



The University of Texas
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

QUEST

Spring 2019 Session Catalog

Spring 2019 Lectures Overview

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Spring 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays

#1 March 19, 2019
3:00PM—4:15PM

George Brackenridge, Developing the Austin Dam, and the Origin of the Brackenridge Field Lab

The landscape and community of the area surrounding the Brackenridge Field Lab (BFL) have been shaped by both human activities and natural events, long before BFL itself was established in the 1960s. Observing the land around BFL in the context of its history allows modern ecologists and their students to better understand the biodiversity that they encounter in the field and appreciate the unique role this distinctive piece of Austin real estate has played. **Lawrence E. (Larry) Gilbert Jr.** is Professor of Integrative Biology and Director of Brackenridge Field Laboratory and The University of Texas.



Coordinator: Beth Moreno

#2 March 19, 2019
4:45PM—6:00PM

Human Trafficking: Problems and Emerging Solutions

Todd Latiolais with the Governor's Office Child Sex Trafficking Team will give a presentation on efforts that the Governor's Office is undertaking to assess the extent of the problem and to begin piloting approaches for effective interventions with commercially trafficked children in Texas. The presentation will touch on risk factors for victims of commercial sex trafficking and explained how behaviors brought on by abuse and trauma make trafficking victims hard to identify and why relapse is so common even if victims escape their trafficker.

Coordinator: Woodie Jones



#3 March 26, 2019
3:00PM—4:15PM

We Wish We Had Called You Sooner!: Hospice Care and What Matters in the End

Many people mistakenly think that hospice care is only for the last few days or hours of life. In reality, hospice care is designed to provide support for both patient and family for months, not days. When hospice is accessed sooner rather than later families report higher satisfaction, more peaceful outcomes, and an easier time moving through their grief. Join **Nancy Chester McCranie**, Director of Volunteer and Bereavement Services for Hospice Austin, for a conversation about the benefits of quality hospice care and why it's important to think and talk about it before you actually need it.

Coordinator: Lynn Jelinski

Spring 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

#4 March 26, 2019
4:45PM—6:00PM

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

At the height of the Pacific War Battle during World War II, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz commanded more than two million men and women, 5,000 ships and 20,000 planes, yet he came from humble and landlocked beginnings. He was born February 24, 1885 to a widowed mother and grew up in the small German community of Fredericksburg, Texas. **Rorie Cartier**, Director of the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, TX, will discuss how this young man accomplished so much from such simple beginnings, with emphasis on his legacy of leadership and examples of the choices he made that made him an exceptional leader.

Coordinator: Myron Gottlieb

#5 April 02, 2019
3:00PM—4:15PM

Crypto Currency: Blockchain Is Not What You Think It Is.



Blockchain technology has been hailed as the new internet 2.0 that will usher in a fourth industrial age, replace all other currency, and much more. Blockchain also has been accused to be the greatest scam in history, a fad, and a slow and unscalable technology. Whether you are a skeptic or an enthusiast of blockchain technology, this forum will challenge your views on this emerging technology. **Cesare Fracassi** teaches Corporate Finance and Valuation at the McCombs School. His research includes work on corporate governance, credit rating agencies, and the effects of social networks and cultural attitudes on financial policies.

Coordinator: Myron Gottlieb

#6 April 02, 2019
4:45PM—6:00PM

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels Central Texas seeks to nourish and enrich the lives of the homebound and other people in need through programs that promote dignity and independent living— offering more than delivered meals. President and CEO, **Adam Hauser**, has been with the organization for more than 30 years and is committed to its life-sustaining mission. He will speak on the program's history and future plans.



Coordinator: Diane Librach

Winter 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

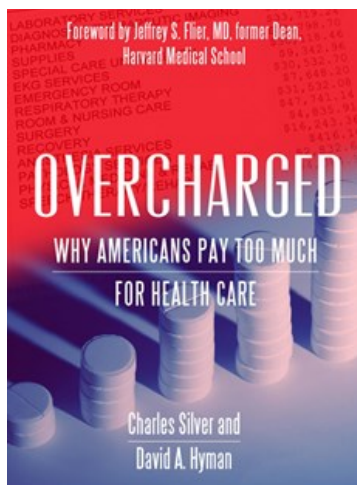
#7 April 09, 2019
3:00PM—4:15PM

Visual Media and Stereotyping

In some ways, visual media have more power than words, which is why people in power have worked so hard to control what we see on the news. This lecture covers the history of visual news, how and why politicians struggle to control their image, and what we need to know today to responsibly navigate today's visual media. **Mary Angela Bock** is a former journalist turned academic with an interest in the sociology of photographic practice, the rhetorical relationship between words and images, and digital media.



