



The University of Texas
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

QUEST

Fall 2018 Session Catalog

Fall 2018 Lectures Overview

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Fall 2018 Seminars Overview

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Fall 2018 Lectures — Tuesdays

#1 October 02, 2018
3:00PM—4:15PM

Update on Texas Politics: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

With 40 years of experience in Texas politics, including a four-year stint as mayor of Austin, **Senator Kirk Watson** is well qualified to assess the challenges facing the Texas legislature in its next session. He will comment on the upcoming mid-term elections and field questions from the audience. Senator Watson can also be expected to update us on his latest initiative, the Campaign Academy, which introduces future leaders to the nuts and bolts of political campaigning.

Coordinator: Nancy Neavel



#2 October 02, 2018
4:45PM—6:00PM

Investigating Mayan Pyramids with Muons

The first major experiment of the Maya Muon Group under **Professor Roy Schwitters** will bridge the disciplines of physics and archeology. The group will use particle detectors and related systems designed specifically to explore ruins of a Maya pyramid in collaboration with colleagues at the UT Mesoamerican Archaeological Laboratory. The Maya Muon Group will travel to La Milpa in northwest Belize to make discoveries about “Structure 1”—a jungle-covered mound covering an unexplored Mayan ruin.

Coordinator: Beth Moreno

#3 October 09, 2018
3:00PM—4:15PM

Net Neutrality: Is Anything Neutral?

There is much debate about net neutrality. Recently the FCC ruled to repeal net neutrality protections that governed all internet service providers. In simple terms, net neutrality prohibited internet service providers (ISPs) from throttling, blocking, prioritizing, or censoring any content on the Internet. There was substantial pushback from popular media, intellectuals, and businesses that eliminating net neutrality rules would inhibit innovations, increase costs for consumers, and reduce competition. ISPs argue that net neutrality rules are overburdening and they lack any incentives to invest and improve services. **Dr. Pradhubev Konana** will discuss arguments both in favor and against net neutrality. What is the truth? Or, the debate for net neutrality is never neutral and it is just in the eye of the beholder?

Coordinator: Alyce Richardson

Fall 2018 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

#4 October 09, 2018
4:45PM—6:00PM

US/Mexico Relations: Where are we?

An update on our complex relationship with Mexico, in light of Mexico's July 2018 presidential election and recent tensions over trade and immigration. **Dr. Kenneth Green's** focus is on authoritarian regimes and political competition in new democracies, with a particular emphasis on Mexico. He studies the hyper incumbency advantages of dominant parties, researches vote buying and the quality of elections. He teaches on research methods, political parties, Mexico's politics, and US-Mexico relations.

Coordinator: Elaine Dill

#5 October 16, 2018
3:00PM-4:15PM

Why Fidel Castro Turned Communist

When his revolution triumphed on January 1, 1959, Fidel Castro had not fought as a member of the Communist Party or as a sympathizer. One of his closest associates on the left, Ernesto "Che" Guevara, described Castro as a "revolutionary nationalist." Yet within two years, Castro declared that he had been a Communist all his life. The announcement stunned even his closest advisers and collaborators of many years. **Dr. Jonathan Brown** will examine why Fidel and the revolution that ostensibly sought an end to dictatorship in Cuba and a return to constitutional elections veered radically to the left and made an alliance with the Soviet Union.

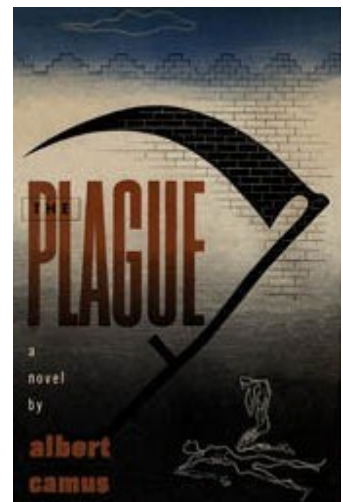
Coordinator: Alyce Richardson

#6 October 16, 2018
4:45PM—6:00PM

Philosophy, Metaphor and the Human Condition in Albert Camus' *The Plague*

The impact of plagues upon societies, not only in terms of illness and death, but their effect upon the course of history, religion, society, ethics and scientific research. **Dr. Kenneth Shine** will illustrate these principles through Albert Camus' famous novel, *The Plague*.

