The Search for the Holy Coming out of Existence Itself… Vincent Coppola
Mon 10-12pm
1/6/14-3/3/14
This course will examine existence and from existence alone try to answer four basic questions, who am I, what is the really real, how do I act in the face of the world, and what is the source of all this? In this pursuit we will see if there is any holy coming out of existence itself or only existence. Simply put, is there meaning in and to being human?

The Art of Silent Films, Bob Koster
Monday 1-3pm
1/6/14-3/3/14
Since 1928 very few films have been produced without sound. Prior to that, all movies were “silent”. A particular syntax arose defining cinematic "language" which has been adhered to, to a greater or lesser degree, ever since. Many of these early silent films were every bit as emotionally affecting as sound films are. We will see some of the best examples of this almost lost art, and discuss what differences arose when films with sound came in to being.

The Hollywood Novel, 1939-1949, Shannon Diffner
Tuesday 10-12pm
1/7/14-2/25/14
“Hollywood is wonderful,” wrote Raymond Chandler. “Anyone who doesn’t like it is either crazy or sober.” Set in Los Angeles’s film industry, the “Hollywood Novel” delves into a dark world of studio politics, ruthless stars, femme fatales and broken dreams. Join us as we explore a vital decade in the Golden Age of Tinsel Town. We’ll begin with Nathanael West’s The Day of the Locust, discussing the first 14 chapters on the first day of class. Then we’ll move on to F. Scott Fitzgerald’s final (and unfinished) book, The Last Tycoon; we’ll discover What Makes Sammy Run?, by Budd Schulberg; and finish with Chandler’s fifth Philip Marlowe mystery, The Little Sister.

Children’s Literature & the Visual Arts: A Focus on Themes and Intersections, Peggy Tranovich and Jane Sweetland
Tuesday 1-3pm
1/7/14-1/28/14
A culture reflects and teaches through its art and literature, through what it celebrates and what it censures. Using a thematic approach, this 4 week course will examine American culture and values though the lens of the children’s literature it celebrated and the artists that seemed to catch the spirit of the age. Newbery Award-winning literature and a spectrum of visual artists will provide the focus through which we discuss themes of perseverance and self-discovery, war and survival, cultural perspectives, and the notion that things are not always as they appear to be. The class will have a discussion format with emphasis on the relationship between children’s literature and art and the ability of each to reflect the issues of the time. Each weekly class will focus on a theme with one hour devoted to literature and a second hour devoted to art that reflects and reinforces each of the weekly themes.
Illuminated Manuscripts, Peggy Tranovich  
Tues 1-3pm  
2/4/14-2/25/14  
This 4 week course will explore the rich visual world of illuminated manuscripts. Before the printing press, monks were laboring in candlelight in monasteries to produce some of the most beautiful, and at times whimsical, books ever made. To view them is to peek into that world and time. We will be discussing how illuminated manuscripts were made, who made them and for what reason. Books of Hours, Psalters, Bestiaries, Medieval romances, and Bibles, as well as Islamic and Indian examples will be covered. Anyone who is interested in the visual arts and history, has seen the Getty’s exceptional collection of illuminated manuscripts, or wants to better understand and appreciate this style of art will be interested in this course.

The Anatomy of a Scientific Revolution, Robert Stellwagen  
Weds 10-12pm  
1/8/14-2/26/14  
During the last 60 years our understanding of the molecular basis of life has exploded. We have come from the revolutionary proposal of Watson and Crick for the double helical structure of DNA to sequencing the three billion letters in the human genetic blueprint. Few areas of science have more profound implications for modern life. This course for nonscientists will focus on the key scientific concepts that have been part of the revolution in molecular biology and explore how they were developed. We will also consider the lives and contributions of many of the leading scientists who played important roles in the revolution. Finally we will discuss the implications of these discoveries for medicine, agriculture, law enforcement, and other fields.

Opera Through the Ages, Steve Kohn  
Weds 1-3pm  
1/8/14-2/26/14  
Last fall, we began exploring the 600 year old art form called opera. As we learned, operas and opera styles have changed throughout time. We’ll explore one or two operas from each of the periods. Each are great singing and music alone in their own right, but together, they give us a picture of why this art form will last 600 years more. There will be plenty of time to pause and ask questions along the way. And we will experience some of the greatest voices ever to grace the operatic stage.

Understanding Africa: An Introduction to Africa and its Peoples (Part 1), Matt Curtis  
Thurs 9-11am  
1/9/14-3/2/14  
Understanding Africa is an introduction to the anthropology of Africa and African studies. This course provides a general introduction to the peoples of Africa, focusing on cultural, historical, economic, sociopolitical, environmental, and health issues from an anthropological perspective. Other topics, including geography, archaeology, languages and literature, art, music, popular culture, gender studies, and the African Diaspora will be explored as well. The course introduces students to a wide range of topics and issues stressing the diversity and complexity of African
cultures and societies. The course examines rural and urban African communities, assesses misconceptions and stereotypes concerning Africa and African peoples, and explores the roles played by African societies and peoples in the past and the modern world.

