



Baldwin Wallace University

Baldwin Wallace University Institute for Learning in Retirement – East 2024 Fall Quarter Schedule

The Fall Term will begin on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024, and run for 7 weeks, skipping October 1-3 and October 17, and ending on Thursday, October 31, 2024.** There will also be one-session presentations offered during this period. **UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, CLASSES WILL BE GIVEN AT TEMPLE EMANUEL, LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF BRAINARD AND EMERY ROADS.** Please note that **registration is by postal mail only** and is **due by September 12.** To receive registration material if you are not currently on the mailing list, fill out an information request form or call 440-826-2400.

TUESDAYS, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

ART IN FOCUS – A Different Approach to Art (ZOOM COURSE) 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.

Are we doing this again? Yes! Come along for the fun.

Chinese Religions 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Presenter: Jim Heaney, Ph.D.

Religion in China from the humanism of Confucius, the dazzling insights of Taoism, and the spirituality of a Buddhist Empire to the Little Red Book of Chairman Mao. Unknowing and The Way to ultimate truth.

Introduction to 19th Century Russia through Literature 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Presenter: Laura Blunk, Ph.D.

This course will examine the main themes and events in 19th century Russia by connecting them through the themes and events discussed in some of the major literary works of the time. Students WILL NOT be expected to read or even be familiar with the works discussed (though, of course, if you are familiar with them, our class discussions will be more fun!). We will focus on Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, Dostoevsky's *Brothers Karamazov*, Turgenev's *Fathers and Sons* and Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*.

Universal Mysticism 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Presenter: Joe Geiger, M.A.

For centuries men and women from multiple ethnic backgrounds, world cultures, and varied philosophic and spiritual traditions have pondered and examined many aspects of who we are, what we are, where we are, and how answers to these questions impact our daily lives. This course aims to share the observations on these universal issues from a wide variety of traditions such as Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, Sufi, Yoga, etc. These include twenty-five mystics I will share with you on the first day of the course and encourage you to choose on which you are most interested in focusing during our six sessions. You will also have an opportunity to share some of your own most powerful and effective mysticism sources. —In grace and gratitude, Joe Geiger

Poetry Scramble 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Presenter: Marge Geiger, Ph.D.

Poetry is a multi-faceted creature that can surprise us and move us in many ways. It can be about anything and can communicate through many different formats. It can be story, song, protest, humor, vignettes. The forms it assumes can be almost limitless. This course will take participants on a poetry journey to demonstrate that the art form is not that stodgy old piece your English teacher made you memorize. Do you love poetry already? Then come and share what you love about it. Have you never cared for poetry? At the end of the six-week course you will say, “What’s not to like?”

Cleveland: From Wilderness to Industrial Giant**2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.****Presenter: Ayad Rahim, M.A.**

In this course we will track the growth and development of our city from before Moses Cleaveland arrived here in 1796, through its rise in the mid-19th century, and up to its zenith as one of the world's wealthiest and most productive cities. Along the way, we'll highlight representative individuals in various phases and fields, including trade, immigration, transportation, industry, culture, and sports. We'll also examine the regional, national, and global trends that contributed to them.

WEDNESDAYS, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 18, 2024**The Great Inventions That Shaped Civilization****9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.****Presenter: Stephen Thompson, B.S.**

Inventions are a roadmap of human development. The great ones redirect our progress, enhancing not just our lives, but our species' survival. We will chronicle the key advances they have enabled us to harness nature to outcompete our rivals - propelled us from the caves to the moon - from a life expectancy of 20 years to over 80 years in levels of luxury and comfort medieval kings could not have even imagined. Bring your favorite invention candidates and see how they compare.

Three Comic Films with Dark Histories**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.****Presenter: Rick Burgess, M.Ed.**

We'll look at "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" with Zero Mostel, a Blake Edwards movie "After the Fox" with Peter Sellers, and "Shack Out on 101", a 'B' movie with Mrs. Howard Hughes and Lee Marvin in his first major role. All are extremely funny with dark secrets about their production.