Coordinator: Beth Moreno



Fall 2018 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)

#7 October 23, 2018
3:00PM—4:15PM

The Life and Times of Lucy Parsons

Professor Jacqueline Jones will share her research on the life and times of Lucy Parsons, a labor organizer of the early twentieth century whose mother had been born into slavery. Parsons is remembered as a founder of the Industrial Workers of the World and as a powerful orator. Jones' book, *Goddess of Anarchy*, continues her award winning work on the intersection of race, class and labor in American history.

Coordinator: Beth Moreno

#8 October 23, 2018
4:45PM—6:00PM

Women's Health Issues: A Community Approach

Dr. Amy Young will highlight the mission of the Dell Medical School's Department of Women's Health in promoting equality in care delivery for all women, regardless of ability to pay. It has a unique focus on better health outcomes and recognizes the impact that community-based resources and organizations have in promoting health. "I recognize that we share the responsibility for all aspects of women's health care and so we have a special obligation to the people of Austin and Travis County to provide care across the depth and breadth of women's health."

Coordinator: Nancy Neavel



#9 October 30, 2018
3:00PM—4:15PM

Violins Old and New, Including a 3D Printed Version

Violinist **Sean Riley** will compare his newly created 3D-printed 6-string electric violin with his 240-year-old fine Italian violin. He will perform music on both. Can you tell the difference? Riley will describe the collaboration that brought this instrument to life. Riley maintains a career throughout the United States, Europe and Asia as a performer, entrepreneur and educator. He was given the honor to perform for Charles, the Prince of Wales at his 65th birthday celebration and on a separate occasion performed for the Sultan of Oman at the Savoy Hotel's Royal Suite. Riley was recently awarded the Rainwater Innovation Grant to design and 3D print a 6 string electric violin to perform *The Dharma* at Big Sur written by the American composer, John Adams.

Coordinator: Lynn Jelinski

Fall 2018 Lectures — Tuesdays (cont.)



#10 October 30, 2018
4:45PM—6:00PM

The MasSpec Pen: Cancer Diagnosis and Surgical Margin Evaluation

In this talk, **Dr. Livia Schavinato Eberlin** will discuss her laboratory efforts in developing an innovative technology, named the MasSpec Pen, for direct and rapid diagnosis of tissues. Results on development and testing of the

technology with hundreds of human cancer tissue samples will be shown. In addition, recent progress refining and testing the technology in human surgeries will be discussed.

Coordinator: Lynn Jelinski

#11 November 06, 2018
3:00PM—4:15PM

Old Fashioned Cabaret

This presentation will celebrate old fashioned cabaret music by a dynamic duo. **Jerry Conn** is a life-long song and dance man, who now specializes in the great pop songs, shows and performers of the 20s-50s in classes and cabaret shows. **Walter Tibbitts** has played jazz piano since junior high school and currently plays with a traditional jazz band and the two have been collaborating on cabaret shows for the last several years.

Coordinator: Lynn Jelinski

#12 November 06, 2018
4:45PM—6:00PM

Poetry in the Drama of Tennessee Williams and William Shakespeare

Austin Shakespeare produces plays from Shakespeare's own work to playwrights who use "heightened language." **Ann Ciccolella**, artistic director of Austin Shakespeare, will illustrate how to savor the poetry of both Shakespeare and the 20th century master playwright, Tennessee Williams. Austin Shakespeare, will produce *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* this fall at the Long Center as well as the *Merchant of Venice* in Zilker Park this May. Austin Shakespeare also provides opportunities in local schools for students to learn to speak the words of Shakespeare alongside professional actors. There will be an actor from Austin Shakespeare on hand to perform as well as opportunities for audience members to read Shakespeare and Tennessee Williams aloud.

Coordinator: Myron Gottlieb

Fall 2018 Seminars — Thursdays (Oct. 04—Nov. 08) 1:30PM—3:00PM

Austin's Quirky Cultural Landmarks

The iconic Austin places you are familiar with have stories behind them that might surprise you. A look at the city's enduring and quirky cultural landmarks to acquire a deeper understanding of what makes Austin special and why these landmarks continue to define its heritage.



