



Fall Seminars 2014



The registration deadline for the Fall seminars is **Friday September 5, 2014**. Seminars will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Members will be notified if a seminar is full and may opt for a refund or alternate selection. No registration confirmations will be issued. Registration forms must be mailed. They will not be accepted in person at the Circle of Scholars office. For more information, please call (401) 341-2120 or e-mail circleofscholars@salve.edu.

Special Event

America's Forgotten Heroine: Ida Lewis, Keeper of the Light

With Marian Gagnon (see flyer and registration form)

Friday, November 7

5:30-7:30 p.m.

\$10

The Trial of a Criminal Case

With Charles Heffernan Jr.

Eight Sessions: Mondays, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Sept. 22, 29; Oct. 6, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 12 **Cost:** \$65

Participants will learn the stages of a criminal case from arrest through verdict and then will serve as attorneys for the prosecution or defense in various court proceedings including arraignment, hearings on motions to suppress evidence, and the trial.

Charles Heffernan Jr. is admitted in New York State, the U.S. Supreme Court and three other federal courts in New York City. He is a retired judge from the State of New York where he served as acting justice of the Supreme Court, trying felony cases in Kings County (Brooklyn), and was also assigned to the New York City Criminal and Family Courts. He served as assistant district attorney for New York County (Manhattan), deputy criminal justice coordinator for New York City, general counsel for the New York City Dept. of Investigation and is a retired Army military judge.

Dante's "The Divine Comedy," A New Approach

With Len DeAngelis

Six sessions: Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon

Sept. 22, 29; Oct. 6, 20, 27; Nov. 3

Location: Miley Hall Executive Dining Room

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$50

Why deny ourselves an author and work that continues to serve, inspire, and satisfy?

In this approach on our journey, willing participants may write a summary of cantos, share significant lines, and consider the personal impact. Our objective is to appreciate the work by our efforts and broaden our perspective via others in

the workshop. Some may choose to only listen, and they are welcome. Participants of prior workshops are at a different place on their life journey and revisiting will enrich this experience. **Len DeAngelis**, who retired as the head of the English department at Middletown High School, was the 1990 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year, and has also received Disney's American Teacher Award. He has been leading seminars on the Divine Comedy for several years.

Everyone Has Something to Say: A Writing Workshop

With Dianne Grinnell

Six Sessions: Mondays, 2-4 p.m.

Sept. 22, 29; Oct. 6, 20, 27; Nov. 3

Location: Miley Hall Executive Dining Room

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$50

Many people fear writing, some even get paralyzed at the thought of putting words on paper. The aim of this seminar is to help those men and women relax, play with words and, yes, even enjoy words. The world needs your words because "no one can say exactly what you can say." A selection of collected writings, thoughts, and poems will be offered to respond to and share. Please bring a journal or notebook to write in.

Dianne Grinnell taught English/ELA writing for 25 years for grades 4-12. She has developed a writing workshop for the Newport Public Library and a journaling workshop at Jamestown Library.

Life and Death Matters

With Dr. Diane Caplin

Eight Sessions: Mondays, 5-7 p.m.

Sept. 22, 29; Oct. 6, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, room 106

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$65

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This seminar is designed to be an introduction to a philosophical exploration of selected matters of life and death: birth, love, goodness, vocation/work, friendship, freedom, community and death. Lively, respectful discussion is invited following the instructor's 20-minute introduction that sets the focus for each session. No prerequisites but life experience. The only requirements are an ability to wonder and a mind open and articulate enough to engage in productive discussion with other participants.

Dr. Diane Caplin, a self-professed true lover of wisdom, began her service to Catholic higher education in student affairs at Salve Regina. As founding co-director of Baltimore's Mount Saint Agnes Theological Center for Women, Dr. Caplin spent 18 years building a lifelong learning community of faith-filled, professional women. A frequent keynote speaker and consultant on Catholic mission and education, Caplin has worked with women and women's educators around the world.

