Who invented the Screwball Comedy? You know: they meet cute, clash, fall out of loathing into love, and nearly back again before that final passionate kiss? And who came up with the Romantic Farce—that swirl of mistaken identities, confused desires, slapstick entrances and exits, ending as the tricksters and clowns save the day and “Jack shall have Jill”? Who concocted the Comic Noir, with its self-centered lovers, dark and deceptive liaisons, shady sideplots and then forced marriages at the close? And finally, who perfected the Tragicomic Romance—which opens with disaster, separation, and exile, only to have all heaven break loose in the two last acts, glittering with reunions, reconciliations, and hard-won smiles through tears?

You know who! All of these forms—Screwball, Farce, Noir, Romance—came to birth or fruition through William Shakespeare’s comic muse. From the battling chauvinisms of Petruchio and Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew* and the metaphysically-charged multi-plotted love-madness of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*; through Portia’s brilliantly-managed courtship, Shylock’s chiaroscuro intrigues, and the moonlit lyricism of *The Merchant of Venice* and the merry war and bittersweet yearning of Beatrice and Benedick in *Much Ado about Nothing*; to Angelo’s sleazy propositions and Isabella’s shrill virtue in *Measure for Measure* and the playwright’s farewell to the rough magic of stagecraft through Prospero’s valedictory revels in *The Tempest*—Shakespeare’s restless imagination stages drastically new kinds of comedy: humor with heart, and always something on its mind, play that sometimes proves piercing earnest, with the door between joy and sorrow left ajar.


1. Intimate Extremities: A Rambunctious Apprenticeship in *Taming of the Shrew*
2. Preposterous Beauty: Divine Madness in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
3. Hazard All: Risk, Sacrifice, Justice, and Mercy in *The Merchant of Venice*
4. Sigh No More: The Giddiness of Men and of Man in *Much Ado About Nothing*
5. Dark Corners: The Temptation of Virtue in *Measure for Measure*
6. Revels Ended: The Power and Limits of Play in *The Tempest*

There are many fine editions of Shakespeare’s complete works and of these individual plays. I will be using David Bevington’s *Complete Works*, now in its seventh edition.

Mondays, 10:00-11:30 am
September 25–November 6 (No class October 9)
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

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**EMERITUS SOCIETY KICK-OFF**

_Honor Under Pressure: Reflections of a Former POW in North Vietnam_

Our guest speaker, Retired Navy Commander Porter Halyburton, whose inspiring story of war and friendship as told in the book *Two Souls Indivisible* will share his experience as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War.

On his 5th combat mission over Vietnam, LT. G. Porter Halyburton was shot down on October 17, 1965 and captured deep within North Vietnam. No parachute was sighted, there was no radio contact, his F-4 Phantom jet was seen to explode into a karst ridge and Porter A. Halyburton was officially listed as Killed in Action. A memorial service was held in his hometown, Davidson, NC, and a tombstone placed over an empty grave. One-and-a-half years later, as a result of information from a clandestine source, Porter’s status was changed from KIA to POW, only the 13th time this has occurred in American history. Porter was the 40th American to be taken prisoner by the North Vietnamese, held nearly 7 1/2 years where interrogations, beatings and solitary confinement were all too common. Food was inadequate, living conditions abysmal, and communication forbidden.

The story of Porter and Air Force Col. Fred Cherry, a badly wounded African American Air Force officer, has been told in a biography by James Hirsch, *Two Souls Indivisible* (currently on the U.S. Navy’s reading list); Wallace Terry, in his bestseller *Bloods*, an oral history of blacks in the Vietnam War, the subject of a PBS Frontline Special and a feature in *Parade Magazine*. It will also be included in Ken Burns’ upcoming PBS documentary on the Vietnam War.

Sunday, September 17 at 3:00 pm
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

_No charge, but for planning purposes registration is required._
CULTURAL MYTHOLOGIES OF ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

The year 2003 marked the 300th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg, a city that has played a pivotal role in the development of Russian literature, culture, and politics. Built on contested land in the midst of a devastating war with Sweden, situated directly on a cold windy swamp at the westernmost edge of the empire, St. Petersburg, from the moment of its founding, was viewed by many as an unnatural, un-Russian, inhospitable, and even accursed place. But the city’s creator, Peter the Great, envisioned his new capital as a monument to Russia’s arrival as a modern European power. St. Petersburg became the physical manifestation of Russia’s passionate but anxiety-ridden relationship with the West.

