (c. 1200-800 BC), the revival and remaking of Greek civilization, the Archaic Period (c. 800-479 BC) and city-states, and early 5<sup>th</sup> century BC competition between Athens and Sparta. Finally, we will study the Greek alliance that defeated the Achaemenid of Persia (modern-day Iran) in the Greco-Persian wars, 492-449 BC.

**Tom Wukitsch** began his studies at about age five by Grandma's shelves of *National Geographic*. His multilingual family encouraged him to study ancient languages, and he earned degrees in mathematics, ancient history and archeometry. He went on to teach university math and history, designed computers and spent 26 years as a U.S. diplomat in Mediterranean countries.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/hKCWqpg-sbU>



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
3067.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/11 – 5/13	Mo	12:00 PM – 02:00 PM	Wukitsch, Tom	\$55.00	39

## Arlington History

While crisscrossing the 26 square miles of Arlington, have you ever wondered who trod this ground before you? This popular course surveys the history of Arlington from before the arrival of European settlers to the present. It is not classroom-based; each session will take place in a different historic building or neighborhood.

The location for the first session will be announced prior to the start of the course. In subsequent sessions, we will travel to different Arlington locations to explore local history. Participants will need to provide their own transportation to each site, for which directions will be available. Some walking is required.

**Karl VanNewkirk** served four terms as president of the Arlington Historical Society and has recently retired from a position on its board of directors. He has been a docent at the Arlington Historical Museum since the early 1990s and was editor of the Society's annual magazine from 1992-2015. He is a former member of the board of directors of the Arlington Black Heritage Museum and has also volunteered with the archaeology department at Gunston Hall. He belongs to a variety of historical, archaeological and genealogical organizations.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/aTs7JjDbkEs>



This course will be offered offsite at various locations.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
3003.43	Offsite, Various	4/4 – 5/16	Th	03:00 PM – 04:30 PM	VanNewkirk, W. Karl	\$55.00	13



## Digital Storytelling: Writing for Local History

Digital technology is changing the way historians are researching, writing and publishing stories. New information technologies are helping communities better preserve and interpret their local histories. Hosted online platforms and social media are making private and museum collections more accessible and providing more opportunities for community collaboration and engagement.

This is an introductory course on the field of public history. The instructor, a local historian, will discuss the impact of technology on historical research. He will discuss his graduate project, "Mapping the Civil War in Arlington," and its impact on local Civil War research, as well as his most recent project, "Arlington Historical."

The course will provide a basic understanding of online digital technologies and how they are used to discover and collect historical research. It will also serve as a forum to discuss the traditional role of local historians and how public engagement is changing the way communities can participate in reinterpreting their histories. We will learn about popular online historical collections, the difference between primary and secondary sources, and the techniques to capture core metadata.

Finally, class members will be encouraged to research and write their own local history stories, and some may even be able to have their stories digitally published.

**Peter Vaselopoulos** worked as deputy chief information officer at the United States Agency for Global Media. He earned a master's degree in digital humanities from George Mason University, MIS in Information Technology from The George Washington University and master's degree in International Communications from American University. He is on the board of the Arlington Historical Society. A recent Arlington County Historic Preservation grant awardee, he is working on a multiyear digital media project that will include a public history website and mobile application.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/tkIAN7VtHBA>

Class will not meet April 10.



This is a hybrid course offered simultaneously virtually and in-person. Students registered for 3053.43 will attend in-person at George Mason University. Students registered for 3053.44v will attend virtually on Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
3053.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 313	4/3 – 5/15	We	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Vaselopoulos, Peter	\$55.00	24
3053.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/3 – 5/15	We	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Vaselopoulos, Peter	\$55.00	25

## History of Race and Law in Arlington

This course will review the interplay between race and the law in Arlington, generally from 1900 through the 1970s. The emphasis will be on segregation related to three broad areas: schools, housing and civic life. The first of four sessions will include an overview of what is meant by "the law" and will examine activity from 1900 through the 1930s. We will discuss the roles of Frank Lyon, other developers and elected officials. Subsequent sessions will address the role of the Arlington NAACP in the 1940s, leading to the years-long lawsuit attempting to achieve "equal facilities" in Arlington's high schools. In the 1950s, after *Brown v. Board of Education*, the emphasis in education switched to desegregation. Many lawsuits were filed, contesting segregation not only in the schools but also in movie theaters and public assemblages. The effect of public housing restrictions (through zoning) and private housing restrictions (through racial

covenants) will be explored. The final session will look at how the Arlington School Board moved students in its attempt to abide by the letter – and not the spirit – of the law. The course will end with the busing lawsuit of the 1970s and the reluctance of the Arlington County Bar Association to desegregate.

**Bill Fogarty** is a retired attorney who has lived and worked in Arlington for more than 40 years. In an earlier life he was a high school English teacher. His article “1958 Arlington: The Year That Something Happened” was published in the 2023 issue of *Arlington Historical Magazine*. The article dealt with the complex factors leading to the desegregation of Arlington schools in 1959.

View the course preview video here: [https://youtu.be/ulqk\\_z\\_CSW8](https://youtu.be/ulqk_z_CSW8)



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
3069.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 466	3/14 – 4/4	Th	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Fogarty, Bill	\$55.00	38

## Russia and Ukraine: 1,000 Years of Joint History

Was the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 a case of history repeating itself? Issues of war and peace have been part and parcel of Russian history dating back to the country’s origins. This course explores Russian periods of conflict and relative peace, and considers its lagging economy and the failure of democracy to take root. We will examine two important questions: Why has Russia been so determined to expand territorially? Why has “Mother Russia” viewed Ukraine as pivotal to its security interests? This is not a current events class, but a view of Russian and Ukrainian history designed to enrich our understanding of more recent events in that part of the world.