The United Nations

With Jim Buxton

Five Sessions: Tuesdays, 8-10 a.m.

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$40

The course will involve a study of the history, structure and limitations of the United Nations. We will especially focus on the General Assembly and the Security Council of the UN. Students will learn the obstacles the UN faces in trying to address issues such as Syria and the Ukraine. Parts of two of the meetings will involve a UN simulation whereby participants will act as delegates, each from a different country, as they debate the issue of the usage of capital punishment.

Jim Buxton was a social studies teacher at South Kingstown High School for three decades, during which time he taught Global Studies and International Relations. While at South Kingstown High School, his students were involved in orchestrating Model United Nations conferences for 19 years. Since his retirement in 2009, Jim has taught Introduction to International Politics courses at URI. He also teaches in the education department of Salve Regina University in addition to a variety of courses at OLLI.

China: All Past is Prologue

With Dr. Esmond D. Smith Jr.

Eight Sessions: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-noon

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$65

This course will provide an introduction to China today and will be presented in a series of lectures augmented by short videos regarding China's people, their culture, religions and ideologies, their history, their experiences with the West and their modern rise to power. Class format will be a lecture/video followed by classroom discussions.

Dr. Esmond D. Smith Jr. is a retired naval officer, Chinese linguist, former naval attaché in Taiwan, and student of Chinese history and politics. He taught international business and courses on China and the Far East at Johnson and Wales' graduate school from 1993 through 2006, including several term abroad programs in China, Singapore and Hong Kong. He is an adjunct professor in Salve Regina's international relations graduate program since 1995.

The Story of Colonial Newport in Five Buildings

With Liz Spoden

Five sessions: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-noon

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 16 **Cost:** \$60

(Cost includes field trip fees.)

What better way to celebrate Newport's 375th anniversary than by exploring the city's colonial history through some of its most significant landmarks? This class will focus on religious toleration, international commerce, furniture making and architecture through a series of visits to some of Newport's extant houses of worship, residences and cultural institutions. Each session will begin in the classroom for a slideshow and overview presentation. Then participants will be responsible for driving themselves to a designated field trip site for an in-depth guided tour.

Liz Spoden majored in history at Lawrence University and has a master's degree in history from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. She has worked as the programs coordinator for the Newport Restoration

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Foundation for more than six years. During that time she has taught Newporters and visitors alike about this city's rich and complex history.

Dostoevsky's "The Demons": Russia and The West

With David McCarthy

Eight Sessions: Tuesdays, 12:45-2:45 p.m.

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$65

Only 25 years after what was seen as the end of the cold war, the West once again faces conflict with a newly belligerent Russia. Once again reflections upon Russian culture, especially the arts which have long served as an arena for political, philosophical and religious debate, are in order. What better author to read on the tension within and between Russia and the West than Dostoevsky? This course will attempt a close reading of Dostoevsky's "The Demons" (also translated as "The Possessed"), his great political novel. Called by Lenin "a superlatively bad writer," Dostoevsky may, in the end, be the most relevant author for an understanding of post-communist Russia.

David McCarthy taught at Assumption and Stonehill colleges for 13 years and at Portsmouth Abbey for 31 years before retiring in 2002. He holds a bachelor's degree from Notre Dame and a master's degree from Columbia University.

A Study of Three Operas

With Winfred Johnson

Six Sessions: Tuesdays, 3-5 p.m.

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$50

Three romantic operas will be studied and seen on film. Richard Wagner's great work, "Die Meistersinger von Nuremberg" as performed in a recent production from Glyndebourne Festival; "Falstaff," Verdi's last and only comic opera; and Puccini's "Turandot." There will be two sessions for each composition.

Winfred Johnson holds a master's degree in musicology from Washington University, St Louis. He studied composition with Samuel Adler, is former conductor of the Swanhurst Chorus, and taught at schools in Texas, Virginia, and Rhode

Island. He served as interim director of music at Calvary Methodist Church, Middletown, R.I.

