



The University of Texas
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

QUEST

Fall 2019 Session Catalog

Fall 2019 Lectures Overview

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Fall 2019 Seminars Overview

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Fall 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays

#1 October 1, 2019
1:00PM—2:15PM

Psychiatry: Unchained, Unhinged, or Unstuck?

With 40 years experience as a practicing psychiatrist, Dr. Robert Taylor will provide guidance on how to find a psychiatrist who treats the whole person, mind and body, without immediately defaulting to psycho drugs as the principal form of treatment.

Coordinator: Elisabeth Moreno



#2 October 1, 2019
2:45PM—4:00PM



Wastewater Treatment or Resource Recovery

Wastewater treatment can actively recover water, energy, nutrients and other high value products. After a brief introduction to wastewater treatment (for non-specialists), Mr. Rajendra Bhattarai will highlight recent innovations which promise to move wastewater treatment from mere disposal to active recovery of not only water but energy, nutrients and other high-value products.

Coordinator: Elisabeth Moreno

#3 October 8, 2019
1:00PM—2:15PM

Tales of Beauty and Drama Along Barton Creek

Many have been to Barton Springs Pool. Fewer have hiked the 8-mile length of the Barton Creek Greenbelt. Even fewer know much about the 50-mile length of the creek through Travis and Hays counties. Mr. Ed Crowell has written a new book with beautiful photos by Alberto Martinez. Their "Barton Creek" tells about the public battles in the 1990s to protect the creek and the landowners, scientists and environmentalists who nurture it today.



Coordinator: Elizabeth Davis

Fall 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

#4 October 8, 2019
2:45PM—4:00PM

What Happened in the Last Legislative Session (Winter/Spring 2019)

Mr. Ross Ramsey is the executive editor and co-founder of The Texas Tribune, a nonpartisan, non-profit media organization that promotes civic engagement and discourse on public policy, politics, government, and other matters of statewide concern. He and Evan Smith keep an eye on goings-on at the legislature and Mr. Ramsey will give us some of the highlights of the recent session.



Coordinator: Woodie Jones

#5 October 15, 2019
1:00PM—2:15PM



Business Ethics: Why is it so Hard to be Good

Though most of us want to think of ourselves as good people, behavioral ethics research reveals that most people frequently act unethically, usually in minor ways. Dr. Robert Prentice will shed light on how and why that happens, what we can do about it and how future business leaders are having their awareness raised through an innovative curriculum entitled “Ethics Unwrapped.”

Coordinator: Elisabeth Moreno

#6 October 15, 2019
2:45PM—4:00PM

UT Planet 2050: Making Texas Resilient

Texas’ population could double by the year 2050. Extreme weather events will bring more floods, more droughts, and more heat. Our state’s resources can’t support those demands. Making Texas resilient is our grand challenge. Planet Texas 2050 is the portion of the Building Bridges Project that focuses on our environment and the challenges we face there and with climate uncertainty. Jonathan Lowell, Community Engagement Specialist for the initiative, will moderate a panel of experts who will discuss their collaborative efforts.



Coordinator: Elisabeth Moreno

Fall 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)



#7 October 22, 2019
1:00PM—2:15PM

How Netflix and Artificial Intelligence Revolutionized the Entertainment Industry.

Dr. Joseph Strubhaar from the UT Communication Department will discuss how Netflix achieved the largest subscriber base in the world by knowing what you want before you do. This presentation will look under the hood at the technology Netflix uses to choose the content it produces as well as adapt the user experience to each individual subscriber.

Coordinator: Ed Kurtzer

#8 October 2, 2019
2:45PM—4:00PM

Dinosaur Life and Death by Impact: New Information on the Asteroid Impact 65 Million Years Ago

Professor Sean Gulick will explain the latest geophysical research in the Yucatan Peninsula which is moving us to a better understanding of what happened "the day the dinosaurs died". The most recent of Earth's five largest mass extinction events ("the day the dinosaurs died") occurred 65 million years ago, triggered by the impact of an approximately 12 kilometer asteroid hitting the Yucatan Peninsula. This impact, by some estimations, drove the extinction of 75% of life on Earth, including all non-avian dinosaurs. The exact kill mechanism has never been fully understood, however.



