



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

The spring Term will begin on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, and run for six weeks, most courses ending on Thursday, May 9, 2024. There will also be some one-session lectures 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 due by March 28. To receive registration material if you are not currently on the mailing list, fill out an information request form or call 440-826-2400.

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### TUESDAYS, BEGINNING APRIL 2, 2024

(PLEASE NOTE: Tuesday in-person classes will meet 1 ½ hours for five weeks, skipping April 23<sup>rd</sup>.)

**ART IN FOCUS – A Different Approach to Art**  
9:30-10:45 a.m. Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.  
(ZOOM CLASS ONLY)

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

**The Middle East at War – Who are the Players and What are They Playing for?**  
11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Presenter: Peter Haas, Ph.D.  
The Middle East is constantly engaged in civil wars and regional conflicts that threaten to erupt into more full-scale wars. Although many of the underlying tensions go back centuries, the shape of the current crises grew out of the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the dissolution of the Islamic caliphate in the 1920s. To understand what has happened in the last 100 years, it is important to see what each community sees in the current situation as its most existential threats. To this end, the course will look at the religious and political aspirations of such players as Iran, Saudi Arabia, Hezbollah, Hamas, and the PLO.

**Let's Go into the Wayback Machine!**  
11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Presenter: Gerry Nemeth, B.S.  
We will look at defunct area amusement parks that exist only in our hearts and memories: Euclid Beach Park, Chippewa Lake Park, Geauga Lake Park, and Puritas Springs Park. We will also cover the Richfield Coliseum, Front Row Theater, and Cleveland Arena. And we will take a look at vintage commercials and cartoons. Prizes and a few surprises!

**Goodbye to All That: Literature of the First World War by Those who Experienced It**  
12:45-2:15 p.m. Presenter: Laura Blunk, Ph.D.  
More of a history class than a literature class, this course will focus on the writings and experiences of people who lives through, fought in, and served in World War One rather than on literary works or tropes. For obvious reasons, we will concentrate on English writers such as Rupert Brooke, Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon (yes, he's English), Robert Graves, J.R.R. Tolkien, and Americans such as John DosPassos, Jesse Redmon, and Ernest Hemingway. French (Henri Barbusse and Romain Rolland, Germany (the feud between Thomas Mann and his brother Heinrich, Italian, and Russian works will also be considered.

**Do We Recite It or Sing It?**  
12:45-2:15 p.m. Presenter: Marge Geiger, Ph.D.  
Or do we do both? Poetry! Song! Are they different? Are they the same? Does one supersede the other? Let's find out. In these classes filled with rhythm and sound, we will explore the relationship between what we think of as a "poem" and what we label "song." From medieval ballads to American blues, from Beethoven to Bob Dylan, from Alfred Lord Tennyson to Wilfred Owen, we will discover that poetry/song lines are often inextricably combined. Enroll in the session and get your feet tapping.

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### WEDNESDAYS, BEGINNING APRIL 3, 2024

**Alternative American Religions**  
9:30-10:45 a.m. Presenter: Hugh Burtner, Ph.D.  
We will examine lesser known and more unusual religions in America that have evolved out of mainstream Christianity. This includes Christian Science, Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Assemblies of God, and Mormons.

**The Symphonies of Beethoven**  
9:30-10:45 a.m. Presenter: Richard Polster, Ph.D.  
What makes Beethoven's symphonies so enjoyable to hear? Beethoven was and still is one of the most revered composers due to his symphonies. Each different. Each a classic. We'll take apart six of them and discover the genius of each.

**Unknown Stories of America**  
11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Presenter: Steven Schecter, M.A.  
Six different stories rarely discussed in the history books: *George Washington and the Three Enslaved Patriots*; *The Mystery of Washington's Head Chef*; *Hercules and the Slave who Saved Washington's Possessions*; *Jefferson and the Hemmings Family*: Did Jefferson father children from one of his slaves? Evidence will be presented. *Jefferson's Monticello and the Jewish Family that Saved It*; *Monticello to Graceland: Jefferson and Elvis*, *Two American Icons*: Visitors by the thousands go to these two houses. We compare/contrast. *Two American Geniuses: Hamilton and Jefferson and the Caribbean*: A look at Hamilton's youth in the Caribbean and a Hamilton comparison with Jefferson.

**Adventures in Math, Part 2**  
12:30-1:45 p.m. Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.  
In Part 1, we played mostly with whole numbers. In Part 2, there is still more fun ahead with such numbers, but we will expand our playground equipment to include negative numbers, fractions, and decimals (not the boring stuff from 4<sup>th</sup> grade). And finally, we'll learn about a type of number that feels like visiting another dimension, and the mysteries of infinity. As before, there will be connections to geometry. We'll run some interesting computer simulations, and explore impossible shapes, palindromic numbers, and magic squares. Part 1 is not a prerequisite, but curiosity is required.