The English Country House: Downton Abbey in Context

With Rebecca Leuchak

Eight Sessions: Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m.

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 15 **Cost:** \$65

Stately homes in picturesque settings are the subject of this survey of the English Country House. Beginning with the feudal origins of these grand houses, the course focuses an interdisciplinary lens on their importance in social history. We will consider the manor itself in relation to its component aesthetics, including architecture, garden design, interior design, period fashions, social etiquette, visual arts, and music. We will study the interdependent relationships between "upstairs" and "downstairs," and landed families with their estate workers. While the examples are numerous, one stately home, such as Blenheim Palace, Chatsworth, Woburn Abbey and Highclere Castle, will be the focus for each week. The course continues with a discussion of the English manor house as setting in literature, film, and television; where the building and its interiors play a major role in stories such as "Atonement," "Brideshead Revisited," "Jane Eyre," "Rebecca," "Howard's End" and most recently, "Downton Abbey."

Rebecca Leuchak, founder and former chair of the Department of Art and Architectural History at Roger Williams University, has also taught at Wellesley University, Connecticut College, the Rhode Island School of Design, and at Columbia University, where she pursued doctoral studies. Her museum work includes the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Cloisters Museum, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She designs travel courses and writes on World Arts and is currently a student in Salve Regina's doctoral program in the humanities.

The Trial of a Criminal Case

With Charles Heffernan Jr.

Eight Sessions: Wednesdays, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 12 **Cost:** \$65

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Please see the seminar description and instructor bio under the Monday morning session. This will be a duplicate of the seminar offered earlier in the week. Choose only one day of the week when registering.

The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict

With George Kassis

Eight Sessions: Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-noon
Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$65

This seminar will cover the evolution of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict over the last 100 years: from the First Zionist Conference in 1882 where Theodor Herzl presented the idea of creating a Jewish state to the present. It will review the development and roles of key resistance groups on both sides of the conflict (Haganah, Irgun and Lehi; PLO, Fatah, Hamas and Hizbollah) and the major Middle Eastern Arab/Israeli wars and peace efforts, analyzing their causes and outcomes. It will explore the roles of the Arab and Islamic states, Britain, USA, and Russia. The course will conclude with a review of the key issues at stake today (one- vs. two-country solutions, the status of Jerusalem, Jewish settlement in the occupied territories, the Palestinian refugee's right to return). A major focus will be on the main efforts for peaceful resolution of this major international conflict.

George Kassis was born and raised in Syria. At 18, he moved to Lebanon to attend the American University of Beirut where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees. He spent more than 25 years with the United Nations (UNRWA, UNESCO and UNICEF) in senior assignments in Lebanon, Sudan, Jordan and Yemen. His experience includes working in the field of educational personnel training; developing and managing programs for children; emergency programs in developing countries; and governmental and private-sector fundraising.

Women and Islam in the Contemporary Middle East

With Eleanor Doumato

Six sessions: Wednesdays, 10-noon

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5

Location: Miley Hall Executive Dining Room

Class limit: 15 **Cost:** \$50

Is the status of women in Muslim societies determined by religion? Do factors such as politics, culture and class have a role to play? In a region of the world where women vastly outnumber men as university graduates, why are women's employment rates among the lowest in the world? After a half-century of westernizing influences, why are women re-veiling, and is it a matter of choice? We'll explore these questions and others through a combination of lecture, discussion, and readings, to include novels, scholarly articles, and scriptural sources. The course will begin with an introduction to Shariah family law and readings from the Quran and Prophetic traditions that have particular relevance to women. We'll then focus on women and Islamic feminism in discreet western and Middle Eastern contexts. No prior experience is required for this course, but participants are expected to come to class prepared to contribute to discussion. The additional purchase of books will be required.

Dr. Eleanor A. Doumato has taught university courses on Islam and the Middle East for nearly 20 years, and is author or co-author of four books and edited volumes, including "Teaching Islam: Textbooks and Religion in the Middle East." She consults frequently for government agencies, and is a past-president of the Association for Middle East Women's Studies.