Coordinator: Lynn Jelinski



#9 October 29, 2019
1:00PM—2:15PM

Pneumonia in Its Many Forms

Dr. Ross Hemphill is a Quest member and a practicing physician. He knows a lot about pneumonia that he can tell us. He will give an overview of the three kinds of pneumonia we are most at risk to acquire in later life and will also include a historical perspective on tuberculosis, pneumonia, Legionnaires pneumonia and HIV related pneumonia.

Coordinator: Beth Moreno

Fall 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

#10 October 29, 2019
2:45PM—4:00PM

Peace Corps: Stories of Seniors Who Have Served and Dreams for Those Who Might

Mr. Brendan Cavanagh is the national recruiter for the Peace Corps headquartered in Central Texas. He has worked locally and abroad for the Peace Corps since 1999. Usually, a volunteer makes a two year commitment to the Corps. A volunteer gives, but also receives many blessings (and often funny stories). He will share some of the stories of seniors who have served in the Corps and a view of the needs and adventures still possible.



Coordinator: Myron Gottlieb



#11 November 5, 2019
1:00PM—2:15PM

The Judicial Selection Process in Texas

QUEST member and former Judge, Woodie Jones will discuss how Texas selects its judges by partisan election. That requires judges and judicial candidates to run for election as a Democrat or Republican. What are the pros and cons of this system? What do other states do? What are the pros and cons of the various systems that other states use? What are the prospects for a change to the Texas system?

Coordinator: Elizabeth Davis

#12 November 5 2019
2:45PM—4:00PM

Butler School of Music Performs

Expand your musical horizons with another performance by one of the Butler School of Music's stellar graduate ensembles. Hear tomorrow's musical stars today! Mr. Dan Seriff who manages the community outreach efforts of the BSOM and oversees the admission process for new, returning, and continuing grad students has coordinated this event for us.

Coordinator: Scott Kenyon



Fall 2019 Seminars — Thursdays

(Oct 3 — Nov 7) 1:00PM — 2:15PM



Vikings: Raiders, Traders, and Settlers

The Norse of Norway, Denmark, and Sweden went on “Viking” raids sweeping along the beaches and up the rivers of Eastern and Western Europe. It was the shock and awe period of the medieval age. Raiding gave way to trading and settling. They struggled for the mastery of England, they founded Dublin and the Dukedom of Normandy, and they laid the foundations for modern Russia. Exploring westward, they colonized Iceland, Greenland and even had outposts on Newfoundland. They made it to North America 500 years before Columbus, and established a trading network from Baghdad to the North American Coast. The Viking age lasted 300 years, but our fascination is still strong.

This seminar will explore:

- Viking Neighborhood, customs, and culture
- Viking Ships – Engine for expanding horizons and possibilities
- Raiding – Robbery, plunder, extortion...it always works
- Trading – To Russia (and Kiev, Baghdad, Constantinople) with love
- Exploring & Settling – Go west young man and woman
- Rest of the Story – Medieval seafaring and modern legacy

Seminar Director/Speaker:

Todd Clayton was in the US Navy as an officer qualified in nuclear powered submarines. He has an MBA from the Harvard Business School and a BS Industrial Engineering from Northwestern University. He has 30 years of executive marketing experience in the high tech industry in computers and communications. He and his wife Patti are life-long sailors. He and his wife Patti were in the Peace Corps from 2002—2004. They both taught English at two universities in Kazakhstan; additionally Todd taught entrepreneurship.

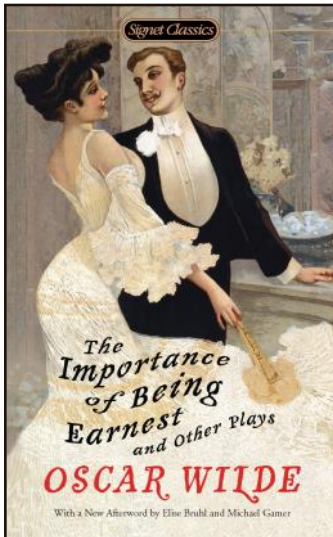


Over the past five years Todd has presented several maritime history seminars to several UT OLLI programs, including: - Harnessing the Wind—America’s Golden Age of Sail- Part I - America's Golden Age of Sail - Part II - Famous and Infamous Sea Voyages - Pirates, Patriots, and Privateers - Into the Vast Unknown—Pacific Ocean Navigators - Britannia Rules the Waves - Vikings; Raiders, Traders, and Settlers.