Week 1) What Defines Austin Culture? Michael Barnes, author of "Indelible Austin: Selected Histories" and "Indelible Austin 2: More Selected Histories."

Week 2) Our Central Landmark: The Capitol. Mix Cox, author of numerous books about Texas, most recently "Legends & Lore of the Texas Capitol."

Week 3) Illuminating Our Past: Moonlight Towers. Jeff Kerr, author of books about local history including the much-lauded "Seat of Empire," and co-producer of the documentary, "Last of the Moonlight Towers."

Week 4) Dipping into the Cool: Barton Springs. Karen Kocher, senior lecturer in UT's Department of Radio-Television-Film and creator of the "Living Springs" website and the CD "Barton Springs Interactive."

Week 5) Esther's Follies and Underground Austin. Jesse Sublett, Austin musician, co-author of "Armadillo World Headquarters," and author of "1960s Austin Gangsters: Organized Crime That Rocked the Capital" and "Esther's Follies: The Laughs, the Gossip and the Story Behind Texas' Most Celebrated Comedy Troupe."

Week 6) A Cultural Oasis: Umlauf Sculpture Garden. Katie Robinson Edwards, curator of the Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum, author of "Midcentury Modern Art in Texas."



Seminar Director/Speaker: Michael Barnes is a native Texan who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Texas. For 25 years, he has written about people, places, culture and history for the Austin American Statesman. He has received numerous regional and national honors, including the top writing prize from the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association. He twice served on the Pulitzer Prize jury for criticism and three times as head of the American Critics Assoc. He has taught workshops and classes at seven Central Texas colleges and universities.

Fall 2018 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct. 04—Nov. 08) 1:30PM—3:00PM

Britannia Rules The Waves

Tiny England went to sea and built the greatest empire in history. At its height, the British Empire had a quarter of the earth's land mass and a quarter of the population. England didn't set out to build an empire...they accumulated it under a variety of means.

From isolation to the world's first superpower and the world's first industrial nation, England influenced and shaped world events. Many legacies remain today from the accumulation of British power and the relatively orderly dismantling of that vast empire. This seminar outlines the significant events of the last 400 years and answers how tiny England achieved its empire and why our modern world is the way it is.



Week 1) Coming out of Isolation — How England found its identity as a maritime trading nation and competed with larger powers

Week 2) Trade is Path to Riches — The development story of North America and India

Week 3) Industrial/Agriculture Revolutions Fueled Growth — How Britain achieved economic and technical leadership

Week 4) Undisputed World Power — The Empire is fully formed under Queen Victoria

Week 5) Scramble for Africa — Opening the Dark Continent to European domination

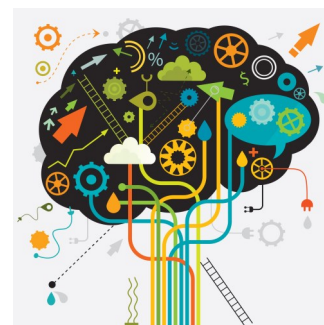
Week 6) Fighting Tyranny to Exhaustion — Two world wars are tough on a far-flung Empire—the transition back to British Isles

Seminar Director/Speaker: Todd Clayton served in the US Navy as an officer responsible for nuclear powered submarines. He earned an MBA from the Harvard Business School and a BS in Industrial Engineering from Northwestern University. Clayton 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. With his wife, Clayton served in the Peace Corps from 2002-2004, teaching at two universities in Kazakhstan.

Fall 2018 Seminars — Thursdays (Oct. 04—Nov. 08) 1:30PM—3:00PM

Your Brain: A Personal Tour

A FUN, but fact-filled, seminar on the latest research into the fundamental principles of “how your brain works.” Cutting edge examples will be given on the following and more: brain operations that can restore function to a violinist with a tremor, simple ways to delay and even prevent cognitive decline, how to better understand psychosis, how to understand what changes in your brain when you learn something -- and, how the most unique “human” part of your brain has a lot to do with eating bananas.



Week 1) “What you see is NOT what you get – NOR how you act”

An introduction to the brain using a discussion of how your brain perceives the world and how it structures movement in space.