The Movie Lover's Club

With Midge Gordon

Three sessions: Wednesdays, 12:30-3 p.m.

Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 35 **Cost:** \$25

"When I go to the movies I feel like a kid," said film critic Pauline Kael. For most of us, movies have that special kind of magic. But they do more than entertain us, they transport us to unknown places, peoples and cultures, and offer us windows into the past and future. Movie-making is an art form requiring hundreds of professionals, writers, directors, set designers, cinematographers, lighting and sound people, site developers, casting agents, actors, and more who work together to bring this special kind of magic.

In this Part 1 of a series on film, The Movie Lovers Club offers a short history of film, introduces the movers and shakers of the industry, and begins

to share the films and actors, from the past through the present, from around the world, who keep the magic alive.

Midge Gordon has offered courses in history, culture, theater and opera to lifelong learning venues. This is her new course in her theater series.

Opera! Sopranos & Tenors 2

With Anthony J. Agostinelli

Five sessions: Wednesdays 12:45-2:45 p.m.

October 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$40

This seminar will review the great and near-great sopranos and tenors who have become legendary in the field of opera from its earlier times to the present. Through the use of biographies, DVDs, VHS, CDs, LPs and excursions on YouTube, we will have the opportunity to hear and read about opera's professional (and sometimes personal) lives and see them singing and performing in some of their classic roles. We will become acquainted with their music. We will also spend some time with the newest sopranos and tenors starring in the opera world today, to be chosen by class members (Callas, Tibaldi, Price, Gall-Curci, Melba, Sutherland, Caballe, Ke Tanawa, Fleming, Caruso, Melchoir, Gigli, Bjorling, de Stefano, Gedda, Lanza, Pavarotti, Carreras and Domingo, among others).

Tony Agostinelli, a resident of Aquidneck Island, is a "re-wired" university professor, writer, historian, mystery novelist, cable TV host (JazzBash on PA-18), musician and former aide to a governor and mayor in Rhode Island.

The Killer Within

With Ralph Mastrorio

Five sessions: Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$40

"The Killer Within" is an appropriate title for this seminar as our immune system is designed to kill. Scientists refer to one of the many types of immune cells as "killer cells" as they go about their work of destroying that which is deemed to be harmful to us. It is an ancient evolutionary system that we cannot live without. At the same

time, the defense mounted by these diverse cells and chemicals requires an elaborate degree of checks and balances.

This seminar will deal with the basics of immunology, self versus non-self, and problems created by transplanted tissue and autoimmune diseases. It will be conducted with an interactive approach as students use their prior knowledge to build a scaffold to understanding.

Ralph Mastrorio has a master's degree in biomedical studies and a broad background in bioethical matters. He taught college courses on the human condition in this era of biotechnology, has attended numerous workshops and summer institutes in bioethics, and was a member of the Hastings Center for Bioethics.

New Ideas About the Oldest Art

With Barbara Olins Alpert

Four Sessions: Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.

Oct. 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, room 268

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$35

This seminar will look at the images produced by ancestral humans during the Ice Age that led to the astonishing work in caves like Lascaux about 17,000 years ago and Chauvet at least 25,000 years ago. Having just returned from an invitation by one of the great prehistorians in France to visit some decorated caves, Barbara will discuss the latest ideas and discoveries.

Prehistoric art is remarkable both for its skill in reproducing visual reality and for its ability to use symbols. We will look not only for its sophistication and sheer beauty but will also examine it for what it reveals about the minds of those who made it. Art making may be the one activity that remains unique to humans.

Barbara Olins Alpert taught prehistoric art for a decade at the Rhode Island School of Design. Her articles on the subject have been published in academic and museum journals in France, Switzerland, India and the Czech Republic. She has written a book called "The Creative Ice Age Brain."

Newport's Foundations to the Bill of Rights Part I of II

With James Wermuth

Eight sessions: Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.

Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, room 106

Class limit: 25 **Cost:** \$65

This course examines ancient ideals that came to fruition, for the first time in history, in Newport. The separation of church and state was an ideal founded by John Clarke; it was an ideal that literally altered the course of Western Civilization. We will follow the multitude of cultural changes that formed the character of Newport's founders. We will examine John Clarke's character in Boston, his defense of Anne Hutchinson and his decision to travel with the outcast Antinomians to Pocasset. Participants will look at the political turmoil in early Portsmouth that prompted the development of Newport, where the deeper quest for religious freedoms remained elusive amidst a thriving agricultural, husbandry, and trade center. Finally, participants will study events that led to the Charter having a direct effect on the writing of the First Amendment. There will be a voluntary field trip for those wanting to visit the more important sites on Aquidneck Island.

James Wermuth served as a U.S. naval submarine service nuclear qualified intelligence officer and has studied art and architectural history, conservation, architectural conservation and architecture and material science. A retired executive director for CTG Int. Inc., his professional accomplishments include lecturing, writing for a variety of publications and co-founding and serving as the executive director for the John Clarke Society.

WriteLife1

With Jack Galvin

Eight sessions: Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.

Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5, 12

Location: Miley Hall Executive Dining Room

Class limit: 10 **Cost:** \$65

Our lives deserve to be written because family and friends want to know our stories. However, the true value of writing about one's life is for the writer, because in writing about the stories of one's life, one gains understanding and sees patterns.

The WriteLife1 seminar has been developed to guide writers to produce short memoir essays (three to five pages). Each of eight two-hour sessions focuses on a specific theme and volunteers may share the previous week's assignment with the group. These assignments offer participants the opportunity to begin to write their memoirs in the bits and pieces of their lives made available through the specific directives of WriteLife1.

Jack Galvin has been a writer and teacher of writing for almost 40 years. He co-wrote "Within Reach: My Everest Story" with Middletown's Mark Pfetzer, which was honored as an outstanding book for young adults. For many years he was head of the English Department at Rogers High School where he developed and taught composition courses. He has also taught writing on the college level.

The Four Foundations of Mindfulness

With Priscilla Szneke

Four sessions: Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23

Location: Young Building Library

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$20

(Please note: seminar is one hour in length.)

Mindfulness is a central tenet of the 2,500 year-old tradition of Buddhist psychology. With committed practice, every person can gradually figure out how to become more and more mindful in life, even in the face of significant suffering. But to truly understand mindfulness we have to experience it directly because cultivating mindfulness is a personal journey of discovery.

Just by becoming aware of what is occurring within and around us, we can begin to untangle ourselves from mental preoccupations and difficult emotions. In this series of classes, we will explore how this is done by learning and establishing ourselves in the Four Foundations of Mindfulness.

Priscilla Szneke is a mindfulness teacher integrating 30 years of experience in health care as a nurse, medical editor and epidemiologist with her commitment to meditation and yoga for stress reduction and personal growth. She has studied with a number of meditation teachers and has completed Jon Kabat-Zinn's Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction program for teachers.

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Great Women In Photography: Their Pictures and Their Stories

With Jan Armor

Four Sessions: Thursdays, 9-11 a.m.

Oct. 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$35

Explore the works of some of Jan's favorite female photographers. The list is long and includes Mary Ellen Mark, Sally Mann, Diane Arbus, Francesca Woodman and others. We will examine their lives and their images and take away some inspiration from these immensely talented artists. This is a class for anyone who likes to enjoy good photography.

Jan Armor is a commercial and fine art photographer with many years' experience in both digital and traditional media. He has received grants and awards for environmental photography and has taught at the Newport Art Museum, the Bristol Art Museum, Portsmouth and Tiverton arts organizations among many others. Visit <http://www.armorphoto.com> for more information and to view Armor's work.

2014 Rhode Island Elections

With Deborah Ruggiero

Eight sessions: Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Sept. 25; Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Nov. 6, 13

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$65

This seminar will provide in-depth analysis and lively discussion on Rhode Island's 2014 race for governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer and general assembly offices. We'll look at how a bill becomes law and why public service matters.