**Abraham and Moses in the Islamic Tradition**  
12:30-1:45 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.

### **The State of Voting Rights in America**

**2:00-3:15 p.m. Presenter: Barbara Greenberg, Ph.D.**

We will look at the U.S. Constitution, the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Supreme Court cases which changed the voting opportunities for our citizens historically and currently. Several cases are currently before the Supreme Court, and we will discuss those cases, their potential outcomes, and the affect those decisions may have on the election of 2024.

### **THURSDAYS, BEGINNING APRIL 4, 2024**

#### **The New Royals of Windsor**

**11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Presenter: Teresa Marano, Ph.D.**

Who are Peter, Zara, William, Harry, Eugenie, Beatrice, Louise, and James? Members of an exclusive club are these grandchildren of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip who represent the New Royals of the House of Windsor. Although these cousins called Queen Elizabeth “Granny,” they were raised within a monarchy of protocols and rituals and experienced levels of privilege and scrutiny while progressing from childhood to adulthood. The world watched as they supported each other standing vigil over the coffin of their beloved “Granny” at her funeral and attending the coronation of King Charles III as the House of Windsor entered a new era.

#### **Cosmology: From the Big Bang to Eternity?**

**11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Presenter: Stephen Thompson, B.S.**

We will trace how we arrived at the big Bang Theory and move on to discover how the universe has evolved since then. We will examine how matter came to be and the subsequent development of stars, galaxies, planets, life on Earth, and where it may all be going. What’s this dark energy and matter stuff all about and why do we care? Lots of fabulous Hubble and Webb telescope photos will help us understand what’s going on.

#### **James Cagney: From. Hell’s Kitchen to Hollywood**

**12:30-2:30 p.m. Presenter: Bill Rafalski**

In this course we will watch 6 movies that feature the great movie star, James Cagney. I will discuss Cagney’s upbringing and success in Hollywood. The first movie will be the Oscar-winning, “Yankee doodle Dandy” with Joan Leslie. The second film will be the boxing drama, “City for Conquest.” Week 3 will be the great gangster movie, “The Roaring Twenties” with Humphrey Bogart. In Week 4, we will watch the last gangster movie Cagney made, “White Heat.” Week 5 will showcase the dramatic biography, “Man of 1000 Faces” about the silent movie star, Lon Chaney. In Week 6, I will show the musical drama “Love Me or Leave me” with Doris Day. Hope to see you there.

### **THURSDAYS, BEGINNING MAY 2, 2024**

**Election Updates ZOOM CLASS ONLY**

**9:30-10:45 a.m. Presenter: Michael J. Kaplan, J.D.**

**NOTE: Due to the subject, two consecutive six-session classes are scheduled. Session dates for the first class are May 2, May 16, May 30, June 13, June 27, and July 11. Session dates for the second class are July 25, August 8, August 15, August 29, September 5, and September 12.**

Welcome to 2024. Ready or not, here comes the Presidential Election, the Ohio Senate Election, elections for every member of the US 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 the latest 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.

**Additional dates up to November 7, 2024 will be offered in the fall term.**

### **SINGLE SESSION PRESENTATIONS**

**Cleveland Theatre in Change...It Ain’t What It Used to Be!**

**Wednesday, April 10**

**11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Presenter: Roy Berko, Ph.D.**

Northeastern Ohio has 91 performing theaters and the second largest contiguous theatre complex! Since the pandemic, local performing theater has gone through many changes...new leadership and personnel, changing locations, new affiliations. The dean of the local theatre critics, through facts and stories, will explore and answer questions of what’s been going on and what’s to be expected in the future of 216/440/330 area theater! Delight and learn of the facts and fiction!

#### **Internet Humor**

**9:30-10:45 a.m. Presenter: Carl Sieke, M.S.**

Get ready for an hour and 15 minutes of smiles, chuckles, and belly laughs. Over the last 20 years, I have collected jokes and cartoons, as well as funny cartoons, pictures, songs, and videos from the internet. With the world in flames, we can all use some good, clean fun. This is a repeat of the class given in the winter term.

### **WATCH AT YOUR LEISURE**

**The following class will be presented on YouTube, enabling students to enjoy them when desired. Each week of the term, the instructor will send students an email with instructions and links to her notes and the class of the week.**

### **COOKING FOR 1 OR 2**

**Presenter: Terri Betts, B.G.A., B.S.Ed.**

#### **Easy Main Dishes That Taste Like You Cooked All Day**

Twenty-four proven and delicious main dishes will be demonstrated. You’ll receive a link to a new YouTube video each week explaining how to cook 4 delectable main courses. You’ll also be emailed the straightforward recipes for printing. As always with Terri’s cooking classes, there will be some interesting history provided about the ingredients, methods, and the complete dishes (such as delicious and tender salmon in a spicy sauce with spinach).