In this course, we will examine the fundamental myths, legends, and images of St. Petersburg as they developed in the works of Russia’s greatest writers and intellectuals, including Pushkin, Dostoevsky, and Gogol in the 19th century and Blok, Akhmatova, and Brodsky in the 20th century. We will also explore the city as home to renowned composers, musicians, painters, dancers, and film makers, all against the background of some of Russian history’s most dramatic and tragic events: The Decembrist uprising, the assassination of Alexander II, the Russian Revolution, Stalin’s purges, and the 900-day siege of the city during WWII.

1. Peter I and the Founding (Myth) of St. Petersburg
2. The Creation of the “Petersburg Text”
3. From Gogol’s Phantasmagoria to Dostoevsky’s “Most Fantastic City”
4. Petersburg-Petrograd-Leningrad: the Russian Revolution through the Arts
5. Petersburg Poets under Stalin and into Stagnation
6. Leningrad-Petersburg at 300: Myths of St. Petersburg in Recent Film

Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30 am
September 26–November 7 (no class October 10)
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

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. *It Happened One Night*
2. *Casablanca*
3. *12 Angry Men*
4. *Days of Heaven*
5. *Lars and the Real Girl*
6. *Inside Out*

Mondays, 2:00-5:00 pm
September 25–November 6 (no class October 9)
RED Cinemas
WHAT IS THE CONSTITUTION AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The U.S. Constitution is an 18th century document that has served as the basis for resolving political, social, and economic issues in the United States for over 200 years. Oddly, however, there has been no lasting consensus, especially among those officially charged with upholding it or interpreting it, about just what it is and what it means. This class surveys the differing, often conflicting answers to these questions starting with the (differing and often conflicting) answers of the Founding Fathers themselves and continuing up to the present. We start by looking at the early history of the Constitution and Constitutional interpretation and then follow the 19th and 20th century debates and judicial rulings regarding the meaning of the Constitution as it bears on different political, social, and economic issues.

1. Creating the Constitution, 1787-1789
2. Debating the Constitution, 1789-1836
3. States’ Rights, Civil Rights, and the Constitution
4. Banking, Commerce, and Free Enterprise
5. Liberty and Equality
6. Debating and Interpreting the Constitution in the 21st century

Wednesdays, 10:00 am-noon
September 27–November 1
Holy Trinity Episcopal 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.

CREATING FAMILY STORIES

Did your Grandpa Willy run a speakeasy during prohibition? Did you or someone in your family experience a great loss? Do you remember a family event that changed your life? Are there family traditions and memories that you want to preserve? All of us have family tales that we don’t want to lose, that would make a great story if we just wrote them down. This seminar will give you the tools you need to turn these family histories and personal events into engaging fiction or memoir. You’ll start by reading fiction based on family histories that integrate myths, dreams, and family accounts into a fictionalized narrative structure. Then you will gather photographs, artifacts, letters, mementos, memories, impressions, images, family interviews, and your own memories to create a story or memoir that you and your family can treasure in the years to come.

Tuesdays, 2:00-3:30 pm
September 19—October 24
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

Anthony Fragola (M.P.W., University of Southern California) is Professor Emeritus of Media Studies at UNCG and an Honorary Member of The Honor Society for International Scholars. His short stories have appeared in literary magazines both in the U.S. and abroad, and several have been aired on the BBC World Service Short Story Series.

MASTERPIECES OF WORLD LITERATURE: RETURN OF THE NATIVE

This masterpiece by the late 19th/early 20th century English writer, Thomas Hardy (1840-1928), has many distinguishing features which make it an absorbing and moving piece of literary art. The interaction between the major characters, Thomasin, Wildeve, Clym Yeobright, Mrs. Yeobright (his mother), Eustacia Vye and Diggory Venn, create an intricate weave of moments of deep love, mixed with naked hatred, later intermingled with scenes of pure goodness and self-denial from other quarters. Each of the characters brings his or her personal inner world of hopes and dreams to
the world of Egdon Heath in Wessex County (south-west England.) Each is fated to fulfill the role assigned by their individual destiny. This makes for an absorbing plot of unpredictable events.