Deborah Ruggiero is a state representative for District 74 (Jamestown/Middletown). She serves on the House Finance Committee and is deputy majority leader. She is president of DR Communications, an advertising and marketing communications firm.

A History of Russia from 1825 to the Present

With James Garman

Six Sessions: Thursdays, 12:45-2:45 p.m.

Sept. 25; Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$50

This will be a course in "modern" Russian History from the Decembrist uprising in 1825 to the present. It will include the major events of world history in which Russia was involved, Russian intellectual history of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the rise of Vladimir Lenin, the revolutions of 1905 and 1917, the Soviet period under Stalin and his successors, the break-up beginning in 1991 and, of course, a look at Russia's impact on the world today.

James Garman was a teacher of Asian, American and Russian history at Portsmouth Abbey School from 1965 to 2004. He has taught photography for 20 years and is a professional photographer. He has authored six books on Newport County history. He has a long-standing interest in Russian history, having taught it, more or less, since 1967 and visited the country in 2012.

Hitchcock and Haute Couture: How Hitch Dressed His Stars

With Patricia Lacouture

Three sessions: Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Oct. 16, 23, 30

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$25

In most of the mid-to-latter part of his "American" period, Alfred Hitchcock collaborated with award-winning clothing designer, Edith Head. Hitchcock knew the look he wanted for each film, and Ms. Head was able to deliver what the director had envisioned in his mind's eye. He had often said that actually shooting the film was the least interesting part to him. Designing—having every component of set and costume, among other visual details—was where the films took life.

From the mid-'50s through early '60s, Hitch's work thrilled audiences not only for its suspense but also for its masterful elements of design. In this three-session seminar, we shall look at clips from "Rear Window" and "Vertigo" in close detail as well as other films, such as "To Catch a Thief," "The Birds" and "Marnie." The showpiece of this presentation will feature numerous clips from "Vertigo," as that film most clearly captures the director's preoccupation with women's clothing. The course will highlight the most significant "bits" of these films in what, hopefully, will shed new light on a legendary old school director.

Patricia Lacouture has taught Film Studies since 1992. An alumna of Boston University, she

did a teaching assistantship there. She has taught at Rhode Island College and continues to teach at Salve Regina. She has written about film since 1986.

Argentina, Brazil and Chile: Three Democracies in the Southern Cone

With Evelyn Cherpak

Six Sessions: Thursdays, 3-4 p.m.

Sept. 25; Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Location: Miley Hall Executive Dining Room

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$25

(Please note: seminar is one hour in length.)

This course will cover the history, politics, society and culture of Argentina, Brazil and Chile from their colonial beginnings to the present day. The major challenges and problems that these three dynamic countries face in the 21st century and their relations with the United States will be considered. The course will consist of lectures, discussion, musical presentations and films during the six sessions.

Evelyn Cherpak holds a Ph.D. in Latin American history from the University of North Carolina. She has taught five courses in Latin American history: Colonial Latin America, Modern Latin America, The Military in Latin America, Central America and the Caribbean and Contemporary Problems in Central and South America.

The English Country House: Downton Abbey in Context

With Rebecca Leuchak

Eight Sessions: Thursdays, 4-6 p.m.

Sept. 25; Oct. 2, 16, 23, 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 15 **Cost:** \$65

Please see the seminar description and instructor bio under the Tuesday afternoon session. This will be a duplicate of the seminar offered earlier in the week. Choose only one day of the week when registering.

Richard Wagner's "Lohengrin"

With Louis Mainelli

Six Sessions: Thursdays, 5-7 p.m.

