EMERITUS SOCIETY COURSES

FALL 2018

UNC GREENSBORO
MOZART: HIS LIFE AND MUSIC

Who was this man, Mozart, one of Western culture’s most precocious musical geniuses? What was he like as a real, flesh-and-blood human being? What is fact, and what destructive family-life patterns haunted him to the very end? This course will answer these questions, and more! Lectures and handouts will trace his biography from early life and travel under the guidance of his father, Leopold, through his restricted early adult years in Salzburg, to his final decade in Vienna. Discussions will include his search for vocational and creative freedom amidst social transformation. Guided listening experiences will provide insight into his compositional process and highlight some of his less familiar works along with his most famous. Selections will be drawn from his piano and chamber works, his concertos and symphonies, operas, and requiem.

1. The Traveling Wunderkind
2. Salzburg and Growing Restlessness
3. Vienna: Marriage, Freedom, and Freelancing
4. Operatic Highlights
5. Trouble on the Home Front
6. The Final Years

Fridays, 2:30-4:00 pm
September 21–November 2 (no class October 12)
UNCG School of Music

Greg Carroll (Ph.D., University of Iowa) is Associate Professor of Music. He is a northern transplant to Greensboro from the upper Midwest. He was the first winner of the Outstanding Teacher and Excellence in Online Education Award at UNCG, and loves to share musical insights with others off campus at EMF and GSO concerts. His compositions have been performed all over the world, and he prefers to spend the first weeks of August fishing in northern Minnesota.

BIBLE HISTORY: HOW “THE BOOKS” BECAME “THE BOOK”

The word “Bible” comes from the Greek biblia, a neuter plural noun meaning “books” which accurately designates the multi-book collection of writings that constitute the Old and New Testaments. These books differ from one another in genre, age, original context and purposes, language, and style. Yet they have ended up bound together and viewed...
as telling a single, coherent story. How did these very different books come to be part of the same large collection? And how did they come to be viewed as parts of a unified whole? How, in other words, did “the books” come to mean “the Book”? In this class we will look at the history of the Bible from antiquity through the Reformation, considering the formation and organizing of its various parts, the different ways of reading and understanding the component parts, the issues of ownership and authority connected with scripture, and its influence on medieval and early modern European society.

1. Hebrew Scripture: Origins and Organization
2. Hebrew Scripture as Christian Scripture
4. Reading and Writing Scripture in Late Antiquity
5. Monks and Scholars and the Medieval Bible
6. “Every man his own Priest”—Scripture for Everyone

Wednesdays, 10:00 am-noon
September 26–October 31
First Presbyterian Church

Stephen Ruzicka (Ph.D., University of Chicago) is Professor of History. He is the recipient of the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award. As an ancient historian he writes about the 4th century B.C., but he likes (an can!) talk about everything.

FROM VIKING TO HYGGE: LITERATURE IN SCANDINAVIA

Hygge has become a wildly popular idea in the past couple of years. It means in Danish “cozy” or “snuggly”, and there have been books written about how the Danes, as well as the Norwegians and the Swedes, nurture hygge in every facet of life from furniture to coffee break. It may be a reason one or another of the countries is always named as “happiest place to live in the world.”

But hygge hardly describes the ancestors of the Scandinavians, the Vikings. Fierce, violent, adventurous marauders, the Vikings subjugated much of Europe and traveled across the cold sea to North America. They seem far from cozy.

Our course will investigate how Viking and hygge might not oppose but complement one another. Reading work from Norway, Sweden and Denmark, we’ll locate differences in style and preoccupation among the three countries’ literatures. And we’ll look for the current of connection between the Viking past and the hygge present.

Week 1: Norse Mythologies: Selected Handouts
Kill the Wabbit: Bugs Bunny and the Valkyrie

Week 2: The Hope for Connection
Sweden
Astrid Lindgren, *Pippi Longstocking*
Meik Wiking, *The Little Book of Hygge* (Handout)
Denmark
Anna Brones and Johanna Kindrall, *Fika: The Art of the Swedish Coffee Break* (Handout)

Week 3: The Perils of Power
Sweden
Astrid Lindgren, *War Diaries, 1939-1945* (Handout)
Henning Mankell, *Faceless Killers*

Week 4: Scandinavia and Christianity
Norway
Sigrid Undstedt, *Gunnar’s Daughter*

Week 5: Community and Isolation
Norway
Frederik Backman, *A Man Called Ove*

Week 6: Gender and Change
Denmark
Henrik Ibsen, *Hedda Gabler*

Week 7:
Denmark
Izak Dinesen (Karen Blixen) *Babette’s Feast* (Film)

Week 8: Finale!
*Abba and Wagner: The Soul of Scandinavia*


This class will be delivered from a distance using the platform Google Hangouts. We will connect with Hepsie live from Kentucky by video conference at the UNCG Online building. We will watch her lectures on TV, and respond to her questions via chat. Limited to 20 students.