Coordinator: Ed Kurtzer



#8 April 09, 2019
4:45PM—6:00PM

Overcharged: Drug pricing and Why Americans Pay Too Much

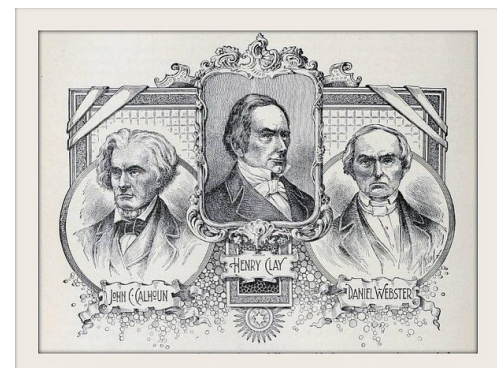
Overcharged: An informative lecture about health care costs and drug monopolies by the man who wrote the book. UT Law professor **Charles Silver**, as a result of his interest in health care costs, has researched and written about this timely subject and will offer answers and details about real reforms which would make the health care system more efficient and consumer friendly if and when it is subjected to the competitive forces that apply to the rest of the economy.

Coordinator: Beth Moreno

#9 April 16, 2019
3:00PM—4:15PM

Heirs of the Founders

UT Professor **H.W. Brands** follows the “great triumvirate” of antebellum politics — Henry Clay from Kentucky, John Calhoun from South Carolina and Daniel Webster from Massachusetts — in their 40-year struggle to come to terms with the vexing problems of slavery and sovereignty left unresolved by our nation's first politicians.



Coordinator: Beth Moreno

Winter 2019 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

#10 April 16, 2019
4:45PM—6:00PM

A Tripod? Nah, Let's Use A Single Engine Cessna

Jay B. Saucedo is an entrepreneur-pilot-photographer who spent six days flyover over Texas in a single-engine Cessna to photograph the state of Texas. Mr. Saucedo will describe the challenges he faced on his adventure and he will show the striking photographs that he amassed from cameras attached to the wings of the Cessna. In his words "I was going a little crazy about how beautiful it was!"

Coordinator: Myron Gottlieb

#11 April 23, 2019
3:00PM—4:15PM

The Austin Symphony/Conspirare production of Leonard Bernstein's MASS

Mela Sarajane Dailey, Grammy-winning soprano and co-founder of consulting and production agency Merick Strategies, will take us behind the scenes to understand the two and a half year planning process which went into the production of Leonard Bernstein's MASS in the Long Center in June, 2018. Over 300 artists and production personnel from across the nation came together to realize the most monumental arts collaboration in the city's history.



Coordinator: Ed Kurtz

#12 April 23, 2019
4:45PM—6:00PM

Investigating Mayan Pyramids with Muons

The UT physics department group under Professor **Roy Schwitters** has developed detectors and data analysis tools, based on techniques of experimental high-energy physics, to image interiors of large underground structures using naturally occurring cosmic ray muons. Professor Schwitters will describe the work of the UT Mayan Muon Group, which has bridged the disciplines of physics and archeology, to image an unexplored Mayan pyramid in Belize.



Coordinator: Nancy Neavel

Spring 2019 Seminars — Thursdays

(March 21—April 25) 1:30PM—3:00PM

S'Wonderful: The Life & Music of George Gershwin



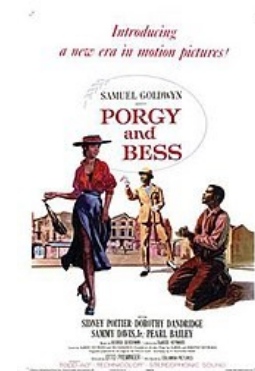
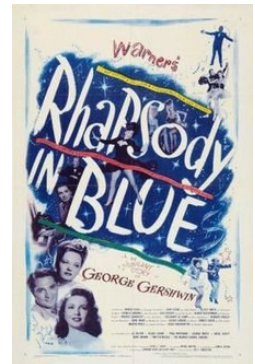
We'll take a close look at George Gershwin, probably the most beloved composer of both popular and orchestral music in our history.

His incredible talent and energy made him an American hero as he produced songs for all phases of popular music, with lyrics by his brother Ira.

His interest in jazz and blues propelled him to combine music of white folks and black folks. For the concert hall, he wrote works that included Rhapsody in Blue, An American in Paris and the folk opera, Porgy & Bess.

