

**THERE IS NO
BETTER TIME
THAN **THIS FALL**
TO ENHANCE
YOUR
KNOWLEDGE**



The Academy of Lifelong Learning
Fall 2022 Course Catalog

The Academy of Lifelong Learning

Fall 2022 Course Catalog



Art History and Architecture	3
Film Studies	8
Global Affairs	12
History and Culture	17
Literature	20
Philosophy, Psychology, and Religion	24
Theater and Music	25



ART HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE

Antique Skyscrapers and the Tycoons Who Built Them

ARTS1-CE9500/\$299

Sec. 1: Monday, 1:30 p.m.-3:10 p.m, November 7-November 28 (4 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

More than a century ago, towering marvels like the Flatiron Building thrilled the public and transformed cities across America. Take a tour of the best of these elegant landmarks still standing today. Starting with the first skyscrapers in New York and Chicago, we will see how they sparked a radical and permanent transformation of skylines everywhere, from Boston to Miami, San Francisco to Pittsburgh, and Vancouver to Liverpool. The discussion includes surprising details about the architects and millionaires behind these first skyscrapers. Illustrated throughout with vintage postcards, historic images, and colorful photography showing these buildings up close.

Instructor: Mark Houser is a scholar, lecturer, tour guide, and author of *MultiStories: 55 Antique Skyscrapers & the Business Tycoons Who Built Them*.

Art and Archaeology of Ancient Greece

ARTS1-CE9300/\$369

Sec. 1: Thursday, 11 a.m.-12:40 p.m, November 3-December 8 (5 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Join us on a whirlwind tour of ancient Greece. Spanning almost three thousand years, this course offers an overview of key moments in Greek art and culture. Beginning with the beguiling Minoans and ending with the dynamic Hellenistic kingdoms, we'll explore everything from Bronze Age palaces to Archaic temples; from painting, sculpture, and metalwork to jewelry, furniture, and so much more. This course will provide a foundation in many important Greek archaeological sites, monuments, and artistic achievements. Further consideration will also be given to the history of archaeological discoveries in Greece.

Instructor: Meredith Nelson-Berry has held several research positions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Musée Art & Histoire/Museum Kunst & Geschiedenis in Brussels, Belgium. Her research centers on visual and material expressions of identity and status throughout the Roman Empire, with a special interest in adornment, dress, and portraiture. She has taught and lectured on a number of topics touching on gender, sexuality, race, and ethnicity in the ancient Mediterranean world.

Museums and Islamic Art

ARTS1-CE9019/\$219

Sec. 1: Monday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m. November 28-December 12 (3 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

This course will introduce the field of Islamic art, and examine how collections of this material came to be exhibited in museums worldwide. How did colonial activity in the Middle East, India, and North Africa build the collections of the British Museum, the Louvre, the Victoria & Albert, the Rijksmuseum, and other major institutions? In addition to an introduction to calligraphy, textiles, ceramics, and works on paper from the Islamic world, we will discuss the historical collecting practices of such museums, as well as changes to these practices in the 21st century. Finally, we will look closely at the newly constructed museums in the Islamic world, designed by internationally renowned architects, including the Louvre Abu Dhabi, the Museum of Islamic Art Doha, the Islamic Art Museum Malaysia, and new projects in Saudi Arabia, among others. This course includes two online lectures and one in-person guided visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Instructor: Courtney Stewart is a Senior Researcher in the Department of Islamic Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City where she has worked since 2010. She has contributed to the reinstallation of the new *Galleries of the Arab Lands, Turkey, Iran, Central Asia, and Later South Asia* (2011), as well as the exhibitions and publications *Treasures from India: Jewels from the Al-Thani Collection* (2014) and *Sultans of Deccan India, 1500-1700: Opulence and Fantasy* (2015).

Painting Sound: The Intersection of Art and Music

ARTS1-CE8769/\$719

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 11 a.m.-1:05 p.m, October 11-November 29 (8 sessions, in-person).

Many visual artists found significant inspiration in music. Art critic Walter Pater went as far as claiming that “All art constantly aspires towards the condition of music.” Examples abound. In 1911, Wassily Kandinsky struck a friendship with composer Arnold Schoenberg, and soon thereafter incorporated principles of Many visual artists found significant inspiration in music. Art critic Walter Pater went as far as claiming that “All art constantly aspires towards the condition of music.” Examples abound. In 1911, Wassily Kandinsky struck a friendship with composer Arnold Schoenberg, and soon thereafter incorporated principles of atonal music into his abstract compositions, creating works described by one art critic as “pure visual music.” In the early 1950’s, Jackson Pollock’s flowing improvisational technique was often likened to Bebop jazz, and Willem de Kooning, another Jazz aficionado, once wrote: “Miles Davis bends the notes. He doesn’t play them, he bends them. I bend the paint.” This course presents a multifaceted exploration of the creative dialogue between art and music. We will examine interconnected, well-known art works and musical compositions from the Romantic era to modern times to highlight the complex relationship between these prominent branches of creative expression. Among the paired artists and composers are Delacroix/Chopin; Monet/Debussy; Picasso/Stravinsky; Mondrian/Jazz; Rauschenberg/Cage; and Rothko/Feldman. Additional attention will be given to musical works created by visual artists, including Marcel Duchamp’s *Musical Erratum*, Yves Klein’s *Monotone Silence Symphony*, Yoko Ono’s *Voice Piece for Soprano*, and Jennie C. Jones’s *Slowly in a Silent Way, Caged*.

Instructor: Filip Noterdaeme is a gallery lecturer at the Guggenheim Museum. He is the author of *The Autobiography of Daniel J. Isengart* (Outpost19, 2013) and a forthcoming book of poems, *Growl and Other Poems*.

Painting the Cote d'Azur

ARTS1-CE9968/\$699

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 3 p.m.-5:05 p.m., October 18-December 6 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Artists have been drawn to the magical landscape and the flamboyant lifestyle of the Côte d'Azur since the 19th century. The colors of the Mediterranean sea and the varied coastal landscape along with the region's mix of elegance and simplicity inspired many artists from different backgrounds. Through illustrated virtual lectures, we will travel along the coast from Menton to Collioure and look at how painters captured the Riviera on canvas in very different styles. We will also visit the small museums that attest to the creative inspiration artists gained during their short or long sojourns: Fondation Maeght in Saint-Paul-de-Vence; Matisse Chapel in Vence; Picasso Museum in Antibes; Matisse Museum, Chagall Museum, and Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nice; Fernand Leger Museum in Biot; Bonnard Museum in Le Cannet; Museum Jean Cocteau in Menton; Museum Renoir in Cagnes-sur-Mer; and the Collioure Modern Art Museum. Apart from Renoir, Matisse, Picasso, and Chagall, we also look at work by Monet, Signac, Braque, Derain, Modigliani, Soutine, Gris, Cocteau, Picabia, Motherwell, Nicholas de Staël, Yves Klein, Françoise Gilot, Niki de Saint-Phalle, and others who stayed in Saint Tropez, Le Ciotat, Cassis, Cannes, Juan-les-Pins, Golfe-Juan, Mougins, and Cagnes-sur-Mer, among other places.