Sept. 25; Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$50

"Lohengrin" is seminal work in the oeuvre of Richard Wagner as it is "the" work in which Wagner broke from the traditional forms of opera and laid the groundwork for what were to become his "music-dramas." The course will examine the historical context of Wagner's composition; the prevailing forms of opera; the mythological and historical traces that become the basis for Wagner's libretto; and will be heard/seen via "YouTube" and film. As Lohengrin is the son of Parsifal, although not necessary, some knowledge of "Parsifal" will be helpful.

Louis Mainelli is a former teacher and Mathematics Department Chair in the Darien, Conn., Public School system as well as a teacher at the MET School in Newport. He has taught courses on Wagner's "Ring" as well as "Parsifal," the "fifth" opera in Wagner's Ring, at URI's OLLI program.

Loving Short Fiction-Investigating New Themes

With Barbara McGinty, Crane Anderson and Carol Turcotte

Four Sessions: Fridays, 9-11 a.m.

Sept. 26; Oct. 3, 10, 17

Location: Young Building Boardroom

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$35

The Loving Short Fiction seminar celebrates five years of reading, discussing and loving short stories. As we begin a new list of authors and a study into their important themes, please join us and the class in delving into the treasure that is short fiction. We will take our selections from the sixth edition of "The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction" (new and used copies of the longer version are available from barnesandnoble.com). Each week we will discuss one literary theme through the examinations of two short stories. This discussion-based seminar includes information about the authors and discussions of how each uses the story to create a message. The range of authors extends from James Joyce, Samuel Clemens and Sherwood Anderson to Franz Kafka, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Crane Anderson, Barbara McGinty and Carol Turcotte are retired educators. These

three instructors will facilitate the class discussion of the short stories. They belong to a local book club where they share a mutual

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interest in reading and discussing literature. They have collaborated to provide an open forum for the discussion of short stories.

Film Noir and the Art of the Steal: Desperation, Disenchantment and Disillusionment

With Sam Jernigan

Six sessions: Fridays, 9:30-noon

Sept. 26; Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Location: Casino Theatre, 9 Freebody Street

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$50

Between 1940 and 1960 over 100 American films were produced that can be termed film noir; literally black or dark films. This seminar will concentrate on six films released during the '40s and '50s which deal with a caper of some sort. Join Sam in an exploration of the origins of the modern heist movie. These films have not previously been shown as part of a Circle of Scholars seminar.

Sam Jernigan is a movie enthusiast who spent a significant amount of time in his early years in a projection booth with his father. He has followed film development over the years and has led three previous seminars on film noir plus two study groups for the Second Half Learning Center.

Some Perspectives on World War II

With James Garman

Six Sessions: Fridays, 12:45-2:45 p.m.

Sept. 26; Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, Bazarsky Hall

Class limit: 45 **Cost:** \$50

Now that 69 years have passed since the end of World War II, it is perhaps time to look at the war from an historical perspective. Many questions arise: What were the rivalries and events that brought it about? How did the world explode into a world war just 19 years after the conclusion of the "war to end all wars?" It seems useful to examine the causes, the major participants and other details of this world-changing war. Emphasis will be on the role of the major powers in getting into the war. It is not anticipated that this will be a battle-by-battle account of the war, but rather an effort to see the larger picture in the overall context of 20th-century history.

Please see **James Garman's** bio under "A History of Russia from 1825 to the Present."

Christian Feminism: Calling or Curse?

With Dr. Diane Caplin

Eight Sessions: Fridays, 3-5 p.m.

Sept. 26; Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Nov. 7, 14

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, room 106

Class Limit: 35 **Cost:** \$65

This seminar is designed to introduce students to the relatively new and always controversial topic of feminism in the context of Christian religions. It will give women (and interested men, too) the opportunity to sort through the teachings of their inherited faith traditions, particularly where the role(s) of women in church and society are concerned. The goal is to equip participants to discern what they can, in conscience, accept and what might need updating or rethinking by a mature and authoritative body of believers. The instructor's structured presentation of about 20 minutes is designed to kick off respectful, directed discussion by seminar participants.

Please see **Diane Caplin's** bio under "Life and Death Matters."