We'll trace his growing up in Manhattan, his first hit song, "Swanee," as well as Broadway and film musicals before his tragic death at age 38.

And we'll view film performances by Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Paul Whiteman, Sammy Davis Jr., Pearl Bailey, Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland, Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron and others.



Seminar Director/Speaker: Jerry Conn has combined journalism (including reviewing the performing arts), public relations, stints in the Army and the Texas Governor's Office, and teaching on the college level.

A life-long song and dance man, Jerry now specializes in the great pop songs, shows and performers of the 20s-50s in classes and cabaret shows.

Spring 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(March 21—April 25) 1:30PM—3:00PM

Immunity and Cancer: A Gentle Introduction



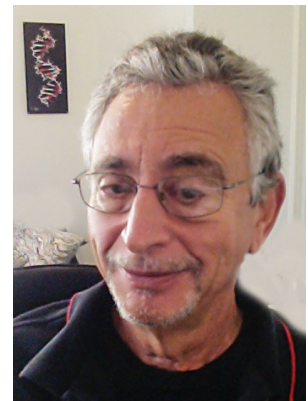
“This seminar will focus on my year long attempt to teach myself the basic biology of immunology and cancer, two subjects that I was completely ignorant of despite my background in molecular biology.

For reasons that I’ll explain, I became interested in these areas last year. The seminar will not be a guide to individual therapies. No medical advice will be offered.

Instead, I will describe the basic mechanics of how immunity works, how tumors develop, and the creative ways that genetic engineers are manipulating the immune system in order to combat cancer.

If you’d like to see how the course will be structured, head over to my website, billsofer.com, and look at the entries under Bill’s Blog.”

Seminar Director/Speaker: William “Bill” Sofer had a 38 year long academic research and teaching career in the field of molecular genetics, first at Baltimore’s Johns Hopkins University and then at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He is the author of over 35 scientific papers and 6 educational computer programs. He moved to Austin in 2007 to join his son, daughter-in-law, and two grandsons and has been a UT OLLI SAGE member since 2008.



Spring 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (March 21—April 25) 1:30PM—3:00PM

Wines of the World

Journey through famed wine regions of the world as we explore key flavor components and identify great wines for your palate and table. Added in tips on food pairing and serving.



Week 1) France — Savor the heritage of France’s world-renowned wine regions as we learn about the seven noble grapes. All the French you need to know.

Week 2) Australia and New Zealand — Are you aware that the distance between Australia and New Zealand is the same as the distance between Austin and the Canadian border? Despite the distance, we will attempt to fit their most famed wine regions into one session. Come ready to absorb!

Week 3) Spain and Portugal — Escape to the Iberian Peninsula to curate an abundant wine list overflowing with distinctive grapes and styles.

Week 4) The Americas — There’s no place like home. Valleys and mountains and deserts, oh my! Traverse North and South America as we unearth wines from an impressive array of climates and soils.

Week 5) Germany and Austria — Adventure awaits as we trek from the steep slopes of the Mosel to the Austrian Alps to discover wines with ‘altitude.’

Week 6) Italy — While meandering through the rolling hills from Piemonte to Puglia, there is time for a leisurely pause in Tuscany to get to know the grape at the heart of Italian wine.



Seminar Director/Speaker: Shel East is a certified sommelière and wine consultant with extensive classroom and conference teaching experience. Whether curating a restaurant wine list, consulting for an event or teaching, she loves discussing the gloriously detailed world of wine and helping others connect with wines that fit their preferences.

Spring 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(March 21—April 25) 3:30PM—5:00PM

An Introduction to Western Classical Music in Six Short Movements

Join beloved, longtime UT OLLI contributor Dan Seriff on a journey through time as he shares his vast expertise on how classical music, as we know it, came to be.

Week 1) The Middle Ages (ca. 6th-13th centuries) - Many modern listeners know the sound of “Gregorian” chant after its brief revival of the 1980s and ‘90s, but Medieval secular music and early forms of polyphony are much less familiar.

Week 2) The Renaissance (ca. 1400-1600) - New ideas about artistic expression and the social function of art, as well as developments in musical instruments, underpinned a proliferation of secular vocal and instrumental music, while the invention of the printing press in 1440 had a dramatic effect on how music of all types was disseminated and received.

Week 3) The Baroque (ca. 1600-1750) - Driven by efforts to emulate ancient Greek drama, opera exploded onto the European musical stage virtually overnight around the turn of the 17th century, and can be considered the defining musical genre of the Baroque period.