Abraham and Moses in the Islamic Tradition**11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.****Presenter: Zeki Saritoprak, Ph.D.**

Discover the profound significance of two pivotal figures in Islamic tradition, Abraham and Moses, through this captivating and enlightening course. Delving into their narratives, teachings, and enduring legacies, this course offers a comprehensive exploration of prophethood and the roles of these two Messengers of Allah within Islam, shedding light on their revered status and timeless relevance. Drawing upon primary Islamic sources, the course will explore in particular the stories of Abraham and Moses in the Holy Qur'an. It will also foster a nuanced understanding of their universal appeal and enduring significance. This is a repeat of the course given in the Spring.

What Light Is, and How We Found Out**12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.****Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.**

Light has been a mystery since the dawn of civilization. Many different ideas about it have arisen and then fallen by the wayside. Today we know exactly how it works, but it is still mysterious in many ways. The story of how we came to our current understanding is a fascinating journey from darkness into light. No math or physics is required.

A Look at the First Amendment--Free Speech:**Wide Open or Contained?--Only Time and the Supreme Court Will Tell** **2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.****Presenter: Barbara Greenberg, J.D.**

Our freedom of speech comes from the First Amendment. But like all of our rights, none are absolute and without some restrictions. Our sessions will focus on the right to free speech and its limitations. Our foundation will include current and landmark Supreme Court decisions and federal legislation on this topic.

THURSDAYS, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 19, 2024**(Classes will meet 1½ hours for five weeks, skipping October 3 and October 17.)**

Debating the Future of Religion**9:30 p.m. – 11:00 a.m.****Presenter: Hugh Burtner, Ph.D.**

Few dispute the CURRENT influence of religion, but what does the future of religion look like? This is a fraught question we will explore, using two recent books as reference points (H. Cox's "The Future of Faith", and P. Kitcher's "Life After Faith: The Case for Secular Humanism"). As we follow the claims of these writers, we will also sample the potpourri of religious options all around us. Join me for a challenging set of sessions on this topic.

The Evolution of the British Monarchy**11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.****Presenter: Teresa Marano, Ph.D.**

When Queen Elizabeth II died in 2022, the world asked, "Will the British monarchy survive?" That question is being asked again as health, social media, and conspiracy "crises" arise surrounding the members of Charles III's family in 2024. Yet history shows the British monarchy has not just survived but thrived while other European monarchies have been overthrown. Why? The evolution of the monarchy will be traced from absolute monarchy to constitutional monarchy and from empire to commonwealth of nations, looking at dynasties that ruled England, then Great Britain, and finally the United Kingdom.

The Greatest Symphonies Not Composed by Beethoven**11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.****Presenter: Richard Polster**

Listen to and learn about the greatest symphonies ever composed (besides those by Beethoven). What made them favorites over 100 years after they were written? Enjoy symphonies by popular symphonic composers such as Dvorak and Brahms (and others) as well as lesser known but equally deserving ones... Franck, Saint-Saens (and others). Why was Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony" unfinished? Why was his "Great C Major Symphony" never published during his lifetime? Discover new masterpieces as well as enjoy the old stand-bys.

Dustin Hoffman: A Very Gifted Actor (Part I)**1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.****Presenter: William Rafalski**

We will take a close look at the very talented actor, Dustin Hoffman, by watching selected movies that show his acting range. The first movie, *The Graduate*, is a complex comedy that made him a star. The second movie is the intriguing western, *Little Big Man*, with Dustin as Chief Dan George and also stars Faye Dunaway. The third movie is the thriller, *Marathon Man*, with Laurence Olivier and Ray Scheider. Then comes the Oscar winning film about divorce, *Kramer vs. Kramer*, with Meryl Streep and Justin Henry. The last film is the gender-bending comedy, *Tootsie*, with Terri Garr, Bill Murray, and Jessica Lange. Hope to see you in class.

