NYUSPS CURATED LECTURES
FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017

10:00–11:00 a.m.

Keynote with Ralph Buultjens: World Politics: Power Struggles—America, Russia, China, and the Middle East

Breakout Sessions – Students will select one lecture per breakout session to attend

Breakout Session One
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Pat Duffy – Giving Back: Volunteer to Teach English and Discover New Worlds
In a diverse city like New York, a great way to “give back” to our community is by volunteering to teach English to immigrants and newcomers who need to learn and develop their ability to speak and use the language. The English-teaching experience also allows us to share our own cultural worlds and interests as our students share theirs with us. This workshop will introduce some tried-and-true teaching techniques and resources to enhance your experience as a language learning facilitator.

Marty Appel – It’s a Major League World: How the Yankees Defined America’s National Past-Time
No team in any sport has achieved the success and worldwide recognition of the New York Yankees. Through dynamic management and larger-than-life stars, they are somewhat of an ongoing dynasty, going back to the day they purchased Babe Ruth from the Boston Red Sox nearly 100 years ago. Economics has often been their key to success, playing in the biggest market in the US, with deep-pocket owners, but they have also demonstrated finesse in marketing their product, capitalizing on their superstars (Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle, Reggie Jackson, Don Mattingly, Derek Jeter), and developing brand loyalty. This lecture explores the on field success and the off-field strategies that have made the NY cap a symbol of the US seen around the world.

Rainer Jenns and Peter Bopp – Planning Authentic Travel Experiences in the 21st Century
This session will focus on how travel has changed in the 21st century and explore both old and new ways to plan your trips that just a few years ago might not have even been possible. We’ll discuss how the sharing economy has made it easier to experience a destination like a local; why travel agents are making a comeback; and why “tour” is not a four-letter word. Join Rainer Jenns and Peter Bopp of the Family Travel Association as they take you on a journey deeper into what the travel industry is doing to make travel more authentic and accessible.

Juliana Gilheany – Influential and Controversial Supreme Court Cases
Examine influential and controversial Supreme Court cases, concentrating on contemporary topics that have come before the court under Chief Justice John Roberts (2005–present). Study the Court’s decisions in cases about a wide range of issues that profoundly affect American society today, including abortion, environmental protection, affirmative action, campaign spending, health care, immigration, voting rights, same sex marriage, and religion.

Nicole C. Kear – Writing Your Life Story
Have you always wanted to see the stories of your life in print? Have you been at a loss as to where to begin? The prospect of curating the raw material of lived experience into a coherent and
compelling narrative can be daunting—but it’s absolutely possible. In this workshop, Nicole C. Kear, author of acclaimed memoir *Now I See You*, will introduce students to the fundamentals of memoir writing. Learn how to develop a distinct and authentic voice, and hear about the golden rules of descriptive writing, which help to transform personal experience into compelling prose. The hands-on workshop will touch on all key elements of memoir writing—structure, characterization, description, dialogue—and will include short writing exercises and a discussion of excerpts from published memoirs.

**Margaret Boe Birns – Reading The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead**
Discuss Colson Whitehead’s new novel *The Underground Railroad*, an award-winning consideration of the historic Underground Railroad, here repurposed as both a magical time machine and as a concept that speaks to crucial aspects of American society from the 19th century to the present. *Please read or familiarize yourself with The Underground Railroad in advance.*

**Breakout Session Two**
1:30–2:30 p.m.

**David M. Pouso – Revel in Your Retirement**
Financial decisions are even more important for retirees and making your money last through retirement has never been more challenging. In recent years, the volatility of the financial markets has been high and interest rates paid by banks have been low. *Revel in Your Retirement* blends life planning activities with time-tested financial strategies to help you make the most of retirement. This workshop covers all key issues for retirees. You discover new ways to stay financially solid while learning about tax reduction planning, investment risk management, health care planning and estate planning. Above all, you discover how to apply this knowledge to help you realize a financially secure lifestyle in retirement.

**Stanley Turkel – The History of Six Iconic New York City Hotels**
“New York is the paradise of hotels. In no other city do they flourish in such numbers, and nowhere else do they attain such a degree of excellence. The hotels of New York naturally take the lead of all others in America, and are regarded by all who have visited them as models of their kind.” —James D. McCabe, Jr., *Lights and Shadows of New York Life*, 1872.

**Carlos Encina – The War on Drugs: Implications for Foreign Relations**
After more than 50 years and with an estimated cost of more than $1 trillion, US attempts to create a drug-free world have failed. The US-led “war on drugs” has not prevented the long-term trend of an increasing drug supply. Moreover, the anti-drug effort has triggered a wide range of unintended consequences, both domestically and abroad. This lecture will consider the US efforts to eradicate the production of coca leaf and coca paste in Bolivia during the last decades. This case study reveals how the US anti-narcotic campaign produces a host of unforeseen negative effects, not only for Bolivia itself, but also for Washington’s interests in the region. Clashes between coca growers and law enforcement agents, the destabilization of the Bolivian political system, the ascent of Evo Morales to the presidency, and the subsequent consolidation of the socialist movement in Bolivia are some of the most visible unintended outcomes of the anti-narcotic polices implemented by the United States in the region.