**Eric Gartman** is a former intelligence analyst for the Department of Defense who studied history and political science as an undergraduate at the University of Arizona. He earned an MA in international relations at the University of Virginia, and an MS in strategic intelligence at the National Defense University.

View the course preview video here: [https://youtu.be/3JGzuC\\_fQrQ](https://youtu.be/3JGzuC_fQrQ)



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
3065.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 120	3/25 – 4/29	Mo	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Gartman, Eric	\$55.00	38

# Law, Politics & Public Affairs

## 2024 Election - Divided We Stand

The United States is now the most divided it has been since the Civil War. Why? When did this start? Will the 2024 election bring the country together or intensify the division? This course will look at divisions on a range of issues including race, religion, sexuality, abortion, gun policy, immigration and foreign policy. If the presidential choice turns out to be a choice between Joe Biden and Donald Trump – two one-term presidents seeking a second term – will it mostly be a referendum on Biden or on Trump? Both are highly unpopular. What will voters who do not like either candidate do?

*Recommended Reading:* Election news on Cable News Network (CNN), *Politico*, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*.

**Bill Schneider** is professor emeritus at the Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University. He was CNN's senior political analyst from 1990 to 2000 and is a contributing columnist for *The Messenger*, which launched in May 2023. He is the author of *Standoff: How America Became Ungovernable* (2018) and has covered every U.S. presidential and midterm election since 1964.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/-pljDKH9gjo>



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
4049.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/6 – 3/27	We	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Schneider, William	\$55.00	48

## Africa's Role in the 21st Century

The population of Africa is expected to double by 2050. This “youth tsunami” will represent either a significant force for economic growth and improved living conditions in Africa, or increased global terrorism, instability and migration flows. Africa today is the continent least understood by Americans. The perception – unfortunately amplified by Western media – is of a land of war, famine and pestilence, but the reality is much more complex. This course will present Africa as it is – the positive and the negative – by examining major current issues after briefly surveying Africa's history, geography, societies and culture. Themes covered include: the changing political environment; conflicts and violent extremism; human rights and women's issues; economic development and poverty (including the role played by international assistance); humanitarian disasters; environmental challenges; and public health (including HIV/AIDS and other pandemics). The course will also cover some of the continent's key countries and examine Africa in the context of U.S. global policy priorities.

**Tibor Nagy** was assistant secretary of state for African affairs from 2018-2021. From 2003 to 2018 he was vice provost for international affairs at Texas Tech University. He was ambassador to Ethiopia (1999-2002), ambassador to Guinea (1996-1999), and deputy ambassador in Nigeria, Cameroon and Togo. He writes periodic op-ed pieces and lectures nationally on Africa and foreign policy. He is co-author, with Gregory Engle, of *Managing Overseas Operations: Kiss Your Latte Goodbye*, published in 2012.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/PNvmKquHUgc>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN	
4047.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 113	3/5 – 3/26	Tu	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Nagy, Tibor	\$55.00	54	<input type="text"/>

## Global Hot Spots

Global crises are constant. This course takes a look at countries or multilateral issues that have been in the forefront of the news over the past year. Each class consists of a lecture and question-and-answer period featuring a career diplomat or academic expert. This year we are fortunate to have five former U.S. ambassadors, all of whom continue either to teach or consult on foreign affairs. They will address the ongoing crises in Israel and Ukraine, under-reported terrorism in Africa, improving peacekeeping and changing political dynamics in Mexico.

### **Ground Zero for Global Terrorism** (Tibor Nagy 3/7)

While attention is usually focused on the Middle East or South Asia as centers for global terrorist violence, Africa has been responsible for more terrorist-related fatalities in recent years than all other regions. This lecture will explore the areas impacted and provide background on why there and why now. We will also discuss the major terrorist organizations – in the Sahel, in East Africa – and how the impacted governments and international community are responding. We will conclude by examining the future: Who will likely win and what will be the major global impacts?

### **Improving Peacekeeping** (Frederick Barton 3/14)

The United States and other countries and institutions have often stumbled badly with their well-meaning humanitarian interventions and peacemaking attempts since the end of the Cold War. Drawing on his years as a diplomat, the instructor will suggest ways to deal more effectively with civil wars and ethnic violence that will continue to sprawl across poorer regions of the world, citing examples in a number of recent cases. For more on the instructor's views, see *Peace Works: America's Unifying Role in a Turbulent World* (2019).

### **Israel's Difficult Path Forward** (Lucy Kurtzer-Ellenbogen 3/21)

Israel has faced two enormous crises in the past year. The earliest was a political crisis that began in 2018 and saw five snap elections in a span of less than four years. Neither side could obtain a majority in the Likud until the November 2022 election, which resulted in a comeback victory for Benjamin Netanyahu at the head of a solidly right-wing alliance boosted by ultranationalist and religious parties. Radical changes made or announced by the new government prompted massive protests and strikes. The flashpoint for the protests was Netanyahu's controversial plan to change the country's judicial system, weaken its Supreme Court and give Israel's parliament more say in appointing justices. Netanyahu's opponents claim he is trying to protect himself from the results of a corruption trial. But other reasons for supporting the judicial overhaul come from the far right, which does not want the court to defend Palestinian property rights in the West Bank or force orthodox religious students to serve in the army, like other Israelis.

The political crisis has been put on hold due to a far more serious crisis: the surprise attack by Palestinian militants from Gaza on October 7, 2023, with spillover fighting in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq. Israelis formed a unified government to address this ongoing existential challenge. How it might achieve a durable peace will be part of this talk.

### **Can Ukraine Avoid a Frozen Conflict?** (John Herbst 3/28)

Russia's initial invasion of Ukraine began at the end of February 2014, when unidentified military figures, later confirmed to be Russian military personnel, seized Crimea and supported pro-Russian separatist forces who also took control of parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of eastern Ukraine (the Donbas). This initial invasion was followed by a second one in February 2022 when Russian military forces openly entered the country from Belarus, Russia and Crimea. Ukrainian forces were able to blunt these attacks and counterattack in the east. While they continue to push, the war has reached a virtual stalemate in spite of hope that Western weapons support would enable a major recovery of occupied territory.