Instructor: Sabine Wilson has run an independent fine art appraisal and advisory practice in New York where she consults clients on issues concerning valuation, provenance, and collecting of Impressionist, modern, and contemporary art. She gives lectures and publishes on art forgery, German art between the wars, and French 18th-century art. Wilson is a certified member and serves on the board of directors of the Appraisers Association of America (AAA).

The New York Art Scene

ARTS1-CE9062/\$729

Sec 1: Friday, 11 a.m.-1:05 p.m., September 30-December 9 (10 sessions, in-person).

New York is one of the most artistically vibrant cities in the world and a magnet for contemporary artists from around the globe. This course invites students on a journey into the art scene by exploring some of the best art exhibits offered throughout the city. We will visit leading galleries and museums; reflect on current trends in the arts; and read a range of insightful essays and interviews with key figures in the field. Whether you are familiar with contemporary art or just curious about it, this course will give you the tools to acquire a broader, more coherent understanding and appreciation of the role of art in our contemporary society. This in-person course meets at different galleries and museums, not on the NYU campus.

Instructor: Filipe Noterdaeme is a gallery lecturer at the Guggenheim Museum. He is the author of *The Autobiography of Daniel J. Isengart* (Outpost19, 2013) and a forthcoming book of poems, *Growl and Other Poems*.

The Spiritual in Modern and Contemporary Art

ARTS1-CE8656/\$719

Sec. 1: Monday, 11 a.m.-1:05 p.m, October 3-November 2 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Conceived to explore the spiritual roots and dimensions of modern and contemporary art, from Theosophy and Buddhism to Judeo-Christian mysticism and Jungian theory, this course presents diverse works by artists ranging from early 20th-century visionaries such as Hilma af Klint, Wassily Kandinsky, and Piet Mondrian to leading postwar and contemporary artists including Barnett Newman, Agnes Martin, Andy Warhol, Zarina, Robert Irwin, and Danh Vo. Lectures and museum visits will provide insights into these artists' diverse views of spirituality and the ways in which they approached their work as a form of meditation or a spiritual quest. We will analyze the specific inherent qualities many of these works are characterized by, such as stillness, timelessness, and serenity. Furthermore, we will discuss how these works can spark in the viewer a spiritual awareness, or what Ellsworth Kelly called "the rapture of seeing." Special attention will be given to artist-designed sanctuaries, including Henri Matisse's Chapelle du Rosaire de Vence, France; Mark Rothko's Rothko Chapel in Houston, Texas; and Theaster Gates' Sanctum in Bristol, United Kingdom.

Instructor: Filip Noterdaeme is a gallery lecturer at the Guggenheim Museum. He is the author of *The Autobiography of Daniel J. Isengart* (Outpost 19, 2013) and a forthcoming book of poems, *Growl and Other Poems*.

What Is American in American Art: 1775-1925

ARTS1-CE9102/\$579

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, October 12-December 14 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

This course provides students with a practical and historical survey of American Art from 1775 to 1925. The uniqueness of the American market and the ways that values are established will be addressed. We will explore art movements from 18th and 19th century portraiture, 19th century Romanticism and the Hudson River School to American Impressionism, Americans in Paris (Whistler, Sargent, Cassatt), The Ten, the Ashcan School, and the Armory Show.

Instructor: Gayle Skluzacek is the president of the full-service appraisal firm Abigail Hartmann Associates, which specializes in fine and decorative arts, wine, and jewelry. Skluzacek was the first certified wine appraiser accepted by a major appraisal association in the US. She is also a certified appraisal member in American Art and Prints. Through NYU and the AAA, Skluzacek coauthored the first course on uniform standards of professional appraisal practice for personal property appraisers in the US. She served on the board of directors of the AAA from 1992 to 2010 and was its president from 2000 to 2002. In 2015 she was awarded its Director's Award for her service to the appraisal profession.

Words in Place: Architecture and Typography**ARTS1-CE9109/\$559**

Sec. 1: Thursday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, September 29-November 17 (8 sessions, in-person).

Sec. 2: Tuesday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, October 11-November 29 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Words are a very important part of our physical environment—just think of subway or airport signage. There are words emblazoned across all our buildings and monuments. This course looks at the intersection of typography and architecture. We'll look at how the history of typography relates to the history of architecture, at lettering and inscriptions on buildings, and at architects who were also typographers and book designers. We'll see the ubiquity—and, often, the beauty—of words in our environment, as we cover all of history but focus on New York in what will be an eye-opening course.

Instructor: Francis Morrone is an architectural historian and the author of eleven books including *Guide to New York City Urban Landscapes* (W.W. Norton, 2013); *The New York Public Library: The Architecture and Decoration of the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building* (with Henry Hope Reed, W.W. Norton, 2011); and architectural guidebooks to Philadelphia and Brooklyn.



FILM STUDIES

Fine-Tune Your Norwegian Through Film

CINE1-CE9231/\$699

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.-8:35 p.m, October 12-December 7 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Improve your knowledge of Norwegian by watching contemporary Norwegian language films and then engaging in lively discussions about the stories, actors, settings, and language. This immersive course examines how Norwegian is spoken—from formal Norwegian to colorful slang, from Bokmål to New Norwegian. Acquire a better knowledge of idiomatic expressions and grammar structures while honing your listening skills. Each week, you will watch an assigned film on your own schedule, and then class discussions will explore the cultural, linguistic, and sociopolitical issues raised. Optional short writing assignments ensure comprehension and individualized feedback. Participation in this course does require at least intermediate Norwegian language proficiency.

Instructor: Marie-Therese Bjornerud's experience ranges from language teaching and tutoring to working with people with disabilities, to acting, modeling, graphic design, and performance art. She has taught Norwegian and French in various contexts to learners of all ages.

Fine-Tune Your Swedish Through Verbal and Visual Imagery

CINE1-CE9501/\$599

Sec. 1: Thursday, 5:30 p.m.-7:10 p.m, September 22-November 17 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Improve your knowledge of the Swedish language by immersing yourself in Swedish culture. In this course we will watch films and television series; read classic and contemporary essays, short stories and excerpts of novels; all of which will serve as a basis for lively discussions. You will hone your listening skills and acquire a better knowledge of grammar structures, idiomatic expressions, slang and dialectal speech, by examining how Swedish is spoken and written. Short writing assignments to ensure comprehension and individual feedback may be given. At least an intermediate proficiency in Swedish language is required. Course content changes each semester so this course may be taken repeatedly

Instructor: Malin Tybal translates plays by the Swedish playwright August Strindberg; the first-time translation of *Mr. Bengt's Wife* and a new translation of *Playing with Fire* have both enjoyed successful stage productions in New York.