Seminar Coordinator: Jerry Shackelford

Fall 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct 3 — Nov 7) 1:00PM — 2:15PM

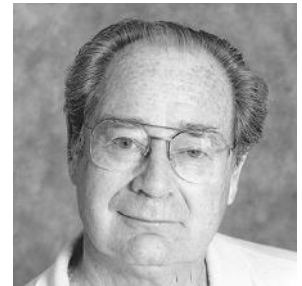


Don't Laugh, We're British

Join our amusing look at the enduring quality of English comedy from the stages of the Restoration to the brilliant farces of British television. How is it that such an earnest nation that is known throughout history as projecting an image of KEEP A STIFF UPPER LIP NO MATTER WHAT can also give us a pantheon of exotic and often uproarious comedy? We begin with THE RELAPSE drawn from the aristocratic stages of the Restoration. Then Oscar Wilde's THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST gives us a view of a theatre moving to upper and middle class audiences. Finally we take an in depth look at the work of Noel Coward and how his plays prepare us for the often outrageous comedies and farces of our time. You are encouraged to read THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST by Oscar Wilde, and BLITHE SPIRIT by Noel Coward.

Seminar Director/Speaker:

Dr. Gordon Peacock is a theatre scholar and director. Now retired as Professor Emeritus after 15 years as Erwin Professor of Drama at UT, he is also Curator Emeritus in Performing Arts for the Ransom Center. He has directed professionally for: The Pacific Conservatory (CA); The Denver Theatre Center; Theatre du Rideau Vert (Montreal) and the National Theatre School (Stratford.) He has been guest director or lecturer for the Bristol Old Vic School, York University, University of Victoria, University of Tennessee and Southern Methodist University.



His many honors include an honorary LLD, University of Alberta, the Canadian Theatre Award, and election to the Athenaeum, London. He was artistic associate to the Epidaurus Festival in Greece. He was chair of the University of Alberta Drama Dept. for 16 years, head of the Banff Center Theatre for 5 years and head of directing for 11 years at UT. The fifty plays he has directed include several English comedies.

Seminar Coordinator: Lee Wagner

Fall 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct 3 — Nov 7) 1:00PM—2:15PM

Looking Back and Looking Forward: Apollo at 50



As members of the "Great Generation," come relive your first glimpse of the "Earthrise" from the backside of the Moon on Apollo 8, December 23, 1968, and recall where you were when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin set foot on the Moon on July 20, 1969. Hear the engineers tell their stories first-hand. Learn how Apollo advanced our understanding of Earth-Moon system origins and evolution.

Dave Heath and other Team Apollo experts will guide us looking back at Apollo, our first manned explorations to our Moon. We'll look back at UT's past roles and future roles in the NASA planned Moon exploration and habitation missions. Not to be missed, Hum Mandell will address future Mars exploration missions. The legacy of the Apollo Lunar Experiment package lives on 50 years later.

1. Return Him Safely to Earth—David Heath
2. Stories of the Mission Planners—Lee Norbraten
3. Mission Control—Jerry Bostic, Gerry Griffin, and Chuck Deiterich
4. Mars-Mankind's Destiny—Humboldt Mandell
5. Return to the Moon: Resources, Risks and Rewards—Clark Wilson and William Ambrose
6. UT Aerospace Engineering Autonomous GNC for Deep Space Human Exploration—Renato Zanetti

Seminar Director/Speaker: Dave Heath served in the US Naval Reserve for 3 years as an electronics technician. Then he attended the University of Kansas in undergraduate engineering classes, and graduated in 1964 from Washburn University with a BS in mathematics and minor in physics. He was a NASA Mission Planning and Analyses employee from 1964 to 1994, first as the lead reentry specialist for Apollo. Then for the Shuttle, he served as an environmental control and support expert, and AI specialist. His last role at NASA was as a systems Artificial Intelligence software engineer working on early International Space Station configurations. Retiring after 33 years of government service in 1994, Dave moved to Austin, Texas along with his wife, Marilyn.

Seminar Coordinator: Carol McGuire



Fall 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct 3 — Nov 7) 2:45PM — 4:00PM

True Love and Homegrown Tomatoes:

“How local farming and permaculture can help heal the world”

It’s hard to even glance at the news about the climate crisis these days. But if you do, you’ll find inventive farmers, scientists and entrepreneurs all over the world using a design system called permaculture. They’re studying the patterns of nature and imagining new ways to address our food, water and energy needs—while actually *reversing* problems like soil loss, pollution, poverty, deforestation and drought.