Week 2) “Hamlet had it easy” Exploring the several, competing racetracks to a “decision” in your brain – ranging from a simple reflex to “mental time travel” as you deliberate.

Week 3) “Proust was talking about Totem Poles” Memories are complex, multidimensional, “slippery” reflections of several, different processes and structures of your brain. Surprisingly, long-term memories are like Totem Poles. They also may be closer to imagination that you might suspect.

Week 4) “No doing NEMBUTSU before learning to eat fruit in a tree” Evolution endows your brain with surprisingly little uniqueness – and most of that uniqueness may relate to foraging for food, avoiding snakes – and communicating to others about it. In this seminar we look at the primate brain circuits which set the stage for human uniqueness.

Week 5) “If it is worth DOING, it is worth TEACHING” Here we investigate the human brain in all its glory. As it turns out, there are only three major capabilities that are unique to the human brain – and culture. We will examine each.

Week 6) “Dog walking and the Jedi Monkey” There is astonishing progress in understanding how to best ‘take care’ of your brain as you age as well as how to repair/recover function from brain trauma. There is hope as well for better treatment of psychopathologies from deeper understanding of the brain. We will also look at astounding progress in robotic “assists” for sufferers of trauma.

Seminar Director/Speaker: Steve Saltwick. A displaced person from university research, Saltwick returned to academia after a long and enjoyable journey through high-tech business. He earned his Ph.D. from UT Austin and has published scientific research in Science and other prestigious journals.

Fall 2018 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct. 04—Nov. 08) 3:30PM—5:00PM

Texas History for Texans

In this seminar, the focus extends from early Texas history to the beginning of the 20th century. Fascinating but lesser known characters and events will be woven into the story of the Lone Star state. The program includes extensive visual material such as archival photographs, historic maps, and artist's renditions.



Week 1) Beginnings. The land and peoples of pre-Columbian Texas. Early Spanish discovery and exploration.

Week 2) Initial European colonization. LaSalle and the Spanish response.

Week 3) Spanish Colonial Texas. Missions, presidios and civil settlements; twilight of Spanish rule. The impresarios; Stephen F. Austin and the Old 300.

Week 4) Mexico and the Texan Revolution.

Week 5) Republic of Texas. Development of towns and roads, Indian affairs, settlement patterns. Evolution to a state and ramifications thereof.

Week 6) Statehood to the 20th century. Expansion of the frontier; European immigration; Civil War; building transportation links.



Seminar Director/Speaker: James Woodrick is an avid Texas historian and author of several books, including a history of his home county (Austin Co.) and the large and influential Bernardo plantation. His latest two publications detail the cannons used in the Texas Revolution. Jim received an M.S. in Chemical Engineering at UT Austin in 1966. He worked 27 years for DuPont, including eight years as Plant Manager at two locations in Texas.

Fall 2018 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct. 04—Nov. 08) 3:30PM—5:00PM

UT Austin's Most Inspiring Museums

Tour six of UT's most notable museums and get the inside scoop from the experts on staff who know them best. Get more acquainted with the UT campus by exploring a different UT institution each week and seeing what wonders they each have to offer.

Week 1) The **Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art** is one of the largest university art museums in the U.S. with 189,340 square feet devoted to temporary exhibitions, permanent collection galleries, storage, administrative offices, classrooms, a print study room, an auditorium, shop and cafe. The Blanton's permanent collection consists of almost 18,000 works, with significant holdings of modern and contemporary art, Latin American art, Old Master paintings, and prints & drawings from Europe, the United States, and Latin America. (Hosted by Laura Kilian-Jaster.)

Week 2) The **Dolph Briscoe Center for American History** is an organized research unit and public service component of the University of Texas at Austin, named for Dolph Briscoe, the 41st Governor of Texas. The Center collects and preserves documents and artifacts of key themes in Texas and United States history and makes the items available to researchers. (Hosted by Ashley Carr.)

Week 3) The **H.J. Lutcher Stark Center for Physical Culture and Sports** is a library, archive and museum dedicated to the study and preservation of the world of physical culture. The collection, considered the largest of its kind, comprises thousands of books and magazines, an extensive photograph collection, correspondence files, posters, videotapes, films, and artifacts. The Center's directors, Drs. Jan and Terry Todd, both former powerlifting athletes, are committed to preserving the history of physical culture. (Hosted by Cindy Slater.)