This talk will focus on where things currently stand, prospects for future Ukrainian success and whether diplomatic and economic pressure by the United States and its NATO allies can bring this war to an end.

**Mexico's Search for Democratic Stability** (Earl Anthony Wayne, 4/4)

The United States is not the only country in North America that will hold a presidential election in 2024. On June 2, 2024, 98 million Mexican citizens will vote to elect 128 senators, 500 deputies, eight governors and Mexico City's head of government. Most importantly, Mexico will elect a new president to replace Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador (aka AMLO). Mexico's constitution limits the president to one six-year term. AMLO tried to change the election rules, but his proposed changes were ruled unconstitutional. Thus, these elections will be run under the same rules as the last one, overseen by the country's widely respected National Electoral Institute. AMLO has not given up his efforts to return Mexico to a more authoritarian, one-party system.

This election may very well produce Mexico's first female president. This session will address other changes that might flow from this election, particularly those that might affect the fight against corruption and the drug cartels, as well as greater cooperation between the U.S. and Mexico on immigration and economic matters.

**Tibor Nagy** is a former U.S. foreign service officer who served as assistant secretary of state for African affairs; ambassador to both Guinea and Ethiopia; and deputy chief of mission in Nigeria, Cameroon and Togo. His earlier assignments included Zambia, the Seychelles, Ethiopia and Washington, D.C. He has also had an academic career, chiefly with his alma mater Texas Tech University, where he currently serves as vice provost for international affairs.

**Frederick Barton** teaches at the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. He served as the first assistant secretary of state for conflict and stabilization operations (2011-2014), ambassador to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in New York (2009-2011), senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (2002-2009), deputy high commissioner for refugees at the UN High Commission for Refugees (1999-2001), and founding director of the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Transition Initiatives (1994-1999).

**Lucy Kurtzer-Ellenbogen** is the director of the Israel, The Palestinian Territories, and the Region program at the U.S. Institute of Peace and frequently presents and publishes in a variety of media, policy and academic forums on political, diplomatic and civil society efforts related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Arab-Israeli relations. She has published on Israeli and Palestinian religious peacebuilding efforts and is co-author of a forthcoming USIP/Cornell University press volume examining the diplomatic efforts of successive U.S. administrations toward the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Proficient in Arabic and Hebrew, Kurtzer-Ellenbogen has previously worked with the U.S. Department of State as an Arabic language specialist, and as the program officer for the Kennedy School of Government's Middle East Initiative at Harvard University.

**John Herbst** retired from the Foreign Service in 2010 with the rank of career minister after 31 years of service. He served as ambassador to Uzbekistan from 2000 to 2003 and ambassador to Ukraine from September 2003 to May 2006. In the latter role, he worked to enhance U.S.-Ukrainian relations, helped to ensure the conduct of a fair Ukrainian presidential election and also to prevent violence during the Orange Revolution. Since joining the Foreign Service in 1979, he has worked as political counselor at the U.S. embassies in Tel Aviv, Moscow and Riyadh; director of regional affairs in the Near East Bureau; director of the Office of Independent States and Commonwealth Affairs; principal deputy to the ambassador-at-large for the Newly Independent States; and Consul General in Jerusalem. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice appointed him coordinator of the Office of Reconstruction and Stabilization in 2006.

After retirement, he joined the Atlantic Council, where he is senior director of the Eurasia Center. He is a frequent commentator discussing the Ukraine crisis on television and radio and hosts programs dealing with all aspects of the Ukraine war.

**Earl Anthony Wayne** served as a diplomat from 1975 to 2015 and achieved the rank of career ambassador, the highest in the U.S. Foreign Service, in 2010. He was ambassador to Argentina (2006-2009); coordinating director for development and economic affairs and deputy ambassador in Kabul, Afghanistan (2009-2011); and ambassador to Mexico (2011-2015). He served as assistant secretary of state for economic and business affairs under three secretaries of state (2000-2006) and principal deputy assistant secretary of state for European affairs (1997-2000).

He is now on the faculty of American University's School of International Service as the Hurst senior professorial lecturer and distinguished diplomat-in-residence. He also serves as a public policy fellow at the Wilson Center, where he is co-chair of the Mexico Institute Advisory Board.

Instructor speaking schedule is subject to change.

View the course preview video here: [https://youtu.be/FEIa2Kj\\_trg?si=IP328DFZgkdJIJ9n](https://youtu.be/FEIa2Kj_trg?si=IP328DFZgkdJIJ9n)



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
4004.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/7 – 4/4	Th	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Multiple Instructors, -	\$55.00	298

## Intelligence Community 101

Here is your chance to peek behind the cloak of the federal government's intelligence apparatus. The instructor will explain how the nation's Intelligence Community came about, how and why it evolved, how it works and some of the major challenges it is facing today. The course will address the following:

- The legal basis of U.S. intelligence
- Members of the Intelligence Community, what they do, and how they interact
- The ABCs of intelligence: the intelligence cycle, intelligence disciplines, basics of collection and analysis
- The difference between foreign intelligence, domestic intelligence and counterintelligence (and why it matters)
- How intelligence does or does not influence the U.S. policy process and why
- How intelligence oversight works (or does not work): the role of Congress and the press

Much about U.S. intelligence is poorly understood, even by the reporters who cover it. We will talk about abuses of the past, how they were addressed, and continuing challenges based on the current environment, without reflecting any particular political viewpoint.

*Independent Reading: Intelligence: From Secrets to Policy, 8th edition, Mark Lowenthal.*

*Recommended Websites:* [www.dni.gov](http://www.dni.gov) (Office of the Director of National Intelligence, lots of good unclassified information); [www.dni.gov/index.php/gt2040-home/introduction](http://www.dni.gov/index.php/gt2040-home/introduction) (Global Trends National Intelligence Estimate); <https://lawfaremedia.org> (thoughtful analysis of legal issues pertaining to intelligence and national security).