Global Hotspots: Stay-at-Home Edition

CINE1-CE9102/\$749

Sec. 1: Thursday, 11 a.m.-1:05 p.m, September 29-December 1 (no class November 24) (9 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Seeing is believing, and foreign films give us the experience of traveling beyond borders without a plane ticket. The journey begins with the screening of eight award-winning foreign films from Colombia and other countries that examine global hotspots in conflict. These award-winning, powerful films serve as a catalyst for our post-screening discussions about foreign film, as well as present-day issues in the film’s geopolitical region and how the film reflects different cultures and global issues. You will watch the films on your own and then meet online for lively and informative discussions. For the last session, the class is invited for an in-person, private briefing at the Mission of Colombia to the United Nations hosted by the Deputy Ambassador

Instructor: Roberta Bayer is the director of Advanced English and Film for the Hospitality Committee at the United Nations and Founder of the NGO at the United Nations, International Cinema Education. She has created a global classroom for students of all ages at the United Nations and now at New York University. She is the author of the book, *World Affairs in Foreign Films* and is also the creator of a new visual-literary pedagogy in short video formats, FILMeds©, that she has created with a 5-year Ford Foundation grant.

Hitchcock’s Villains

CINE1-CE9617/\$419

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 2 p.m.-3:40 p.m, October 11-November 15 (6 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Alfred Hitchcock was the master of surprise and suspense, and one of his most unpredictable tricks was the way he presented his characters: while the heroes were often seriously flawed, the villains were consistently handsome, charming, and likable. Evil, his movies insist, is dangerously attractive, and people are almost eager to be seduced. We’ll watch six of the director’s films—*Suspicion*, *Shadow of a Doubt*, *Notorious*, *Strangers on a Train*, *Psycho*, and *Frenzy*—and examine how these stories play to Hitchcock’s obsessions with guilt and innocence, love and betrayal, and doubles and opposites. We’ll also delve into how Hitchcock’s choice of villains may suggest his own conflicted feelings about class, gender, and homosexuality. You will watch the films on your own and then meet online for lively and informative discussions.

Instructor: Stephen Whitty is a freelance critic and journalist who has written about film for more than 30 years for the *New York Daily News*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *the Times-Picayune*, *the Cleveland Plain Dealer*, and *Fortune.com*. A two-time chair of the New York Film Critics Circle, his work has won awards from the American Association of Sunday and Features Editors, the Los Angeles Press Club, and the New Jersey Press Association.

Let's Go to the Movies

CINE1-CE9060/\$399

Sec. 1: Thursday, 12 p.m.-1:40 p.m., September 15-October 6 (4 sessions, in-person).

Sec. 2: Thursday, 12 p.m.-1:40 p.m., October 13-November 3 (4 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

As Audrey Hepburn said, “Everything I learned I learned from the movies.” Whether they’re Hollywood blockbusters, Academy Award winners, darlings of the indie circuit, eye-opening documentaries, or exquisitely animated films, great movies have a way of illuminating something previously unrecognized about the human experience. Examine a wide range of films and engage in lively discussions about what makes them truly exceptional works of art. Films change every semester based on current events, student interest, and new releases. You watch the films on your own and then we meet online or in person for lively and informative discussions. All the films selected are available on popular and easy-to-use streaming platforms

Instructor: Harry Chotiner has done graduate work in Rabbinic studies, co-edited *Socialist Review* magazine, and worked as everything from a script reader to vice president of development at Zoetrope Studios, CBS Theatrical Films, 20th Century Fox, and Interscope Communications.

Let's Talk “Skam” and Learn Norwegian

CINE1-CE9103/\$699

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.-2:35 p.m., October 11-November 29 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

What do between 1-2 million Norwegian people, over 6 million Chinese people (more than the population of Norway), and millions around the world have in common? They all watched the television program *Skam*, a global cult phenomenon. *Skam* is the perfect television show for people interested in learning Norwegian. *Skam* follows a group of teenagers in their day-to-day life, covering all aspects of the tumultuous ups and downs of teenage life, as seen from their perspective. *Skam* was praised by critics and audiences, swept Norwegian television awards, and was sold to the US, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Belgium, and planned for China. Each week, you will be immersing yourself in Season 1 and 2 of *Skam* by watching two or three episodes on your own schedule. We will watch some scenes in class together and explore the cultural, linguistic, and sociopolitical issues raised by the program. Classes will be conducted in English and some Norwegian to the degree possible, exploring Norwegian terminology, lingo, sentence structure, and basic grammar.

Instructor: Marie-Therese Bjornerud’s experience ranges from language teaching and tutoring to working with people with disabilities, to acting, modeling, graphic design, and performance art. She has taught Norwegian and French in various contexts to learners of all ages.

Swedish Contemporary Culture

CINE1-CE9378/\$419

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 11 a.m.-12:40 p.m., September 20-November 8 (6 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Expand your knowledge of Swedish culture by watching and then discussing an assigned film or episodes of a television series each week. Sweden has long been known for their Nordic noir, and has a history of prominent directors, such as Ingmar Bergman, whose films have had a global impact. In the past decade, a number of binge-worthy TV shows, movies, and high-caliber actors have emerged from Sweden making it a cinematic hotspot. We will discuss how these cultural creations reflect Sweden’s past and present. The course is taught entirely in English. Each semester we explore new media, so the course can be taken repeatedly.

Instructor: Malin Tybal translates plays by the Swedish playwright August Strindberg; the first-time translation of *Mr. Bengt’s Wife* and a new translation of *Playing with Fire* have both enjoyed successful stage productions in New York.

The Best Films You Probably Haven't Seen: Stay-at-Home Edition

CINE1-CE9058/\$699

Sec. 1: Monday, 2 p.m.-3:40 p.m., October 3-December 5 (10 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

This engaging online course is perfect for social-distancing movie lovers. The films selected will all be available on popular and easy-to-use streaming platforms. Even more important, they are all movies that are not only rich in content and very much worth seeing but also fun and enlightening: comedies, capers, romances. You watch the films on your own, and then we meet online for a lively and informative discussion afterward

Instructor: Michael Zam, author of the Black-Listed screenplay, *Best Actress*, has been developed into the hugely popular and highly-acclaimed 8-part miniseries, *Feud*, for FX in Spring 2017, starring Jessica Lange as Joan Crawford and Susan Sarandon as Bette Davis. He has also written scripts for DreamWorks, Plan B, and many others.

The Best Films You Probably Haven't Seen

CINE1-CE9101/\$979

Sec. 1: Monday, 10 a.m.-12:55 p.m., October 3-November 21 (8 sessions, in-person).

During his lifetime, van Gogh never sold a single painting. Herman Melville couldn't make enough money as a writer to quit his day job. Analogously, now-classic films *The Wizard of Oz*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and *Vertigo* were all Oscar losers and box office flops during their initial runs—it took years for them to achieve classic status. In this course, we meet in person to watch and discuss a variety of diverse and terrific movies you may have missed but are definitely worth seeing.