Week 4) The **Harry Ransom Center** is an internationally renowned humanities research library and museum on the university campus. Its extensive collections provide unique insight into the creative process of writers and artists, deepening our understanding and appreciation of literature, photography, film, art, and the performing arts. Visitors engage with the Center's collections through research and study, exhibitions, publications, and a rich variety of program offerings including readings, talks, symposia and film screenings. (Hosted by Lisa Pulsifer.)

Week 5) The **Warfield Center for African and African-American Studies** operates the New Gallery, which displays art, archival materials and special collections relating to the Black experience, and beyond. The Initiative seeks to expand holdings of art and material culture of the Black Diaspora, and ensures that faculty, staff, students and community members have access to important forms of art and archives that might otherwise not be available. (Hosted by Kendyll Gross.)

Week 6) Located on a 30-acre site on the university campus, the **LBJ Presidential Library** is one of 14 presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. The library houses more than 45 million pages, an extensive audiovisual collection, including more than 650,000 photos and 5,000 hours of recordings, and approximately 55,000 artifacts donated by the President and Mrs. Johnson, their family, friends, and the American people. (Hosted by Laura Eggert.)

UT OLLI QUEST member Michael London has organized this seminar.

Fall 2018 Seminars — Thursdays (cont.)

(Oct. 04—Nov. 08) 3:30PM—5:00PM

Things You Never Knew About World War II

An in depth look at the course of World War II, beginning when the Nazis came to power in 1933, through Germany's surrender in May of 1945. Among the topics to be covered, this seminar examines little-known details of the politics behind the war, the development and role of the atomic bomb, and the Germans who stood up against Hitler.

Week 1) General Conduct of the War in Europe: This session will discuss the German motivation for revenge after WWI and how they built an armaments industry under the allies' noses without getting caught. We will discuss the consequences of appeasement and how it emboldened Hitler. The course includes interactive materials that follow the course of the war.

Week 2) The Holocaust: This seminar covers the timeframe from WWI through the years of the Weimar Government and the rise of the Nazi Party. We will discuss the phases of the Holocaust throughout the war years leading to the Final Solution resulting in the slaughter of millions.

Week 3) The Making of the Atomic Bomb: Beginning with Ernst Rutherford's discovery of the components of the atom, we will follow the development of American, British, and German efforts and progress on building an atomic bomb. We will discuss the major scientists and their general roles as well as have a lively discussion on how huge an effort it took to harness the power of the atom to bring the war to a speedy conclusion. We will not get lost in the science but we will get lost in the great story of how the bomb was built and what it took to make it happen.

Week 4) Cracking the Enigma: We will explore the methods used by the cryptographers to break the code while examining how the Enigma machine and other code-breaking devices worked. We'll cover why the US was frozen out of the Enigma secret by the British until they needed US manufacturing capacity to build their code cracking machines. You'll gain a new appreciation for the relative ease of picking the winning lottery numbers and a new appreciation for the National Cash Register (NCR) company.

Week 5) The Nuremberg War Crimes Trials: The Allies called them the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials while today the Germans call them the Nuremberg "Process." Twelve trials were conducted in Nuremberg before a panel of judges drawn from the Allies. We will discuss the trials, the charges, and the punishments, as well as subsidiary trials that took place at a number of the concentration camps in Germany and in Poland. We will also explore the common German view that the Allies were practicing a form of "victor's justice" and touch on war crimes trials against the Japanese.

Week 6) The German Resistance to Hitler: This lecture is going to cover the stories of individuals who risked their lives to rid Germany of Adolph Hitler. Their stories begin well before the start of WWII and a number of them managed to work against Hitler for much of war until well after the famous 20 July 1944 plot to kill Hitler at Rastenburg.

Seminar Director/Speaker: Richard Brook worked in the high-tech industry for many years and while traveling to Europe and Asia on business, he began visiting the locations of various battle sites where relatives of his had fought during WWII. His interest in WWII history has since expanded, resulting in a wealth of research and visits to hundreds of museums and war-related sites.



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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