Week 4) The Classical Era (ca. 1750-1800) - The rise of aristocratic patronage, especially of instrumental music, led composers away from the complex grandeur of the Baroque and into lighter, clearer, and simpler styles meant for entertainment and amusement. This short period begins with several charming and largely forgotten composers, and ends with the rise of Beethoven.

Week 5) Romanticism (ca. 1800-1910) - The Romantic movement emphasized concerns with emotional expression and individualism. New developments in musical instrument construction fueled the advent of the modern professional orchestra, especially in the second half of the 19th century, and gave composers reliable, high-quality ensembles upon which to place their work.

Week 6) The 20th Century and Beyond (ca. 1910-present) - The proliferation of different styles and compositional approaches can be overwhelming even for the most seasoned listener: impressionism, expressionism, free atonality, musique concrète, electroacoustic music, total serialism, aleatory, microtonalism, neoclassicism, jazz, minimalism, and others have had their moments.

Seminar Director/Speaker: Dan Seriff manages the community outreach efforts of the BSOM and oversees the admission process for new, returning, and continuing grad students. He received a Master of Music degree in Musicology from the Butler School in 2003.



Spring 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(March 21—April 25) 3:30PM—5:00PM

Evolution of Life by Natural Selection from Darwin to Evo-Devo

The evolution of life on Earth by its mechanism of natural selection will be presented. Charles Darwin's radical, revolutionary, and reluctant theory is explained in detail.

From Darwin's extraordinary voyage on the HMS Beagle to the current science of evolutionary developmental biology (Evo-Devo), evolution, its formidable array of evidence, its mechanism by natural selection, and its relevance to today are thoroughly explored.



Week 1) Introduction to weeks 1-6: Darwin's Life & Times, Voyage of the HMS Beagle and Aftermath, & Scientific Theories

Week 2) Categories of Evidence for Evolution, Visualizing Geologic Time, & Overview of Evolution of Life on Earth

Week 3) Natural Selection (The Mechanism for Evolution or How Evolution Happens): Basic principles & Natural vs. Artificial Selection

Week 4) The How Might Life Have Evolved? & Why is Evolution Vitrally Important for Us to Understand?

Week 5) EVO DEVO (Evolutionary Developmental Biology) and its Impact on Studying Evolution, "Tool Kit" (HOX) Genes, & Using Evolutionary Concepts to Engineer Solutions to Real-World Problems

Week 6) Human Evolution: "The Descent of Man" from Darwin to Present & "Endless Forms Most Beautiful"

Seminar Director/Speaker: Nancy AufderHeide graduated with Bachelors and Masters Degree in Biology from University of Missouri. She worked in cancer research at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, Wistar Institute, and Monsanto Company in its Life Science Division. She taught science in Wisconsin Public Schools for 23 years at the middle and high school levels, during which time she received multiple awards.



Spring 2019 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.) (March 21—April 25) 3:30PM—5:00PM

The Silent Centuries: The 400 Years between the Old and New Testaments

The Silent Centuries Seminar will discuss a period of time in ancient history when Biblical history went silent. The period covered is from 536 BC until the birth of Christ and the formation of the Christian Church - the New Testament Era.

It is the story of the Jewish people and the history of their culture in this largely silent era. The 400 years between the last book of the Old Testament, Malachi and Matthew, the first book of the New Testament is the period of time under discussion.



Week 1) The Restoration to the Jewish homeland from Babylon and Rule by Persia (536 - 332 BC)

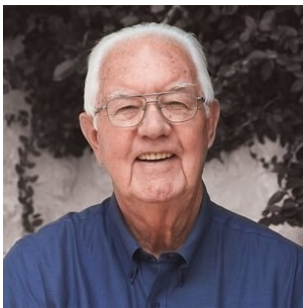
Week 2) The rise of Greece and the Ptolemies and Seleucids (332 - 168 BC)

Week 3) The Maccabean Revolt (168-135 BC)

Week 4) The Hasmonean Dynasty with its growth and decay (135 - 63 B)

Week 5) The Roman Era (63 BC - New testament Times)

Week 6) The First Century Church and Judaism



Seminar Director/Speaker: A native of Illinois, **Dean Busboom** attended Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana on a scholarship to play basketball and baseball. There he received a degree in History, Psychology and Sociology. After two years of playing pro baseball, he enrolled at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa and received a Master of Divinity degree. Busboom served Lutheran parishes for 32 years including 20 years in Austin. He especially enjoyed teaching Bible classes.



TEXAS

The University of Texas at Austin



Our lineup of seminars and lectures are subject to change between now and the start of our spring 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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