Instructor: Michael Zam, author of the Black-Listed screenplay, *Best Actress*, has been developed into the hugely popular and highly-acclaimed 8-part miniseries, *Feud*, for FX in Spring 2017, starring Jessica Lange as Joan Crawford and Susan Sarandon as Bette Davis. He has also written scripts for DreamWorks, Plan B, and many others.

21st Century Italian Cinema, Society, and Culture

CINE1-CE9070/\$699

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 6 p.m.-8:05 p.m., September 21-November 16 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Expand your knowledge of Italian culture and language through an in-depth look at key Italian cultural, political and societal issues from the 1970s to the present. We will look at a variety of films, essays, articles, works of fiction, and visual art, all of which will serve as the basis for in-depth discussions. This course is best suited for learners with intermediate Italian language skills. Course content changes each semester so this course may be taken repeatedly.

Instructor: Raffaella Galliani has been a language instructor for more than 15 years and has worked for organizations such as the US General Consulate (Milan), the University Politecnico, and the Lycée Français (New York). Raffaella's native language is Italian, however she is also fluent in English, French, and Spanish.



GLOBAL AFFAIRS

America in the World: Considering the Future of Democracy

GLOB1-CE9631/\$449

Sec. 1: Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., September 15-October 20 (6 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

As the US continues to become more polarized, critical insights into the past, present, and possible future of American democracy can be provided by the study of comparative politics and government. America in the World will systematically examine how other democracies organize their political processes, government institutions, and programs of public policy. The course will also consider how other democracies have handled challenges to their constitutional structures and shocks to their political systems, such as those being experienced in the US. With an eye both on America's historical underpinnings and on current developments, this course will explore the many ways in which American politics and government are distinctive, as well as what valuable lessons can be learned from the political systems of other countries. Institutional and historical elements will be the focus of asynchronous online lessons, while more recent developments will be the focus of five synchronous discussion sessions. The course in particular draws upon a book written by the instructor titled *The American Anomaly: US Politics and Government in Comparative Perspective* (4th Edition, 2019).

Instructor: Raymond Smith contributed political commentary for publications including *Politico*, *The Daily Beast*, *The Washington Post*, *The Hill*, and *The New York Times*. He co-authored the books *Drugs into Bodies: Global AIDS Treatment Activism* (2006) and *Gay and Lesbian Americans and Political Participation* (2001); edited the first-ever international *Encyclopedia of AIDS* (1998) and the three-volume book set *Global HIV/AIDS Politics, Policy, and Activism* (2013); and also wrote and edited *The Politics of Sexuality in the United States* (2010), a book of primary documents with commentary.

An Introduction to the Culture and Structure of the Islamic World

GLOBAL-CE9042/\$325

Sec. 1: Thursday, 12 p.m.-1:30 p.m., September 15-October 13 (5 sessions, in-person).

Islam appeared on the world stage some 1,400 years ago and, in less than a century, expanded its reach from Spain to the borders of China. This spectacular geographic growth was accompanied by the internal development of religious, legal, and political codes that allowed it to rule over such a diverse population. Islam, while maintaining its original integrity, modified itself over time to serve the needs and requirements of the peoples of its realms. This short, compact introduction to the Islamic world will not delve into the details of its beliefs, but rather look at its cultural diversity, touch on its history, and give an overview of Islam today by comparing its main schools and their philosophies.

Instructor: Fathali Ghadjar has extensive engineering and business experience in the United States and overseas. He has managed businesses in pre and post-revolutionary Iran and was deeply involved in water and energy projects for the private and public sectors there. His work gave him a direct knowledge of the various Iranian ethnic groups as well as its natural environment. His regular travels there allowing him to observe the changes in that country first-hand. He has lectured on Iranian issues, environmental matters and sustainable energy for various groups.

China and America: A Global Power Struggle

GLOBAL-CE9423/\$399

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m., September 14-November 2 (7 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

For better or worse, China is America's most important peer, keenest friend, and most dangerous enemy, as well as the only country that truly jeopardizes American hegemony. China's ambitions in Asia threaten American interests far more than Putin's Russia do in Europe. Meanwhile, major American companies like Apple, Tesla, and Wal-Mart can overlook Russia with 146 million people and a stagnating economy, but they all need China's market of 1.4 billion to thrive. In 2020, United States trade with Russia was an anemic \$22 billion, less than half of US trade with the Netherlands. Trade with China, however, was \$560 billion. Beyond this, China's rise and its demands for "non-interference" in countries' domestic affairs pose systemic challenges to human rights and international law—and America's response may play a major role in deciding whether these international frameworks are upheld or discarded.

It's not a new cold war, nor is it a "great game" for the 21st century. But what is it? And how did we get to where we are today? This course will explore the messy new reality of competition between the United States and China, from fights over the coronavirus to trade tensions to Beijing's censorship of Hollywood films to the battle for tech dominance. It will seek to address the major questions of our time: What does China's rise mean for the United States? How should the US respond? And is there something greater at stake than simply realpolitik?

Instructors: Isaac Stone Fish is the CEO and founder of the firm Strategy Risks, which quantifies corporate exposure to China, and helps companies and institutions understand and reduce their China risk. He is also a contributing columnist at the Washington Post, a visiting fellow at the Atlantic Council, an on-air contributor to CBSN, and the author of a monthly column on China risk for Barron's.

James Tager is the research director at PEN America. Tager previously worked with the International Commission of Jurists—Asia & Pacific Program, first as a Satter Human Rights Fellow and subsequently as an International Associate Legal Advisor. Before that, he was a 2013-2014 Frederick Sheldon Traveling Fellow, researching civil society responses to the developing human rights framework within ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations).

Spies at War: Fact vs Fiction

GLOB1-CE9205/\$449

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m, September 13-November 1 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

World War II was a critical challenge for the intelligence services of the major powers, laying the groundwork for espionage during the Cold War and beyond. Explore the vital role of intelligence in the conflict itself and as a proving ground for the future. Discuss the intelligence operations of the major allied powers - Great Britain, The United States, and the Soviet Union - with an emphasis on espionage, analysis, propaganda and sabotage. While Great Britain and the Soviet Union possessed established and professional intelligence organizations from the outset of the war, the US started largely from scratch. Learn about the creation of the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency, and how the US developed its vital intelligence capabilities in the crucible of world war.

Taught by a veteran intelligence professional, the course will blend analysis of non-fictional sources with a critical reading of selected works of fiction in a series of eight facilitated discussions.

Instructor: David Gutschmit is a retired CIA Operations Officer. In the course of a 37-year career, he completed numerous assignments abroad and at CIA headquarters. He held multiple management positions in CIA and elsewhere in the intelligence community.