Mondays, 2:00-3:00 pm
September 24–November 12
UNCG Online, Becher-Weaver Building
HEALTH NEWS

We all make decisions every day about medical issues that affect us. We’re bombarded with advice about what we should do—what we should eat, which preventive medications we should take, etc.—but it’s difficult to know what information is trustworthy and what is exaggerated or even “fake news.” Progress in medicine and health care moves rapidly, and keeping up with those developments is challenging. The goal of this class is to help participants to understand some of the recent developments in medical science, and to understand how those developments affect the treatments available for different conditions. Topics will include new cancer therapies, prevention and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease, and the risks and benefits of stem cell therapies. We’ll also look at the evidence behind some highly-publicized claims for the health benefits of particular diets or supplements. For most topics, Dr. Cannon will provide (via e-mail) one or two recent articles from the New York Times for participants to read; the Times is one of the best sources available for accurate and up-to-date information on health and medicine for the interested general reader.

If members of the group identify topics of special interest to them, we will discuss those topics whenever possible. No expertise in science or medicine is needed in order to join the discussion. Participants must provide a working e-mail address.

Thursdays, 2:00-3:30 pm
September 27—November 1
Christ United Methodist Church

Janne Cannon (Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is a Professor Emerita of Microbiology and Immunology in the School of Medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill. Her research and teaching at UNC-CH focused on genetics and on infectious diseases. She is now an Adjunct Professor at UNCG, where she teaches a course on “Plagues” for undergraduates in the Honors Program.

FILM AND RELATIONSHIPS

We all love the movies! But the movies are more than just fun. Hollywood serves up entrees that nourish something deep within us. Movies also hold a mirror before us, showing us who we are as a culture and as individuals. At the same time, films can help to shape our identities, our communication, and our relationships. These reflecting and shaping functions of film can have a profound effect upon how we relate to one another.

In this course, our quest will involve engaging films with a keen critical eye to examine how human relationships are developed, reflected, represented, and constructed in film. We will step beyond mere entertainment to discuss issues such as: friendship, love, and intimacy; communication in the family; power; storytelling and dialogue; the ethical dimensions of friendships; diversity and conflict; building community; and the construction of identity. Film viewing is also a communal act that can lead to vigorous and engaging conversation. Together we will enjoy, explore, and examine the themes of friendship and community through viewing and discussing the following films:

1. Modern Times (1936)
2. Citizen Kane (1941)
3. The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (1962)

Tuesdays, 1:30-4:30 pm
September 18–October 30 (no class October 9)
RED Cinemas

Hephzibah Roskelly (Ph.D., University of Louisville) is Professor Emeritus of Rhetoric and Composition. Her special interests include pedagogy, literacy, theories of composition, and gender studies. She is the recipient of the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award and the UNC Board of Governor’s Teaching Excellence Award.

Chris Poulos (Ph.D., University of Denver) is Professor and Head of Communication Studies at UNCG. He is an ethnographer and philosopher of communication with interests in relational and family communication, dialogue, communication ethics, and films.

SETTLING SAIL WITH PATRICK O’BRIAN: THE FORTUNE OF WAR THROUGH THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD

Patrick O’Brian’s Aubrey-Maturin novels draw many comparisons and comprehend many worlds. Readers experience heart-pounding naval action excelling that of C. S. Forester’s great Napoleonic Hornblower.
series; the pitch-perfect language, manners and malice of Jane Austen’s Regency drawing rooms; Dickensian broad comedy, rich characters, and social conscience; the grisly frankness of surgery in the days before chloroform; the pioneering excitement of globe-girdling botany and zoology in the era of Sir Joseph Banks on the eve of Charles Darwin’s voyage in the Beagle; and the riveting high-stakes espionage of John Le Carré or Ian Fleming—all interwoven in deliciously slow time encompassing 20 books, two decades, seven continents, and all seven seas. Yet for all their prodigious learning, incident, and Homeric scope—the volumes function as one vast continuous novel—O’Brien’s books are at heart the chronicle of a friendship between wonderfully complementary opposites: John (“Lucky Jack”) Aubrey of the Royal Navy, a jovial, lion-hearted fighting captain and supreme navigator at sea, but an absurdly gullible “Jack ashore”; and his ship’s surgeon Stephen Maturin, a secretive and wily Irish-Catalan natural philosopher and undercover Naval Intelligence agent, driven by a fierce opposition to Napoleon’s tyranny—and by his bastard/noble origins and laudanum habit. In this, our second outing in a four-course series, we will discuss the next five books, picking up with their return from the icy, Antarctic Desolation Island and into battle off the New England coast with Old Ironsides herself; followed by Jack’s cordial imprisonment in Boston, and Stephen’s strained reunion there with his “surgeon’s mate.” Subsequent adventures bring them to the Ionian coast, the intriguing harbors and streets of Malta, and, on the far side of the world, the teeming shores of the Galapagos—while pursuing a clutch of traitors at the heart of British intelligence.