**Caryn Wagner** served over 30 years in U.S. intelligence, retiring as undersecretary for intelligence and analysis at the Department of Homeland Security. She served in senior positions at CIA, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and the Defense Intelligence Agency; and as a staff member on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. She began her career in Army intelligence.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/WJIGOhIIPuE>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.



SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
4046.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 308	3/11 – 4/15	Mo	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Wagner, Caryn	\$55.00	28

## Peace Corps: 62 Years of Stories and Experiences of Volunteers and Staff

The Peace Corps was established by President John F. Kennedy on March 1, 1961, to provide education and job training in developing countries and promote understanding between the United States and countries served by the new program. The organization quickly became an icon of the idealistic 1960s. More than 240,000 Americans have served as volunteers in 143 host countries over the past 62 years. In 2019, pre-COVID, there were 7,334 volunteers serving in 61 nations.

This course will start with an excerpt from the 2019 film *A Towering Task: The Story of the Peace Corps*, which shows how Sargent Shriver launched the Peace Corps in 1961. The course will then feature former and current volunteers and staff who will describe their experiences: why they decided to serve, where they trained, their in-country experiences and how their service affected their lives. Speakers will include volunteers from throughout the program's 62 years, representing many geographical areas and types of service. The final session will feature videos created by recent volunteers. We will see their host countries, their homes, where and how they work and the people they live among. Each session will include an opportunity for class comment and discussion.

**Steve Spangler** served in Panama 1964-1966. He is an active member of Panama Friends, an association of former Peace Corps volunteers in Panama. He led a small group of Encore Learning members in planning this course and will serve as facilitator. Other members of the planning group include the following:

**Ruth Gordon** served in Morocco 2011-2012 and the Republic of Georgia 2022-2023.

**Janice Jorgensen** served in Dominican Republic 1966-1968, as Peace Corps country director in Panama 1997-2002 and as Peace Corps consultant to Timor-Leste 2003.

**Margaret Neuse** served in El Salvador 1968-1970.

**Steve Telkins** served in Ghana 1962-1964.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/qXrOGYLiZl4>

Class will not meet April 23.



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
4048.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/9 – 5/14	Tu	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Spangler, Steve	\$55.00	50

## Ranked Choice Voting: The Future of Elections?

Arlington County and other Virginia jurisdictions have experimented with ranked choice voting. In 2021 Virginia Republicans used it in the primary to select their statewide candidates; all three nominees, including Gov. Glenn Youngkin, won the general election later that year. Proponents of ranked choice voting say it keeps elections focused on issues and rewards candidates who appeal to a broad consensus of voters. Opponents argue that it is confusing and may favor one political party over another. The procedure has been

used with notable success in New York City and several states including Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico and Utah.

This course will offer a deep-dive look at ranked choice voting and explore the benefits and concerns about the fastest-growing election reform in the country. Guest speakers will include Deb Otis and Will Mantell of FairVote, a research and advocacy group for voting reforms.

View the course preview video here: [https://youtu.be/h43oS0PAd\\_8](https://youtu.be/h43oS0PAd_8)

**Liz White** is executive director of UpVote Virginia, a nonpartisan, statewide, democracy reform organization that advocates for ranked choice voting. She worked with election officials to support Arlington County's first experience with it in 2023.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
4050.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/1 – 4/22	Mo	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	White, Liz	\$55.00	38

# Literature & Writing

## American Women Writers, 1650-1860

From the earliest years of our country, women's writing both reflected and shaped its era, with poetry, essays, and memoirs along with — eventually— fiction, about the American experience as viewed through the eyes of women writers.

This course offers an introduction to the writings of some of these women: well-known names like Harriet Beecher Stowe, Sojourner Truth and Emily Dickinson; and lesser-known writers who were once widely read but have since faded from attention. The reading list includes a range of literature: letters, essays, and autobiographies as well as fiction and poetry. We will sample landmark works from the colonial poetry of Anne Bradstreet to the great art of 19<sup>th</sup> century poet Emily Dickinson, and from the astonishing 17<sup>th</sup> century captivity narrative of Mary Rowlandson to Harriet Jacob's memoir *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

This time, our conversation will be enriched by looking at the literary context of works by familiar male authors, from Jonathan Edwards to Ralph Waldo Emerson, as provided in the *Dover Anthology*.

The class revolves around PowerPoint lectures on Zoom but encourages ongoing class contributions to chat. The class will open and close with an informal "open mic" discussion period.

*Recommended Reading: The Vintage Book of American Women Writers*, Elaine Showalter, ed.; *The Dover Anthology of American Literature, Volume II*, Bob Blaisdell, ed.

**Janet Auten** taught literature and composition courses and directed the Writing Center during her 25 years at American University. She also developed and team-taught a course for the Women's Studies Program called "Women's Voices Through Time." She holds a PhD in rhetoric, composition and American literature as well as an MA in journalism. Her publications include essays on teaching and 19th-century American women regionalist writers.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/5aVZHkpaa50>



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5048.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/5 – 5/10	Fr	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Auten, Janet	\$55.00	33

## Bible Stories for Grown Ups

Nearly everybody has a favorite event or story from the Bible. The instructor has collected dozens of them, adding to each a somewhat different, modern spin. This course will cover love stories, the great curses in Deuteronomy, plus a treasure trove of heroic men and women, villains and villainesses, all equally interesting and memorable. Many of the heroes and heroines are unknown to many Christians and Jews. Huldah, for instance, has the status of a prophet in the Old Testament — how many know about her? We will discuss many stories about Jesus, including his unusual genealogy of both saints and sinners, and the role of Mary Magdalene, whom some scholars have called "the first apostle." She and her friends provided financial support for Jesus's ministry. There is also Paul's advice on taxes, slaves, husbands and wives. No familiarity with scripture is required. All are welcome.