Latin America: New Challenges and Shifting Relations

GLOB1-CE9008/\$325

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m, November 1-December 6 (6 sessions, in-person).

Latin America is suffering one of its most severe disasters in a century as a result of governmental mismanagement, a stark lack of investment in human resources, environmental degradation, rampant corruption, and rising political crises. It has been a pivotal year with the global pandemic having dealt a heavy blow to countries already under stress. Recurrent Covid surges have exacerbated existing educational and social issues with devastating socio-economic fallout. Politically there are also growing challenges. Recent changes in the governments of Peru and Bolivia have created socio-political uncertainty. Ongoing income inequity, political corruption and civil unrest are challenging the economic regional stars of Mexico, Chile, Colombia, and Peru. Additionally, on the environmental front there is a severe deforestation crisis in Brazil and a relentless drought in Mexico portending significant challenges in the two largest Regional economies. As a consequence of these extreme challenges, migration throughout Latin America has surged. Central Americans are moving north across the US border and Venezuelans are moving into Colombia, Mexico, and Brazil. Tragically countries have thus far refused to engage in any meaningful intra-regional cooperation efforts to remediate these acute hemispheric problems. Where are the bright lights in the region? Is Latin America rudderless or will a few nations succeed in creating successful paths? Will the new commodity boom resulting from the post-Covid global recovery once again save Latin America? Join in the analysis and assessment of the critical and evolving challenges now facing the Americas.

Instructor: Pat Samwick has worked extensively in Emerging Markets in Latin America, Asia and the Mid-East and has provided consulting advisory to Latin American financial institutions, Asian Government Banks and a global Islamic Bank based in Kuwait. Prior to forming SMG, Samwick spent more than 18 years at Citigroup; her most recent position there was as Sales Director, Global E Business Group.

Politics and Leadership in a Changing Middle East

GLOB1-CE1027/\$449

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m, September 13-November 15 (8 sessions, in-person).

This course will look at the historical and ideological legacies that influence politics and leadership in the Middle East. It will cover the broader Middle East, including Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Turkey. The politics and state society relations in selected countries will be presented primarily through the words and actions of individual leaders. Relations among the countries in the region will also be covered. Questions to be discussed include: What pre-colonial and colonial legacies influence politics? What role does Islam play in politics and state/society relations? What are national and transnational identities, which serve as major factors in the politics of the Middle East? In selected sessions, the role of prominent women will be added to the mix of leading figures.

Instructor: Maureen Quinn served as the United States Ambassador to Qatar; Coordinator for Afghanistan at the State Department; and Deputy Chief of Mission in Morocco. As an economic officer, she also represented the United States in Guinea, Panama, and Pakistan. Ambassador Quinn spent half her diplomatic career at the State Department in Washington, DC, where she served as Deputy Executive Secretary in the Executive Secretariat; Executive Assistant to the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs; and held a mid-career Pearson Fellowship in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Shifting Global and Domestic Paradigms and the 2022

GLOB1-CE9045/\$425

Sec. 1: Monday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m, October 3-November 14 (6 sessions, in-person).

Significant global and domestic developments—Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, the economy, the Supreme Court, and cultural issues—are playing out in the context of the 2022 US midterm elections that will determine control of the Senate and House and the course of the next two years of American politics. We’ll look at new potential paradigms in the global and US political order. We’ll analyze global issues including the war in Ukraine, considering the position of the US as world leader, the role of alliances, challenges to traditional diplomacy, norms and the rule of law, nuclear threats, autocracy vs. democracy, the information landscape, the ambivalence of the developing world, and implications for future global conflicts. We’ll examine the role of the Biden administration in Ukraine and broader foreign policy in the midterms, and we’ll look at domestic issues, including inflation, the culture wars, and voting and civil rights as they play out in the campaign. We’ll explore the roots and consequences of polarization in US politics, and finally, we’ll assess the implications of the current global and domestic scene for the 2024 election and beyond.

Instructors: Mark and Judith Siegel. Mark Siegel’s professional career has spanned the political, government, academic and private sectors. He has served as Executive Director of the Democratic National Committee, as Deputy Assistant to the President and as a congressional Chief of Staff as well as an elected member of the Democratic National Committee. Judith Siegel was a Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Information Programs at the U.S. State Department, where she oversaw public diplomacy publications, web, and travelling speaker programs aimed at explaining U.S. policy, society and values to global audiences.

The United States: The World's Liberal Hegemon, But Why?

GLOB1-CE1040/\$349

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 3 p.m.-5:05 p.m, October 18-December 6 (8 sessions, in-person).

The United States is seen by its friends and enemies as the world's liberal hegemon, the "cop." But why the United States? What attributes does it possess to hold such a role? Are some of these attributes no longer suitable for our current world? Is the United States following the role of Great Britain in the 19th century as the reluctant hegemon? Secretary of State Blinken stated that the "world does not organize itself," and former Secretary of State Albright often stated that the United States is the "indispensable nation." Does the world need the United States playing this role? Explore the role of the hegemon, what happened to the idea of the balance of power, and examine why multilateral organizations such as the United Nations can't "organize the world." Examine how the United States became the liberal hegemon and the unique advantages and disadvantages of filling this role.

Instructor: Edward Goldberg is a leading expert in the area of where global politics and economics intercept. He is a much-quoted essayist and public speaker on the subjects of Globalization, European-American relations, U.S.-Russian and China relations. He has commented on these issues on PBS, NPR, CBS, Bloomberg, and in *The New York Times*, *The Hill*, and the *Huffington Post*.



HISTORY AND CULTURE

Central Europe 1848-1948: From Empires and Revolutions to the Dawn of the Cold War

HIST1-CE9048/\$449

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, October 18-November 22 (6 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

This course will analyze the geopolitical significance and strategic importance of Central Europe from the Revolutions of 1848 to the dawn of the Cold War following the end of WWII. While primarily focusing on what would be modern-day Germany, Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, and Slovakia, this 100-year history will be examined by students and cover events such as the Franco-Prussian War, WWI, and WWII, along with leaders like Napoleon III, Otto von Bismarck, Kaiser Wilhelm II, the Habsburgs, Vladimir Lenin, and Klement Gottwald. Other topics to be discussed include the rivalry that emerged between England and Germany leading up to WWI; the role of Germany when it came to Vladimir Lenin and the Russian Revolution; the rise of the Nazis to power in Germany and the annexation of Austria in 1938; the formation of Czechoslovakia following its independence in 1918 from Austria-Hungary; Central Europe during the early days of the Cold War; and more. Most importantly, students will learn why understanding this moment in history can help us better understand European geopolitics in the 21st century.