THURSDAYS, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 26, 2024**Election Updates (ZOOM COURSE)****September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7****Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.****9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

Welcome to 2024. Ready or not, here comes the Presidential Election, the Ohio Senate Election, elections for every member of the U.S. House of Representatives, new gerrymandered maps for State House and Senate, and more snarking, sniping, and scrapping than you can possibly imagine. Want to make sense of it all? Keep up with actual facts? Then sign up for our periodic updates. Trust me on this -- you won't be able to escape or ignore it -- so you might as well make sense of it.

SINGLE SESSION PRESENTATIONS

Internet Humor 2

Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.

More smiles, chuckles, and belly laughs are coming your way, with a new batch of jokes and cartoons, as well as funny pictures, quotes, songs, and videos from the internet. Laughter is the best medicine for relieving, at least temporarily, our worries about an uncertain future for our country and the world.

Tuesday, September 17

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Cleveland Museum of Art Explores Judaica

Presenter: Steven Litt, Art and Architectural Critic for the Plain Dealer

A new exhibition at the Cleveland Museum of Art focuses on seven examples of Judaica on loan from The Jewish Museum in New York. The exhibit places Torah crowns, finials, spice containers and other liturgical objects in display cases set within galleries focusing on Islamic art, 17th century and 19th century European painting, and Korean art. We'll discuss the objects on view, the communities they represent, and how the installation sets off sparks in a museum that honors religions and cultures from around the world but that until now has never exhibited Judaica.

Tuesday, September 24

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Laugh for the Health of It!

Presenter: Christine Smith, Certified Laughter Yoga Leader & Trainer

Review the science of laughter (literally how laughter affects our physical body, mind and emotions). Learn about the many health benefits of laughing as well as little known facts about laughter. Explore beliefs about laughter and what holds us back from laughing. Most importantly, experience the benefits of laughing when we do laughter activities based on Laughter Yoga. To conclude the program, we review and briefly discuss the many ways we can bring lightheartedness and laughter into our lives!

Tuesday, September 24

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

A Brief History of Dental Diseases

Presenter: Fred A. Rosenberg, D.D.S.

Dental maladies have affected mankind for thousands of years. This talk will explore the history of these diseases, their causes and what measures have been taken over the years to prevent them. The lecture will be supplemented by a richly documented slide presentation.

Wednesday, September 25

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Fun Facts About Psychology

Presenter: Roy Berko, Ph.D.

Taught by a certified counselor and psychology professional, this talk will lead to an understanding of what constitutes the field of psychology, and how it applies to you and the people around you.

Thursday, September 26

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

The Freedom to Read: The Cuyahoga Library Perspective

Presenter: Wendy Bartlett, CCPL Collection Dev. & Acquisitions Mgr.

We will discuss "book banning"—the attempts to pull books out of libraries. Bartlett will give an update on both the national and state scenes and explain what happens when a challenge to the freedom to read occurs right here in Cuyahoga County.

Tuesday, October 8

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Developing Issues in the World of Higher Education

Presenter: Louis Raffis, KSU Honors College Advisory Board Member

We will look at several major demographic issues that are confronting college administrators, affecting the very health and well-being of America's system of higher education. Foremost among these are the sharp declines in the number of college-age young people in the U.S. and in the number of young people choosing to attend college. We will look at what is happening and also what is still to come. We will close with a brief review of the very popular U.S. News College Ranking, and discuss some cheating scandals carried out by college administrators. We ask the question, "Is there not a better way to determine how to pick a quality school for our children?"

Wednesday, October 9

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

What's Behind the Terrorism We Face

Presenter: Ayad Rahim, M.A.

After 9/11, people kept asking the question, "Why did they do this?" Rarely, though, have we gotten to the root of it all. In this talk, we'll go inside the Arab world and mind, to get at the historical origins, geographic boundaries, and psychological underpinnings of the terrorism we face.

Thursday, October 10

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.