**Stephen Ruth** is a professor of public policy at George Mason University and director of the International Center for Applied Studies in Information Technology. He is the author of *One Year Trip through the Bible: A Layman's Fresh Perspective on the Complete Old and New Testaments*, which examines 73 books of the Hebrew Tanakh and the New Testament.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/jsI3tzCx-A4>



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5045.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/4 – 3/25	Mo	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Ruth, Stephen	\$55.00	39

## Biblical Prophets as Champions of Social Justice

Prophets are often misunderstood as foretellers (predicting the future), whereas they should be understood as forth-tellers (proclaiming new insights into their present circumstances). Primarily, prophets call their communities back to principles of social justice. Their motivations are religious, but their messages have relevance for anyone probing the deeper meaning of life. This course will take examples from three prophets in the Hebrew scriptures, describing their historical context; drawing out the literary, philosophical and social aspects of their preaching; and exploring their relevance for contemporary concerns for social justice.

*Independent Reading: What Does the Lord Require? The Old Testament Call to Social Witness*, Bruce C. Birch; *The Hebrew Prophets and Their Social World: An Introduction*, Victor H. Matthews; *Amos and Hosea: The Justice and Mercy of God*, Katherine M. Hayes; *From Judgment to Hope: A Study on the Prophets*, Walter Brueggemann.

*Recommended websites:*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amos\\_\(prophet\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amos_(prophet)); <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hosea>; <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaiah>

**Anthony Tambasco** is professor emeritus of Georgetown University, where he taught biblical studies for 35 years and chaired the Theology Department for two terms. He also taught in the Liberal Studies Program in the School of Continuing Studies at Georgetown. He has given numerous presentations in parishes and synagogues, as well as mini-courses at the Smithsonian Institution Associates Program.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/Ks4oLPNVDe4>

Class will not meet April 23.



This course will be offered in-person at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5047.43	Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, TBD	4/16 – 5/14	Tu	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Tambasco, Anthony	\$55.00	29

## On the Road to Canterbury with Geoffrey Chaucer

Setting aside tired notions of the Middle Ages as an era of uniform belief, we will carefully examine a few selections from Geoffrey Chaucer's best-known work, *The Canterbury Tales*. We will read modern English translations of *The General Prologue* and several tales, such as *The Wife of Bath's Tale* and *The Miller's Tale*, in their literary and cultural context. Our discussions will engage with the wide range of perspectives found in stories that span the *fabliau* to the romance. While attentive to language, genre and verse form, we will address how the poet employs late medieval institutional and textual traditions to critique, challenge or affirm prevailing political, social and religious points of view. The class will also discuss the popularity and endurance of these tales through the ages, the impact of modern perceptions and misperceptions about medieval peoples and cultures on the work's reception, and the many interpretations of these tales in multiple art forms.

*Recommended Reading: The Canterbury Tales*, Geoffrey Chaucer (a modern English translation).

*Recommended Websites:* New Chaucer Society: <https://newchaucersociety.org/>; Harvard's Geoffrey Chaucer Website: <https://chaucer.fas.harvard.edu/>

**Linda Migl Keyser** taught and directed courses at Georgetown University School of Medicine for more than 20 years, in addition to teaching medieval literature courses at the University of Maryland, College Park, and Catholic University. Her research and writing focus on how medieval literary and cultural history intersect with the discourse of medieval medicine.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/44vwZFQzV1g?si=MPAaOciB536VOpn9>

See the latest information online      Registration opens February 5 at 10:00 AM



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5046.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/12 – 4/9	Tu	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Keyser, Linda	\$55.00	39

## Three Novels of Slavery: The Good Lord Bird, the Underground Railroad, Beloved

The extent to which many contemporary writers have chosen to question, even reconfigure, the nation's past through the agency of the novel has become an increasingly interesting literary phenomenon. It is clear that history is determined by actual events as they happened in time, by the social and political contexts that shape such events and by the known individuals who drive those events. The fictional narrative, however, is a more open form, relying on the imagined, the created, the speculative.

For six weeks, we will explore three novels dealing with slavery and its consequences – *The Good Lord Bird* by James McBride, *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead and *Beloved* by Toni Morrison – in which the authors seek deeper truths about inescapable tensions present in a society presumably founded on the principle that “all men are created equal,” yet one that allowed human beings to be purchased, sold and traded as property.

**Iska Alter** is emerita professor of English at Hofstra University. Her specializations are American literature, Shakespeare and English Renaissance drama. Her work has appeared in *Modern Drama*, *Theater History Journal* and *Shakespeare Survey*. She is the author of *The Good Man's Dilemma*, an analysis of the fiction of Bernard Malamud. She earned a BA at City College of New York, an MA at the University of Wisconsin and a PhD at New York University.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/cs-cT2sG5kQ>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5050.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 121	3/15 – 4/19	Fr	02:00 PM – 03:30 PM	Alter, Iska	\$55.00	33

## Tolstoy's Short Fiction

In four sessions, we will discuss long stories and one novella written by Leo Tolstoy during his later years: *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*, *The Kreutzer Sonata*, *Master and Man* and *Hadji Murat*, with a focus on specific passages from each text. These prose narratives confront with searing honesty aspects of the human condition, sometimes in provocative and painful detail. They also constitute a continuing ambition to make stern moral demands. A list of topics for each session will be posted one week in advance.

*Recommended Reading: The Death of Ivan Ilyich & Other Stories*, Leo Tolstoy, new translation by Richard Pevear and Clarissa Volokhonsky (Vintage Classics).