Instructor: Jeremy Levine has taught a variety of political science, economics, sociology, business, math, and public administration courses at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Exploring the Two CRTs: Critical Race Theory and Culturally Responsive Teaching

HIST1-CE9812/\$210

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 6 p.m.-7:40 p.m, October 11-October 25 (3 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Currently in the United States, there is a national debate about what CRT means and how it is taught in schools. These debates are being used by politicians and media outlets to influence public opinion and in some cases may have a real impact on state and local legislation around education and in upcoming elections. But what does “CRT” actually mean? In this class, we will demystify the two concepts that this acronym refers to: Critical Race Theory and Culturally Responsive Teaching. We will begin by unpacking the difference between Critical Race Theory as defined by legal scholars like Kimberle Crenshaw and Derrick Bell. We will then transition to looking at Culturally Responsive and relevant teaching as discussed by education scholars like Gloria Ladson Billings, William Tate, and Django Parris. What are the distinguishing features between the two ideas? Are there ideas of Critical Race Theory in Culturally Responsive Teaching? Are there ways that Critical Race Theory is applied more broadly in education? We will also spend time looking at examples of Culturally Responsive Teaching in schools and in popular culture through films such as *Abbott Elementary*, *Mr. Holland’s Opus*, *Precious*, and *Stand and Deliver*. By the end of the course, students will not only be able to understand and discuss CRT, they will also gain insight into how teachers today are creating culturally relevant learning experiences in the classroom

Instructor: Christopher Sewill is a scholar with a focus on the experiences of students of color in higher education. He is also a curriculum manager at Praxis Labs and an editorial board member at the Journal of African American Males in Education (JAAME). He was formerly the Associate Dean of Students at Williams College.

Georgian England: Cities of Elegance and Art

HIST1-CE9978/\$399

Sec. 1: Thursday, 2 p.m.-3:40 p.m, September 15-October 13 (5 sessions, in-person).

Take an intriguing journey through England’s historic cities to discover 18th century splendors that reveal the enduring elegance of the Georgian era. In this course, we will discover impressive and unique facades and interiors such as Bath’s Royal Crescent, London’s Somerset House, and York’s Georgian Assembly Rooms along with important city mansions, museums, shops, concert halls, and theaters. Learn about the architects who designed remarkable public and private buildings while compelled to flatter their demanding noble patrons. We will also study how artists, including Gainsborough and Hogarth, portrayed so many facets of this fascinating century in their work.

Instructor: Lorella Brocklesby is a cultural historian specializing in architecture, art, theatre, decorative arts, and gardens. She has taught over seventy different courses for NYU SPS, including *History of Royalty*, *Medieval History*, *Victorian London*, *Dickens’ England*, *William Morris*, and *Shakespeare’s London*.

The Supreme Court and Issues of Church and State

HIST1-CE9717/\$150

Sec. 1: Friday, 1 p.m.-4:20 p.m, October 28 (1 session, virtual via Zoom).

In 1802, Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to the Danbury Baptist Association, coined the famous phrase (not found in the Constitution), “a wall of separation between Church and State.” This course offers an introduction to the Religion Clauses of the First Amendment (“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof”). In this one-day course, we will explore selected topics relating to provisions, referred to as the Establishment Clause and Free Exercise Clause. We will study the changing analysis of the Supreme Court’s decisions about religion, particularly in recent years.

Instructor: Jason Schulman’s writing has appeared in various academic journals, including the *Journal for the Study of Radicalism* and the *Melbourne Journal of Politics*.

The United States Supreme Court in the 21st Century

HIST1-CE9294/\$699

Sec. 1: Thursday, 2 p.m.-4:05 p.m, September 22-December 15 (12 sessions, in-person).

This course examines America's economic, political, religious, and social issues through the prism of influential and controversial Supreme Court cases and decisions in the 21st century. First we will review the major decisions of 2000 - 2019, then discuss the nominations and confirmations of former President Trump and the historic nomination by President Biden of the first Black woman to the highest Court. We continue with the major cases from 2019 to the present, especially the pivotal cases that broach some of the most contentious issues in American politics, including religion, guns, voting rights, and abortion. Since the Court's approval rating is sinking to its lowest level ever (40%), we will critique changes being considered, including the Court's role in the Constitution, the length of service of the Justices, and the size of the Court. We conclude with an analysis of whether Justice Amy Coney Barrett was correct when she bluntly declared that, "this Court is not comprised of a bunch of partisan hacks."

Instructor: Juliana Gilheany teaches United States history, particularly the history of the Supreme Court and great court cases, foreign relations, the Civil War, and the history of women, presidents, and first ladies. Gilheany has presented history papers, given public speeches and led panel discussions.



LITERATURE

Banned in the USA: Freedom of Expression and the Literary Canon

LITR1-CE9925/\$599

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 3 p.m.-4:40 p.m., October 12-December 7 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Book banning has become a frequently used weapon in the culture wars in the United States and beyond. Both formal and informal censorship of books is a growing social problem. Most of our discussion about books in literary contexts presumes a public sphere in which there is freedom of expression. This is something which is increasingly imperiled. In the past, as the information scientist Herbert N. Foerstel has put it, books were censored in America more out of “social consensus” than because of “state or church power.” However, this is changing with state boards of education becoming increasingly more active in banning books. We will read ten of the most banned books of our era, discussing why they are controversial and what it means to ban them. We will also explore the way censorship perversely creates its own canon and how privileging literature is a contested category of cultural expression. Books for discussion include: *The Handmaid’s Tale*, Margaret Atwood; *The Bluest Eye*, Toni Morrison; *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury; *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee; *The Hate U Give*, Angie Thomas; *Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China*, Jung Chang; *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*, Alison Bechdel; *The Awakening*, Kate Chopin; *The Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini.

Instructor: Nicholas Birns

Brilliant Minds

LITR1-CE9305/\$629

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-11:40 a.m., September 13-December 13 (12 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Literary genius can take innumerable shapes and forms through novels, plays, and poetry. Brilliant minds use their gifts to entertain, inspire, engage, and enlighten about philosophical and artistic concerns, social trappings, and human conceit. This course examines a selection of great minds each semester through a curated reading list that illuminates the particular brilliance of each individual featured author.

Instructor: Peter Vincent Arcese has translated the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus into English syllabic verse as well as published poetry in *The New York Quarterly*. Peter has produced and directed verse drama by Walter James Miller and a series of one-act plays by William Packard. He serves as counsel with Stropheus Art Law, focusing on trust and estate planning for authors and artists.

Five African Nobel Laureates

LITR1-CE9029/\$369

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, November 1-November 29 (5 sessions, in-person).

With the award of the 2021 Nobel Prize for Literature to the Tanzanian writer Abdelrazak Gurnah, the Swedish Academy has now honored several writers in English from sub-Saharan Africa. In this course, we will read novels by Gurnah, Doris Lessing, J. M. Coetzee, Wolé Soyinka, and Naguib Mahfouz, examining how the modern African novel has engaged in the resistance to colonial oppression, the problems and ironies of writing the nation, and robust engagement with the aesthetics of contemporary narrative. These novels also explore the personal dimensions of life, the struggle for personal identity, the quest for meaningful relationships, growing up, and growing old. Readings will include: Doris Lessing, *The Grass Is Singing*; J.M. Coetzee, *Disgrace*; Abdelrazak Gurnah, *Gravel Heart*; Wole Soyinka, *Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth*; and Naguib Mahfouz, *Midaq Alley*. We will read Lessing's *The Grass Is Singing* for the first session.