The narrative style is couched in affecting and emotionally warm descriptions of the landscape and customs of the region. There is a strong moral sub current in the text. Self-righteousness, uncontrolled passions play their fateful part, but so does goodness. The texture of the narrative is enriched by ample quotations from the Bible and Shakespeare. All this enhances the beauty of the text and the joy for the reader, fond of literary art. Great editing and superior footnotes add further value to the text presented to us.


**PRESIDENTS AND CONGRESSSES FROM JFK TO TRUMP: DUEL OR DUET?**

“If men were angels...” lamented the Founding Fathers. Their solution to our imperfect nature was “separation of powers.”

That “the president proposes but congress disposes,” is a long-lasting slogan about how presidents and congresses interact. Now we complain of gridlock and partisanship. We alternate in our complaints about the presidency, it is too powerful or at the mercy of Congress. This problem is increasingly compounded by diverse mass communication, the complicated presidential nomination process, and global interdependence.

Over a six-week period, we will examine the working relationships between presidents and congresses on health, domestic and foreign policies, with attention to budgeting where politics and policy merge.

1. Presidents and Congresses: A Non-Angelic Separation of Powers
2. Health for Whom? Politics and Policy in Health Finance and Delivery
3. Elections: From Gerrymandering to the Electoral College
4. Bipartisan Foreign Policy? Domestic Politics Abroad
5. Budgets: How to Get More by Paying Less?
6. Presidents and Congresses: Were the Founders Right?

**AFRICAN NARRATIVES: FROM INSIDE AND OUT**

*If I know a song of Africa, does Africa know a song of me?*
– Isak Dineson

From earliest experiments in trade and travel, Africa has lured explorers and exploiters to its rich world, men and women who often returned to their home countries in Europe or the Americas to tell their story. But Africa’s own storytellers have always told their own stories, and increasingly the West has learned to hear them. In this class, we’ll look at the stories from those who knew Africa from the inside—some of the many cultures that make up the African continent—and from the outside—some of the many cultures that made themselves part of the fabric of life in colonized land.

What we discover will expose stark differences sometimes but also connections. Our works are highly selective—just a taste from East and South Africa—of the many writers and countries we could read and talk about. But even though our reading is limited by our time together, I hope we’ll find that the discussions will help us see how reading African literature lets us understand something about Africa and perhaps something about ourselves.

**Introduction:**

1. What do we know of Africa? A Quiz and a Quick Geography and History Lesson. African Narrative: the Praise Poem, the Epic, the Fable
3. Kenya: Wangari Matathai, *Replenishing the Earth*; Nobel Prize Speech Film Clips
   Selected Short Stories, Bechuanaland

On the first day of class students will receive a packet with the short stories, poems, and speeches. They will need to purchase the following books: *Out of Africa, Replenishing the Earth, Tears of the Giraffe, No Future Without Forgiveness, Nervous Conditions.*

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

Limited to 20 students.

Fridays, 10:00-11:00 am
September 29–November 17
UNCG Online, Becher-Weaver Building

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**Hephzibah Roskelley** (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.

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**AN AMERICAN SONGBOOK**

American composers have provided an enormous trove of songs—some written to entertain, some to express dramatic context, some to protest, and some written to describe the human condition. The class will investigate the broad range of musical style found in American song, the influence of extra-musical elements and culture on song, and those things distinctive to American song.

1. Songs from the Stage: Musical Theatre
2. Songs from the Stage: Opera and Art Song
3. Songs from the Mountains: Appalachian Song
4. Songs from the Sanctuary: Sacred Song
5. Songs from the Streets: Protest Song
6. Songs from the Heart: Popular Song

Fridays, 2:30-4:00 pm
September 15–November 3 (no class October 6 and 20)
UNCG School of Music

William P. Carroll (DMA, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music) is Professor Emeritus in the UNCG School of Music. On the UNCG music faculty for 29 years, he served as Associate Dean, Chair of the Vocal Studies Division and Director of Choral Activities.