**John Pfordresher**, emeritus professor of English at Georgetown University, taught undergraduate and graduate students for 50 years, 47 of them at Georgetown. He has published books on Tennyson, Matthew Arnold, Charlotte Brönte, and Catholic Studies. For many years, he was a co-author of the Scott, Foresman “America Reads” texts for high school students.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/ybiBECm11-A>



This is a hybrid course offered simultaneously virtually and in-person. Students registered for 5049.43 will attend in-person at George Mason University. Students registered for 5049.43v will attend virtually on Zoom.

This course will also be recorded and made available to registered students for asynchronous viewing. If you wish to have access to only the virtual or asynchronous class sessions then please register for the virtual class section 5049.43v.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5049.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 113	3/6 – 3/27	We	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Pfordresher, John	\$55.00	53
5049.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/6 – 3/27	We	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Pfordresher, John	\$55.00	55

## Writing A Memoir

Everyone has a story, and here is your chance to tell yours — even if your children are the only ones who read it. Guided by the instructor's book of the same name, the class will be a lecture/discussion/workshop. Students will write, read their work, and gently give and receive critiques. Weekly writing assignments will get students started in memoir writing and learning to write in different styles and genres. The course will also cover many subjects that are not covered in most memoir-writing books, such as factors that prevent writers from continuing to write. We will discuss research, organizing, story writing, copyright/permissions, getting published and writing groups.

*Recommended Readings:* *Writing A Memoir: A Personal Journey*, Marty Suydam; *Writing About Your Life: A Journey into the Past*, William Zinsser.

**Marty Suydam** is a retired Army officer, government and corporate executive, and professor. He has published several memoir/history books including *Walks with Charley*, *Building Memories*, *Let's Go Camping*, and *I Remember: Skybeavers*. This course has been taught every year since 2019.

View the course preview video here: [https://youtu.be/38Y6m--mg9U?si=tgRT0--Kcq3P\\_fnb](https://youtu.be/38Y6m--mg9U?si=tgRT0--Kcq3P_fnb)

Class will not meet March 29.



This course will be offered virtually via Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
5004.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/15 – 4/26	Fr	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Suydam, Marty	\$55.00	18



# Science & Technology

## Astrobiology: The Search for Life Elsewhere in the Universe

This course will review recent discoveries in astrobiology that have implications for the possibility of life elsewhere, the observed nature of the many other habitable worlds in our solar system and beyond, and ongoing searches for extraterrestrial life.

Over the past two decades, astronomers have discovered that water, carbon compounds and usable energy needed to support life (as we know it on Earth) are all commonplace in the universe. Even within our solar system there are at least six other places where simple bacteria could thrive. These include ice-covered oceans inside three of the moons of Jupiter, two of the moons of Saturn, and inside Pluto.

Astronomers have further discovered over 5,000 planets around other stars, several hundred of which exist in their star's "habitable zone." Extrapolation suggests that there are far more habitable planets and moons in our galaxy than there are stars. Lastly, we have discovered that the universe is more complex and filled with more unexpected objects, places and events than we ever could have predicted.

Each of the six sessions will cover an important aspect of astrobiology research:

1. Life on Earth: from its origin until now
2. Life on other worlds: planets and habitability
3. Searching for Earth-like life elsewhere: within our solar system and beyond
4. Evolution of complex life
5. Intelligence and civilizations
6. Impacts on humanity of discovering extraterrestrial life

**Michael Summers** is professor of planetary science and astronomy at George Mason University. His research concerns the structure and evolution of planetary atmospheres, planetary habitability and using atmospheric signatures to infer biology on other worlds. He has worked with NASA rocket, satellite, space shuttle and deep space missions. He is a member of the science team on the NASA New Horizons mission to Pluto and the Kuiper Belt. He is an award-winning teacher of astronomy, atmospheric science, planetary science, and astrobiology at GMU.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/5uRCJ55CHIs>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
6023.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 118	3/7 – 4/11	Th	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Summers, Michael	\$55.00	30

## Introduction to Birding

Spring is the peak time to observe many species of birds as they migrate north from their breeding grounds in Central and South America. Learn about local bird species in two sessions at two Arlington Nature Centers. Then put your learning into practice with experienced birders at Long Branch Nature Center and Four Mile Run.

**Raptors** (Gabby Hrycyshyn 4/23) Learn about our local raptors — owls, hawks, eagles, falcons and kites — and how to spot them in the wild. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Rd., Arlington. Parking is limited; parking on Military Road is recommended.

**Songbirds and Crows** (Rita Peralta 4/30) Learn about local birds and those that migrate through our area in the spring. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center, 6535 Carlin Springs Rd., Arlington. Limited parking at the center or use nearby parking deck (\$5 fee, 5-minute walk) or Glencarlyn Park lot near picnic shelter 1 (15 to 20-minute walk).

**Birds of Long Branch Park** (Colt Gregory 5/7) Learn how to use binoculars and the apps available to aid birders. Then, expert birders Rita Peralta, Colt Gregory and Kurt Moser will guide you around the park. Participants may bring their own binoculars, and instructors will have binoculars to lend. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center.

**Birds of Four Mile Run** (Kurt Moser 5/14) Expert birders Kurt Moser and Colt Gregory will introduce you to the birds that frequent this diverse habitat. Meet at Four Mile Run parking lot, 4131 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

*Recommended Resources:* Cornell Lab of Ornithology: free Merlin and Ebird apps, AllAboutBirds.org, <https://Audubon.org/gear/binocular-guide>.

**Gabby Hrycyshyn**, a naturalist at Gulf Branch Nature Center, has a bachelor's degree in biology from Penn State University, a master's degree in interdisciplinary ecology from the University of Florida, and a master's certificate in project management from The George Washington University. She worked with the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia and trained at the Minnesota Raptor Center, the Linwood Springs Research Center in Wisconsin and Boise State University. Before coming to Arlington, she worked for the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) and has extensive experience working with birds of prey, including owls and hawks at Potomac Overlook Regional Park.