Reading each scheduled novel in advance of each meeting is recommended, but not expected.

1. The Worlds of Patrick O’Brien
2. The Fortune of War
3. The Surgeon’s Mate
4. The Ionian Mission
5. Treason’s Harbour
6. The Far Side of the World

SPECIAL EVENTS: Eat Your Words

CIRCE
by Madeline Miller

Luncheon and Book Discussion led by UNCG Professor Dr. Hephzibah Roskelly

The Odyssey tells us that Circe is a “great and cunning goddess” who bewitches lions and wolves, who weaves magic with her loom, and who turns men into pigs. In Circe, Madeline Miller’s more intimate epic, we hear the rest of the story, the tale that led a strange, unloved girl goddess to the lonely island of Aiaia and to Odysseus.

Circe’s story gives new depth to some of the characters we know from the ancient Greeks—terrible Scylla, the Cyclops, Daedalus and the Minotaur, Helen and Medea. Like any good adventure, it’s full of peril and bravery. Like any good romance, it’s full of love and loss.

Part adventure part, romance—and all fun—Circe finally is a meditation on immortality and on what it means to be human.

Tuesday, 12:00-2:00 pm
November 13
Greensboro Country Club
$40 per person

Hephzibah Roskelly (Ph.D., University of Louisville) is Professor Emeritus of Rhetoric and Composition. Her special interests include pedagogy, literacy, theories of composition, and gender studies. She is the recipient of the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award and the UNC Board of Governor’s Teaching Excellence Award.
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Emeritus Society is open to men and women of all ages and educational backgrounds. The Society is a self-supporting arm of the University. Class fees, not tax dollars, are used to meet costs of the program. Classes are $100 per course. Additional courses are $75.

Retired UNCG faculty and staff may subtract $25 from their total course fee. This discount is for six-week courses only and cannot be taken on fees for events, workshops or trips.

You are registered only when payment is received. Register early to avoid inconvenience. Late registrants could miss important announcements such as last-minute changes in location. Instructors may not have enough materials for those registering late. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. If the class you want is filled, we keep a waiting list. Partial registrations to attend portions of the classes cannot be accepted. Detailed information on class location and parking will be supplied upon confirmation.

REGISTRATION

Online: (for credit card users only) http://emeritus.uncg.edu

Mail: Fill out the registration form. Include check payable to “UNCG” or MC/Visa information. To assure accurate registration, it is suggested that only one person be registered per form. Mail to:

UNCG Emeritus Society
Division of Online Learning
Becher-Weaver Building
915 Northridge Street
P.O. Box 26170
Greensboro, NC 27402-6170

Phone: Call (336) 315-7044 to register with your credit card. Outside Greensboro, call (866) 334-2255.

Refund: To receive a full refund, a written request must be received prior to the first class meeting. Cancellations after the first class but before the second will receive a full refund minus a $10 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting no refunds will be given.

REGISTRATION FORM

FIRST NAME ___________________________ LAST NAME ___________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________

CITY/STATE ___________ ZIP ___________

PHONE ________________________________ EMAIL ________________________________

COURSES

☐ MOZART: HIS LIFE AND MUSIC
☐ BIBLE HISTORY: HOW “THE BOOKS” BECAME “THE BOOK”
☐ FROM VIKING TO HYGGE: LITERATURE IN SCANDINAVIA
☐ FILM AND RELATIONSHIPS
☐ HEALTH NEWS
☐ Setting Sail with Patrick O’Brien: The Fortune of War Through the Far Side of the World

One course at $100 $________
Additional courses #__________ @ $75 $________
Course Total $________
Retired UNCG Faculty/Staff discount $25 $________
Subtotal $________

SPECIAL EVENTS

☐ Eat Your Words @ $40 $________
Total Enclosed $________

☐ Emeritus Society Kick-Off (free)

Make checks payable to UNCG

☑ Visa ☐ MasterCard Exp. Date__________________

CHARGE CARD #

CRODSOLDER’S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)