Instructor: Nicholas Birns is the editor of *Antipodes: A Global Journal of Australian/NZ Literature*. He is the author of *Understanding Anthony Powell* (University of South Carolina Press, 2004) and the co-editor of *A Companion to Australian Literature Since 1900* (Camden House, 2007), a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Book for 2008. His *Theory After Theory: An Intellectual History of Literary Theory From 1950 to the Early 21st Century* appeared from Broadview in 2010.

Greek and Roman Mythology in Popular Culture

LITR1-CE9004/\$399

Sec. 1: Monday, 10:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m, October 17-November 14 (5 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

In this five-session class, we will explore aspects of the reception of Greco-Roman myth in various popular contemporary media. Each class will be devoted to a different medium: TV, music, books, visual art, and internet culture. How do the forms of ancient mythology make it suitable for meme culture? How do pop representations of famous mythical and historical characters (Hercules, Zeus, Cleopatra, and others) square with their ancient receptions? How does engaging with pop culture from a mythical perspective help us be more mindful of diversity and political ideology? We will ask these and other questions through various readings in translation and analyses of contemporary pop culture, including *Star Wars*, *Taylor Swift*, *Station Eleven* (both the book and the TV show), among others.

Instructor: Del Maticic

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible: The Five Books of Moses (Torah)

LITR1-CE9961/\$659

Sec. 1: Tuesday, 12 p.m.-1:40 p.m, September 13-December 6 (10 sessions, in-person).

The first five books of the Bible—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy—have had a formative influence on western culture. These books contain some of the best-known biblical tales alongside laws and precepts that have shaped Jewish and Christian views across millennia. They also provide textual evidence of the history, religion, and culture of ancient Israel. In this course, we shall read the entirety of these five books, approaching them from an academic perspective; trace the processes by which these texts came to be formed; consider the multiple sources that shaped them; and analyze their meaning in their present form. No background in religion is necessary to take this course.

Instructor: Ilona Rashkow is a specialist in Judaic Studies and Ancient Near Eastern Literature. Among her book publications are *Taboo or Not Taboo: The Hebrew Bible and Human Sexuality*; *The Phallacy of Genesis: A Feminist-Psychoanalytic Approach*; and *Upon the Dark Places: Sexism and Anti-Semitism in English Renaissance Biblical Translation*.

Inspired by Real Life: Reading and Writing Exofiction in French

LITR1-CE9931/\$699

Sec. 1: Asynchronous/self-paced October 19-December 7 with 4 live sessions on Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.-7:35 p.m., October 19, November 2, November 16, and December 7. (4 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Explore French exofiction—a new literary phenomenon similar to biopics that takes inspiration from real-life events—and other 21st-century French novels. This online course is designed for individuals who possess high-intermediate or advanced French language ability. Examine French fiction by award-winning writers including Olivier Adam, Yasmina Reza, Jérôme Garcin, Chantal Thomas, and Jean Genet. Every week, you will be provided with very short excerpts from these novels and you will submit your own short piece of fiction in French

Instructor: Annie Heminway is an editor and literary consultant for Canadian publishers and a literary translator. Annie Heminway and Ellen Sowchek translated Eduardo Manet’s *The Painters’ Lover*, published in January 2015. Heminway is the author of twenty self-teaching books including *Better Reading French*.

Masterpieces of 20th Century Literature

LITR1-CE9988/\$399

Sec. 1: Monday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, September 12-December 12 (5 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Study major modern 20th century novels that now enjoy classic status. Read a haunting study of “voluptuous doom” as depicted in one of the classic novellas by a major German novelist known as “The Magician”; a landmark of literary modernism that depicts a young Irishman’s defiant artistry, intransigent rebellion, and fearless flight; an intense, hallucinatory gothic novel by a legendary American expatriate in Paris, praised as “one of the three great prose books ever written by a woman;” a masterful portrayal of war, love, loyalty and heroism in the crucial Spanish Civil War of the 1930s; an investigation into murder and racial justice in mid-century Mississippi—the last great novel from the outstanding creative period of one of most remarkable writers of the 20th century. Readings: Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*; James Joyce, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*; Djuna Barnes, *Nightwood*; Ernest Hemingway, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*; William Faulkner, *Intruder in the Dust*. Students should read *Death in Venice* for the first class.

Instructor: Margaret Boe Birns has published chapters in *Roberto Bolaño: A Less-Distant Star* edited by Ignacio Lopez-Caldo and in Harold Bloom’s *Agatha Christie: Modern Critical Views*, and articles in *The Literary Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Women’s Studies*, *The Dreiser Encyclopedia*, *A Critical Companion to Henry James*, *Studies in American Naturalism*, *Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*, *Compendium of Twentieth Century Novelists and Novels*, and *Magill’s Literary Annual*.

The Gothic Heroine

LITR1-CE9051/\$549

Sec. 1: Thursday, 10 a.m.-11:40 a.m, September 29-November 17 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Classic gothic heroines like Mina Harker in Bram Stoker’s novel *Dracula* (1897) are among the most widely recognized and frequently adapted literary characters. Emerging in the late 18th century and persistently popular in our own time, gothic heroines have come of age along with feminism. Combining elements of romance, horror, mystery, and other genres, these sensational bestsellers illuminate and challenge our concepts of heroism and gender roles. Join us for study and lively discussion of unforgettable heroines from Catherine Morland in Jane Austen’s *Northanger Abbey* to Sookie Stackhouse in Charlaine Harris’s *Dead Until Dark*.

Instructor: Leigh Harbin is an adjunct instructor at Marymount Manhattan College.

The Greatest Journey of Them All: Reading Homer’s Odyssey

LITR1-CE9310/\$699

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12:40 p.m, September 21-December 7 (10 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Relive—or enjoy for the first time—the fabulous adventures of Odysseus as he journeys home to his wife and son after the Trojan War. In 10 sessions, explore Homer’s genius as an oral poet and share a work that sets nostalgia for home against a hunger for new experiences; describes battles between men and mythical creatures; and asks enduring questions: What is the cost of war? Can love withstand absence? What is the nature of free will? Should there be a limit to revenge?

Instructor: Susan Matthias specializes in classical literature, with courses on Homer, Virgil, and Greek tragedy. Matthias was VP/Director of Client Services at the public relations firm, Burson-Marsteller.