**Emily Folpe – Frank Lloyd Wright**
Frank Lloyd Wright has captured the American imagination as has no other architect. A compelling cultural figure and staunch individualist, Wright renewed himself over the years and emerged from personal scandal and financial difficulties with fresh ideas and reconfirmed convictions. To celebrate his 150th birthday (Wright was born in 1867 and died in 1959), the
Museum of Modern Art is presenting *Frank Lloyd Wright at 150: Unpacking the Archive*. In advance of the exhibition’s opening in June, this talk will discuss the arc of Wright’s career and focus on some of his notable buildings.

**Milton Pachter (1:30–3:45 p.m.) – The Creation of the World Trade Center Up to 9/11**
Come join Milton Pachter who will provide insights into the political and legal history in the development of the World Trade Center where he spent his entire career as a litigating attorney. The focus of this lecture is to explain how leadership, ethics and the law were instrumental in the creation and operation of the World Trade Center. Topics will include the PATH problem, valuing the Site, obtaining possession of “The Bathtub,” Con Edison issues, dealing with the City of New York and the 1993 bombing.

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**Breakout Session Three**
2:45–3:45 p.m.

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**Brendan Parent, JD – Creating Life in the Laboratory: The Future of Synthetic Biology and Genetic Engineering**
Synthetic biology is creating new life forms in the laboratory. The products of synthetic biology may improve medicine, national security, environmental protection, and the economy, but under-regulated development could catastrophically compromise these endeavors. Considering the dangers exhibited by existing microorganisms and public access to tools of synthetic biology construction, the field’s untested novelty implicates human health and safety. Further, social justice concerns are raised by the resources required to sustain a shift from a fossil fuel-based economy to a biofuel-based economy. We now have the tools to design organisms cheaply, but do we have the capacity to understand how they will behave, or control them if they misbehave?
This lecture will provide a brief history of synthetic biology, examine its public and private development, and discuss its potential benefits and risks.

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**Nancy Neveloff Dubler, LLB – Advanced Care Planning: How to Retain Control Over Your Healthcare as You Age**
No surprise that Medicare spends most of its funds on patients in the last year of life. That is when bad things happen to older bodies. But, the implications for people planning how to live and die are serious and concerning. Perhaps you have long-standing wishes for how your healthcare should be managed at the end of life. If so, there are steps that you can take to control how your medical care and long-term care will be managed for you, if you are unable to manage yourself. This workshop will discuss living wills, healthcare proxy appointments, MOLST documents, family dynamics, and the doctor-surrogate relationship. It will focus on how to manage discussions and practical arrangements when you have strong philosophical and worldly preferences, and strongly-held values, and perhaps when you do not. It will argue for reality over fantasy, for explicit directives in some instances and for empowering surrogates in others. Aging is not for sissies and neither is talking about death and planning for its inevitable coming. But, if you are ready for planning, please join this discussion.
Andrea Papitto – Africa Tourism: Beyond the Headlines and Wildlife

The Africa we see in mainstream media often tells a one-sided, sensationalized story of a continent in despair—conjuring images of famine, war, and poverty. Yet, Africa’s budding tourism industry tells a different story. In 2015 alone, Africa welcomed more than 60 million visitors and generated more than US$39 billion in tourism receipts. From music festivals in the sand dunes of the Sahara, shopping artisan markets, to rural farm tours, this discussion will highlight off-the-beaten path travel experiences, trends, and the socioeconomic potential of travel and tourism on the continent.

Dr. Michael Shank – A Trump-Era Climategate: Undermining or Revitalizing Climate Science and Policy?

Dr. Michael Shank will examine a new type of climategate in America: the explicit attack on climate science within the Trump Administration, the fossil fuel and federal agency collusion within the president’s cabinet, and the rollback of bipartisan-backed environmental regulations. Will the Trump Administration’s anti-science agenda ultimately undermine or revitalize climate policy in America? In reversing America’s bipartisan precedent in environmental leadership, how are subnational actors in the public and private sectors filling the void? This session explores the next four years of climate action in America.

Francis Morrone – New York in the Time of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr

Alexander Hamilton came to New York as an immigrant with a dream; got caught up in the Revolution; and, at a shockingly young age, became one of the most important individuals in the new nation. Arguably, no other Founding Father so shaped the destiny of the United States. Hamilton’s story culminated on June 11, 1804, when he was shot dead in a duel by Vice President Aaron Burr. Burr, who unlike Hamilton was to the manner born, was frustratingly hard to know, though similarly remarkable. Explore both Hamilton’s and Burr’s stories against the rich background of New York City—a fast-growing mercantile city with global reach yet a city physically and morally devastated by the Revolution. Go beyond the story told in the hit Broadway musical and discover both the real men behind these legendary figures and the New York City of their day and age.