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**SPECIAL EVENTS: *Eat Your Words***

**A GENTLEMAN IN MOSCOW**

By Amor Towles

Luncheon and Book Discussion led by UNCG Professor Dr. Jeff Jones

Sentenced to house arrest in Moscow’s Metropol Hotel by a Bolshevik tribunal for writing a poem deemed to encourage revolt, Count Alexander Rostov nonetheless lives the fullest of lives, discovering the depths of his humanity.

Inside the elegant Metropol, located near the Kremlin and the Bolshoi, the Count slowly adjusts to circumstances as a “Former Person.” He makes do with the attic room, to which he is banished after residing for years in a posh third-floor suite. A man of refined taste in wine, food, and literature, he strives to maintain a daily routine, exploring the nooks and crannies of the hotel, bonding with staff, accepting the advances of attractive women, and forming what proves to be a deeply meaningful relationship with a spirited young girl, Nina. Spread across four decades, this is in all ways a great novel, a nonstop pleasure brimming with charm, personal wisdom, and philosophic insight. Though Stalin and Khrushchev make their presences felt, Towles largely treats politics as a dark, distant shadow. The chill of the political events occurring outside the Metropol is certainly felt, but for the Count and his friends, the passage of time is “like the turn of a kaleidoscope.” This is a book in which the cruelties of the age can’t begin to erase the glories of real human connection and the memories it leaves behind.


— from *Kirkus Reviews*
In May, Tony toured China to become more familiar with Chinese culture so he could better integrate Tai Chi and Qi Gong with its history and within the context of Taoism, which he is currently studying.

Jeff Jones (Ph.D., University of North Carolina) is Associate Professor of History. His specific area of research is Russia-Soviet history, however he also teaches courses in 20th century global history. He is the author of Everyday Life and the “reconstruction” of Soviet Russia During and After the Great Patriotic War, 1943-1948.

Tuesday, 12:00-2:00 pm
November 14
Greensboro Country Club
$40 per person

TAI CHI WORKSHOP
Led by Tony Fragola

Tai Chi is becoming far more recognized in the West as an ideal way to improve your balance, increase bodily strength and endurance, and create a sense of mindfulness. It’s slow fluid movements help you to achieve a state of inner harmony to reduce stress and deal more effectively with life’s challenges. Cutting-edge research now lends support to long-standing claims that Tai Chi favorably impacts the health of heart, bones, nerves and muscles, immune system, and mind.

In this workshop, Tony will be offering instruction of Tai Chi for Rejuvenation to promote health and well-being. He extends an invitation to each of you to join him on his journey to health, well-being, mindfulness, and enjoying a calm center through Tai Chi and Qi Gong.

Please join him by wearing loose fitting clothing, comfortable shoes appropriate for mild exercise.

Sunday, 3:00-4:15 pm
October 1
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
No charge, but registration is required.

After more than four decades of teaching at the university and high school level, Professor Fragola is extending his teaching to Tai Chi and Qi Gong. In June, 2017 Tony attended the workshops in Black Mountain, NC and took an intensive weekend workshop with Dr. Paul Lam, founded of the Tai Chi For Health Institute, Sydney, Australia, on Tai Chi for Rehabilitation. He also became certified as an instructor for Tai Chi for Arthritis, 1 and 2, Tai Chi for Arthritis for Fall Prevention, and Seated Tai Chi for Arthritis.

STUDY ABROAD
MODERN GERMANY: HISTORICAL ROOTS, CONTEMPORARY CULTURE
Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden and Munich
July 22–August 1, 2018

Led by Dr. Jeff Jones, UNCG Department of History, in partnership with Studio Traveler

The Emeritus Society is pleased to offer a trip to four cities that have played a key role in German and world history. Dr. Jeff Jones will provide on-the-scene lectures as you explore the cultural and historic sites of these fascinating cities. $4,000 per person double occupancy.

For more details call Studio Traveler at 336.312.5654, or visit the website http://www.studiotraveler.com/berlin-leipzig-and-munich/.
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://dcl.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.

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