The Novel Today

LITR1-CE9270/\$599

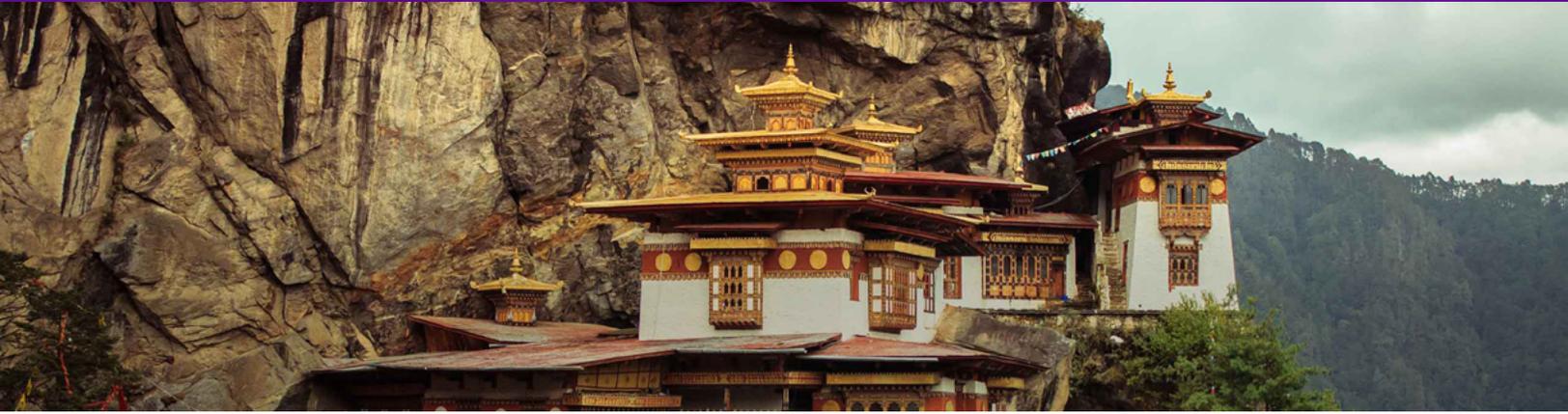
Sec. 1: Wednesday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, September 21-December 7 (10 sessions, in-person).

Sec. 2: Thursday, 10 a.m.-11:40 a.m, September 29-December 8 (10 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Sec. 3: Thursday, 1 p.m.-2:40 p.m, September 29-December 8 (10 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Discuss major new work by today’s top writers, including emerging novelists, award-winners, and established favorites, all of whom are central to today’s cultural conversation We will investigate a variety of inventive narrative strategies, explore the psychology of numerous fascinating characters, and examine important topics within a context of changing times, changing lives, and a changing world.

Instructor: Margaret Boe Birns has published chapters in *Roberto Bolaño: A Less-Distant Star* edited by Ignacio Lopez-Caldo and in Harold Bloom’s *Agatha Christie: Modern Critical Views*, and articles in *The Literary Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Women’s Studies*, *The Dreiser Encyclopedia*, *A Critical Companion to Henry James*, *Studies in American Naturalism*, *Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*, *Compendium of Twentieth Century Novelists and Novels*, and *Magill’s Literary Annual*.



PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY, AND RELIGION

Comparative Religion: From Christianity to Confucianism

PHRE1-CE9091/\$659

Sec. 1: Thursday, 11 a.m.-12:40 p.m, September 15-November 17 (10 sessions, in-person).

Religion is consistently a news item in our world today; it factors into conflicts in North America, Europe, the Middle East, and India, among other places. Catholics are divided on the wisdom of the pope, Jews on the policies of Israel, and Muslims on their relation to modern secularism. But none of these divisions makes sense to outsiders without a basic understanding of the religions involved. In this course, gain a basic understanding of the beliefs and practices of the world’s major religions. Explore the meaning of religious experience, the distinction between myth and history, and the appeal—or not—of ritual. We also will discuss important questions: Why do religious communities split, for example, Sunni and Shiite Islam? What does “law” mean to observant Jews? What do Christians mean by the “Trinity”? Can “nothing” be “something” in Hindu and Buddhist contexts? Is Confucianism a religion at all? These questions and more will enliven our explorations into the major religions of the world.

Instructor: Ernest Rubinstein works at the intersection of religion, philosophy, and literature. He has written four books: *An Episode of Jewish Romanticism* (1999), on the philosopher Franz Rosenzweig; *Religion and the Muse* (2008), on the relation between religion and literature; *From Ecclesiastes to Simone Weil: Varieties of Philosophical Spirituality*, (2014); and, *A Liminal Space: Between Judaism and Christianity* (2021).



THEATER AND MUSIC

Beethoven and His Heroic Period 1802-1812

MUS11-CE9063/\$769

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 1 p.m.-3 p.m., October 12-December 7 (8 sessions, virtual via Zoom).

Precious few composers have shaken the world of classical music as Beethoven did in his Middle or Heroic period of the early 1800s. He absorbed the conventions of Haydn and Mozart and deconstructed them, creating his own brand of symphony, sonata, string quartet, and concert overture. His Viennese audience thought him mad. This shocking music was longer, louder, more emotional, and harmonically more complex than what had come before. But to sophisticated listeners, these masterpieces went up and beyond mere tones to portray human themes such as struggle or celebration. While his creative fires burned brightly, Beethoven the man was challenged by his impending deafness, his personal health, and loneliness. We will survey great works such as Symphonies Nos. 3 and 5, Piano Concertos Nos. 4 and 5 “Emperor,” the Razumovsky String Quartets, the “Moonlight,” “Waldstein,” and “Appassionata” piano sonatas, Fidelio, and more. All music has a story and we will place each work in an engaging historical perspective. Lectures will be augmented by musical examples and video performances. No musical knowledge is necessary to enjoy this class.

Instructor: Edmund Cionek, composer, writes and arranges music for the concert hall and the theatre.

The Play’s the Thing

THEA1-CE8501/\$629

Sec. 1: Wednesday, 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m., September 28-December 14 (10 sessions, in-person).

Sec. 2: Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.-2 p.m., September 28-December 14 (10 sessions, in-person).

Millions flock to New York City to see its most popular and enduring attractions. It’s not the Statue of Liberty or the Empire State Building—it’s Broadway and Off-Broadway. In this class, learn many of the reasons why that is—and how it happens. What makes a play work from the ground up? How are musicals created? Does what happens in rehearsal make or break even the best shows? And why do tickets cost so much? Through a fun but rigorous mix of lectures, readings, discussions, meetings with working theatre professionals, and attendance at live productions, you will see for yourself that what goes on before the curtain rises and after it falls is sometimes just as fascinating—if not more—as what audiences see on stage

Instructor: Michael Zam, author of the Black-Listed screenplay, *Best Actress*, has been developed into the hugely popular and highly-acclaimed 8-part miniseries, *Feud*, for FX in Spring 2017, starring Jessica Lange as Joan Crawford and Susan Sarandon as Bette Davis. He has also written scripts for DreamWorks, Plan B, and many others.