**Rita Peralta** earned her bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in environmental science and policy from George Mason University. Her early career focused on microbiology and wetland soil microbial ecology. Since then, she has gained more than a decade of experience as a naturalist in Northern Virginia. She is currently a manager at Long Branch Nature Center and previously served as natural resource manager at Riverbend Park (part of the Fairfax County Parks Authority). She is also a volunteer instructor for the Virginia Master Naturalists, leads an invasive management area for the FCPA, and serves on the board of the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia

**Colt Gregory**, a member of the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Northern Virginia Bird Club, has been an Arlington regional master naturalist since 2017. He co-leads the Sunday bird walks for the Natural Park Service at Great Falls and leads a sector in our area's Christmas bird count. He is often seen pulling up invasive plants to restore bird habitat and balance in our local parks where he would like to see more common yellowthroat warblers.

**Kurt Moser** is co-founder and president of the Four Mile Run Conservatory Foundation, an organization that promotes nature, culture and community at lower Four Mile Run in Alexandria and Arlington. He also is an independent researcher/ecologist. He is on the boards of the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust and NoVa Outside. He earned a master's degree in environmental science and policy from George Mason University, where his thesis and publications focused on ecosystem function in natural and mitigation wetlands.



This course will be offered offsite at various locations.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
6031.43	Offsite, Various	4/23 – 5/14	Tu	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Multiple Instructors, -	\$55.00	18

## Social Sciences

### Climate Change and Changing U.S. Cities: What Should We Expect in the Near Future?

Climate change is altering the ways we live. In addressing its impacts, the vast majority of attention understandably goes to lowering greenhouse gases and moving to renewable energy sources. The effects of climate change require large-scale adoption of mitigation measures across industries, changes to infrastructure and a vigorous overhaul of the energy sector. But while efforts in this direction are underway, our society is largely neglecting the need to address the wide-ranging impacts climate change will have on our social and cultural worlds, particularly our cities, where most of humanity lives.

This course will examine how climate change is affecting cities in the United States and elsewhere, as well as expectations for the future. We will explore a series of climate-related issues and topics that cities are beginning to confront. These include new urban planning challenges and emerging developments and innovations in urban resilience that offer optimism for the future. We will get a glimpse of how our cities will change and what they will look like in the decades to come.

*Recommended Readings:* <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2022/01/31/can-science-fiction-wake-us-up-to-our-climate-reality-kim-stanley-robinson>, Joshua Rothman, *New Yorker*, January 24, 2022; *Cities and Climate Change*, United Nations Environment Programme; *Confronting the urban climate emergency: Critical urban studies in the age of a green new deal*, Daniel Cohen; "Bringing Cities into the Global Climate Framework," Saskia Sassen (chapter 2 in *The Urban Climate Challenge*, Craig Johnson, ed.); *Cities, Climate and Migration: The role of cities at the climate-migration nexus*, C40 Cities.

**Robert Albrow** was trained in sociocultural anthropology at the University of Chicago and is a research associate professor at American University's Center for Latin American and Latino Studies. He has maintained a long-term ethnographic focus on urban and indigenous politics in Bolivia and is an expert on Latin American social and indigenous movements. He has also researched and published widely on the social and cultural consequences of climate change. He is the recipient of grants and fellowships from the Smithsonian, Library of Congress, and Carnegie Council.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/rH31epXH8O4>



This is a hybrid course offered simultaneously virtually and in-person. Students registered for 7034.43 will attend in-person at George Mason University. Students registered for 7034.43v will attend virtually on Zoom.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
7034.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 121	4/1 – 5/6	Mo	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Albro, Robert	\$55.00	40
7034.43v	Virtual, Virtual	4/1 – 5/6	Mo	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Albro, Robert	\$55.00	40

### Critical Thinking for Intelligence Professionals - and You!

Critical thinking is important for personal and professional decision-making. Nobel laureate Daniel Kahneman identified psychological factors that influence decision-making. This course will examine two types of thinking uncovered in Kahneman's research and how they are employed by intelligence professionals. We will also look at nine types of cognitive bias and a seven-step critical thinking model used by most of the

intelligence community. After examining how these theories are adopted by intelligence professionals, we will explore what history tells us about intelligence failures and poor cognitive techniques. Finally, we will discuss simple analytic techniques we each can use in personal decision-making.

*Independent Reading: Thinking Fast and Slow*, Daniel Kahneman; *Psychology of Intelligence Analysis* (available for free on [cia.gov](https://www.cia.gov)), Richards J. Heuer, Jr.; *The Thinker's Toolkit*, Morgan D. Jones.

*Recommended Websites:*

<https://www.cia.gov/resources/csi/books-monographs/psychology-of-intelligence-analysis-2/>

**Ray Converse** spent his career in the intelligence arena – more than 34 years at the CIA and another 15 years as a contractor to U.S. intelligence agencies. He has worked as an economic analyst and manager of numerous geographic areas including Russia, the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and South Asia. He served on several crisis task forces. Later in his career, he was an instructor and designer of courses for upcoming intelligence professionals, with an emphasis on analytic techniques and critical thinking. He believes training must be varied, interactive and fun.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/rLR-28g9o8g>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
7031.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 311	4/11 – 5/9	Th	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Converse, Ray	\$55.00	29

## Death to DEI? The Past, Present and Future of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategies

Has the impact of George Floyd's death and the racial reckoning that followed faded? In this course, we will examine the history of public and private strategies to repair the racial offenses of the past: affirmative action; reparations; and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). We will examine what DEI means, what it looks like in practice and the controversy surrounding these programs. Beginning in the 1960s and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, through the assault on affirmative action, to the present outlawing of DEI programs, what does the future hold in a nation that is becoming more and more diverse?

Four sessions will cover:

1. The Foundation: The civil rights legislation of the 1960s.
2. Progress and the Backlash: Rise of the Black middle class and challenges in the Supreme Court.
3. Obama to Trump: A post-racial society to a racial reckoning.
4. Today and in the Future: DEI, justice, belonging and accessibility.