In this seminar, you’ll see how farmers and climate experts are using permaculture here in Central Texas—and learn how you can apply those techniques to anything and everything that matters to you.



Seminar Director/Speaker: Anne Woods received her B.A. in Journalism and M.S. in Computer Visualization from Texas A&M University. A passion for sustainability and urban farming prompted her to shift her professional focus from 3D animation and graphic design to metal sculpture and permaculture design, with a specific focus on designing urban landscapes that can provide food and habitat, capture rainwater and restore soil.

To help teach people to grow more of their own food, Anne started DIG, a volunteer project in which she double-dug 25 “starter” food gardens for friends and neighbors over two growing seasons. She has put shovel to soil in countless vegetable gardens around Austin, volunteered and taught for the Sustainable Food Center and Urban Patchwork, and is an erstwhile member of Yard to Market, an Austin-area backyard farming co-op. She thinks there's almost nothing better than slicing into your own homegrown Texas tomato.

Seminar Coordinator: Carol McGuire

Fall 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct 3 — Nov 7) 2:45PM — 4:00PM

How to be an Excellent Human

How can we live good, fulfilling lives? How can we be happy? These questions have been at the forefront of philosophy ever since Socrates, and this seminar, adapted from the presenter's book of the same name, attempts an answer. It addresses big questions:

- How should we live our lives?
- How should we decide how to live our lives?
How should we even frame the question in the first place?
- What is it to be human?
What are we like, how do we function?
- What makes the examined life a better life?



The seminar offers an exhilarating philosophical journey covering the nature of goodness, how we are like and unlike chimpanzees and bonobos, how our emotions both guide us and trip us up, how our thinking works, how it sometimes fails and what we can do to fix it, and how we can take charge of our lives. Throughout, it recommends an approach to life that maximizes well-being, leading to the possibility of happiness and abundance for all.

Seminar Director/Speaker: Bill Meacham, Ph.D., is an independent scholar in philosophy and the author of the books *How To Be An Excellent Human* and *How to Exert Free Will*, both available on his website, <https://bmeacham.com>. He has written numerous essays on philosophical topics as applied to everyday life on his blog "Philosophy for Real Life," <https://bmeacham.com/blog/>. After earning a Ph.D. in Philosophy at UT he spent many years in computers and data processing.



Seminar Coordinator: John Theiss

Fall 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct 3 — Nov 7) 2:45PM—4:00PM

Austin Area Architecture: Where Design, Art, and Life Converge

Six Austin Architects will cover a wide variety of Austin architectural topics:

1. **Architecture That Makes Lives Better—**
Lawrence W. Speck
2. **Where Green Building Is Leading Us—**
Peter Pfeiffer
3. **Convergence of Esthetics and Building Codes—** John Moman
4. **Revitalizing Historical Buildings—**
Emily Little
5. **Extending Lady Bird’s Legacy—** Patrick Newman
6. **Integrating Art in Architecture—** Heather McKinney



Seminar Director/Speaker: Larry Speck came to the faculty of the School of Architecture in 1975 after teaching at M.I.T. for three years. He served as founding director of the Center of American Architecture and Design from 1982-1990, was associate dean from 1990-1992, and dean from 1992-2001. He has maintained an active architectural practice since 1975, initially as Lawrence W. Speck Associates, and since 1999, as a principal in the firm Page. His recent projects include Architecture for Discovery Green in Houston, the Torcasso House in New Mexico, the Chickasaw Health Center in Oklahoma, the new front door addition to Austin Bergstrom International Airport (in addition to the original building) and the new Academic and Administration Building for UT's Dell Medical School. .

Over the last decade Larry has expanded the range of his teaching in the School of Architecture, has been a potent agent for change in the larger University of Texas community, has increased the scope and quantity of projects in his practice.



Seminar Coordinator: Lee Wagner



TEXAS

The University of Texas at Austin



Our lineup of seminars and lectures are subject to change between now and the start of our fall session. Our programming will also change each fall, winter and spring to introduce new content based on the feedback and interests of our members and is chosen by UT OLLI QUEST seminar and lecture committees.

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