Everything You Wanted to Know about "The Mob" but Were Afraid to Ask

With Anthony Pesare

Three Sessions: Saturdays, 9-11 a.m.

Sept. 20; Oct. 4, 18

Location: Antone Academic Center, room 128

Class Limit: 45 **Cost:** \$25

This course will begin by tracing the history of organized crime in America. We will then survey different organized crime groups which exist in the U.S. and throughout the world. The discussion will examine theories and trends in an attempt to understand the reason for the existence of organized crime. Participants will garner a working knowledge of organized crime as it exists today, both nationally and internationally, and the historical perspective from which its existence derives. They will also develop an appreciation for how organized crime affects society including the theoretical functions that organized crime contributes to society. The seminar will feature a practical exercise where participants will form

organized crime groups and experience the issues involved in operating a crime family.

Anthony Pesare was a member of the Rhode Island State Police for 24 years, retiring as major of field operations, second in command of the department. During his career, he worked with the intelligence unit, where he investigated organized crime activities. After leaving the state police, he became dean of the School of Justice Studies at Roger Williams University. In 2004 he left the university to return to law enforcement and presently serves as chief of the Middletown, R.I., Police Department.

Economics of Early Newport (1750 to 1850)

With Kenneth Walsh

Five Sessions: Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon

Oct. 25; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22

Location: Antone Academic Center, room 121

Class limit: 20 **Cost:** \$40

The seminar will start with the works of economists of the time: Adam Smith, Thomas Malthus and David Ricardo. Additional background will be from contemporary texts. Newport's economy will be examined in three stages: the beginning to 1776, 1776 to 1812, and 1812 to the end of the merchant economy. Two field trips will be included. First is to smuggling sites at Third Beach and Aaron Lopez's farm. The second will be to a revolutionary redoubt built by the French in 1780. Newport's economic recovery began with the arrival of the French. Handouts and discussion questions will be provided and time will be allotted at the end of each class for discussion.

Kenneth Walsh has a Ph.D. in economics and serves as the director for research for the Middletown Historical Society.

The Architecture of Furniture

With Stephen Rosasco

Two sessions: Saturdays, 9-noon

Oct. 18, 25

Location: Antone Academic Center, room 107

Class Limit: 20 **Cost:** \$25

This seminar will cover a wide variety of topics about antique furniture and its restoration. Using slides, artifacts, restoration projects, demonstrations and hands-on participation, participants will gain a three-dimensional

understanding of the craft. We will learn how to identify antiques from a workshop perspective, using artifacts to determine age and authenticity. Additional topics include the evolution and use of natural elements in furniture decoration and construction as well as the restoration and conservation of varying aspects of antique restoration and art objects.

Stephen Rosasco has been restoring antique furniture and decorative art objects in Newport since 1973. He was the assistant furniture conservator for the Preservation Society of Newport County, then their furniture restorer for eight years. In addition, Stephen has lectured extensively, including Brown University, Salve Regina University and Redwood Library and Athenaeum, and taught workshops at the International Yacht Restoration School in Newport.

Taking the Inward Journey

With Linda Morse

Four sessions: Saturdays, 9-11 a.m.

Oct. 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8

Location: O'Hare Academic Center, room 106

Class limit: 30 **Cost:** \$35

This four-week seminar will introduce participants to the benefits of relaxation, movement and stretching. Each session will focus on a different technique designed to enhance wellness through a gentle mind-body approach. This interactive seminar will feature one session on each of the following topics: Six Movements for a Happy Spine, Introduction to Yoga, the Chakra Energy System, and Meditation. No prior experience is necessary and all levels of ability are welcome. Participants may choose to bring a yoga mat but all movement can be done using a chair if preferred.

Linda M. Morse has been a yoga and meditation practitioner most of her life, teaching for more than 15 years, and is certified professionally through the Kripalu Center in Stockbridge, Mass. She owned and operated the Yoga Center in Melbourne, Fla., for many years. Linda has taught with URI's OLLI program and at UNC-Asheville.