**Deneen M. Snow** is a former Arlington Public Schools educator. She taught courses in history, geography, ethnic studies, government and African American studies at the H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program and Wakefield High School for 30 years. She is a doctoral student in organizational development and change at Fielding Graduate University. She is also founder and CEO of Invictaca Consulting, where she is trying to make schools the best places to work by recruiting, retaining and elevating educators. She currently resides in Louisville, KY.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/krEWvpYHHWk>



This course will be offered virtually and students will attend via Zoom. Additionally, class sessions will be recorded and made available to registered students for asynchronous viewing.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
7033.43v	Virtual, Virtual	3/6 – 3/27	We	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Snow, Deneen	\$55.00	39

## Living Legacy: The Art and Science of Being Remembered

We often think of legacy planning in the context of wealth that we will leave to family and charity after we are gone. But a legacy is more than assets and possessions left behind. It is your story, a living reflection of who you are and the memories, values and vision for the world that you wish to share.

Starting with the legal and financial requirements of sound estate and legacy planning and then progressing through the deeper and potentially stymying questions that arise in the planning process, this class will explore how to create a meaningful and enduring legacy for the people, organizations, causes and communities that matter most to you. Our expert panel, including an estate planning attorney, wealth adviser and financial organizer, will share their professional expertise and practical tips and tools for financial organizing so you can be confident that you have the systems and oversight in place for managing your financial affairs now and after you die.

Departing from the “science” of estate and legacy planning, this class will explore the questions that often arise: How much do I leave to children versus charity? Whom do I entrust with the responsibility of carrying out my wishes? How do I connect my values and life experiences to my legacy plans? How do I talk to my family members about my plans?

With insights and guidance from spiritual leaders of varying faith backgrounds, the class will also address creating ethical wills and legacy letters of intent. Finally, in a hands-on obituary-writing workshop, you will learn how to tell your life story or one of a family member or friend with meaning and brevity.

**Christy Cole**, CAP, is director of philanthropy for Arlington Community Foundation. She is a partner for donors, professional advisers and nonprofits to catalyze philanthropy in our community. In partnership with financial and estate planning professionals, she advises donors on tax-efficient and financially sound strategies for giving. She also serves as a resource for nonprofit organizations as they seek to engage their stakeholders in philanthropic planning. Prior to her local work, she was director of planned giving for the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation.

**Jennifer Owens**, president and CEO of the Arlington Community Foundation since 2018, will be a co-presenter for this course.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/28dkcCqTFx8>

Class will not meet April 23.



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
7035.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 308	4/2 – 4/30	Tu	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Cole, Cristy	\$55.00	39

## Personality's Strange Bedfellows

What do Sigmund Freud, Alfred Hitchcock, Viktor Frankl, John F. Kennedy and *National Lampoon's* Clark Griswold have in common? Was Freud a genius? A pervert? Projecting? Regardless of our views, Freud's and

other theorists' concepts of personality endure, and we will study their real-world demonstrations in the famous and infamous, in our world, and in ourselves.

We will examine Hitchcock's obsession with Freud, along with his own "the child is the father of the man" experiences, making him the movie master of repressed memories, sexual urges and rage. We will also learn why Freud's feuds with Carl Jung and Alfred Adler led to outcomes as diverse as world peacemaking and Alcoholics Anonymous. The impact of genes, culture, era, chemistry, locale, experience, family structure and other factors will also be discussed (think of being the best-looking or the heaviest or the smartest kid in middle school).

How do we measure personality and why did we start? Is the most well-known and popular inventory valid? You will assess your own ratings on "The Big 5" personality factors and consider multiple influences that made you "you" and others "them." Finally, we will explore Holocaust-era theorists' connections to humanism, optimism, workplace conditions, job-family balance, kindness, gratitude and the search for meaning in life.

Classes will be instructional and interactive. By the end of the course, you will have determined your view of personality's strange (or not-so-strange) bedfellows and their cohorts. But perhaps most importantly, you will have gained additional insight into your own personality. The process will be fascinating.

Supplemental material will be provided in class.

**Janice McLean** practiced as a clinical psychologist for 35 years in multiple settings within a cognitive behavioral orientation. She received a PhD from Hofstra University and taught at Ohio State University for 20 years. She is co-author of *Phobics and Other Panic Victims: A Guide for Those Who Help Them* and a contributor to *The Successful Medical Student* and *The Counseling Sourcebook*.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/sUveAW4SxJw>



This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
7024.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 308	4/4 – 5/9	Th	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	McLean, Janice	\$55.00	29

## Philosophical Foundation of Morality

A longstanding issue among both philosophers and non-philosophers is whether there is an objective standard of morality and, if there is, how is that possible? Some have argued that it is possible only if morality is grounded in the commands or designs of a God. Others have argued to the contrary — that a nontheistic foundation of objective morality can succeed. With this question in mind, we will examine divine command theory and the ethical theories of St. Thomas Aquinas, John Stuart Mill and Immanuel Kant. We will also consider whether the theory of evolution can account for humans' sense of morality.

*Recommended Reading: Utilitarianism*, John Stuart Mill.

**Emmett Holman** has a BS in physics from Penn State University and a PhD in philosophy from the University of Maryland. He taught in the Department of Philosophy at George Mason University for 45 years, retiring as emeritus June 2016.

View the course preview video here: <https://youtu.be/BpvIFzGWgJ8>

Class will not meet April 10.





This course will be offered in-person at George Mason University.

SECTION	LOCATION	DATES	DAYS	TIMES	INSTRUCTOR	FEES	OPEN
7032.43	GMU - Arlington Campus- Van Metre Hall, 317	3/6 – 5/1	We	12:00 PM – 01:30 PM	Holman, Emmett	\$55.00	29