Cultural History of China, Bill Garlington
Thurs 1-3pm
1/9/14-3/2/14
This class will provide a survey of Chinese Cultural History beginning with the early archeological finds and concluding with contemporary developments. Major topics to be covered will include philosophy and religion; political and social organization as well as examples from a variety of aesthetic fields: literature, music, dance etc. The final classes will trace major cultural consequences of the Chinese Revolution as well as examine a number of issues related to modernity.

Current Research Topics in Astronomy, Jerry Clifford
Fri 10-12pm
1/10/14-2/28/14
Many OLLI students enjoy reading about the latest discoveries in astronomy. This course will pick some of the more interesting recent discoveries and provide some background for the work. We will look at the context of the discoveries relative to our current understanding. We will also review the experimental procedures and difficulties in making the discoveries. Finally we will examine alternate interpretations of the scientific data. We will weave the pieces together to form a fuller understanding of our cosmos.

VACE
Youth in Action: Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2; As You Like It, Jinny Webber
Weds 2-4pm
1/8/14-2/26/14
William Shakespeare captures the essence of youth in several of his plays – rebellion against parents or the social order and prescribed roles; freshness and initiative; innocence and exploration; irresponsibility and its consequences. A contrast to the irrepresible Prince Hal in the two parts of Henry IV are Rosalind and Orlando in As You Like It, the first two dealing with growth into rulership, the latter into true love. We will examine these plays and their perspectives on youth and maturity. Any Shakespeare text or anthology is fine. If you are buying a paperback, the Folger/Washington Square editions are good.

Mystery Writers from Around the World, Jesus Gonzales
Fri 2-4pm
1/10/14-2/28/14
Great mystery authors in Europe and in Southeast Asia have created fascinating series with Detectives and Private Investigators solving crime. From Inspector Irene Huss in Sweden, to PI Vish Puri in India, these writings offer an armchair travel to other cultures and other customs.
But MURDER is always the same: BAD! In addition to the writings, some of the novels are rendered as foreign films, with English sub-titles; we will see these as well.

Ventura College

Down the Rabbit Hole: A Surrealism Survey, Christine Bolli
Mon 2-4pm
1/6/14-3/10/14
In the aftermath of World War I, Surrealism was the dominant cultural movement throughout the arts. This course will focus heavily upon the art and artists of this era, which lasted well in to the 1930s and to the brink of World War II. We will trace Surrealism’s Dada roots as well as pay particular attention will be to the female artists of the time, including Lee Miller, Dorothea Tanning and Frida Kahlo. The work of their male counter parts, such as Dali, Miro, Magritte and Man Ray will also be looked at as well. Time will also be spent focusing on the writings, philosophy, music and film of the Surrealist movement.

American Environmental History, John Pendleton
Weds 2-4pm
1/8/14-2/26/14
An exploration of American ideas, attitudes, and values concerning the natural and human environment and how these patterns of thought have been expressed in the decisions and actions that have shaped our physical world and influenced our history. The course will analyze early sources of environmental thinking in religion, culture, practical experience, and political-economic considerations and conduct. The main focus of our study will be an examination of the emergence of ecological awareness and the development of conservation and preservation movements, scientific environmental planning, new directions in public policy, and transformations of individual behavior and lifestyles. The ideas and work of George Perkins Marsh, Frederick Law Olmsted, Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Theodore Roosevelt, Stephen T. Mather, Aldo Leopold, Rexford Tugwell, Rachel Carson, and David Brower will receive special attention.

US Women’s Movement, Roz McGrath
Thurs 2-4pm
1/9/14-2/27/14
This class is designed for those who lived through the Women's Movement and missed it..... or for those who did live through it and still question exactly what happened. This class will explore pertinent women from US history who made a difference and contributed to the past, present and future of feminist thinking today. Be prepared to learn about "herstory" and participate in lively group discussions. While the dominant issue for the US women's movement was suffrage, the framework within which was fought for and won, was the whole changing relationship of women to society. This class will explore not just the suffrage movement but the Equal Rights Amendment and the ongoing efforts of women and men today that are dedicated to true equality - socially, economically and politically. Other topics include: early 20th century
and modern advocation of birth control and reproductive rights, sexual stereotyping and the politics of housework, alternative lifestyles for women, and the political future of feminism. This class will provide participants with a historically balanced picture of the role women have played in America throughout its 240 yr. old history. ...a movement strongly rooted in American tradition.

Ojai

Cultural History of China, Bill Garlington
Fri 10-12pm
1/10/14-2/28/14
This class will provide a survey of Chinese Cultural History beginning with the early archeological finds and concluding with contemporary developments. Major topics to be covered will include philosophy and religion; political and social organization as well as examples from a variety of aesthetic fields: literature, music, dance etc. The final classes will trace major cultural consequences of the Chinese Revolution as well as examine a number of issues related to modernity.

Virginia Woolf’s To the Lighthouse: A Study of Time and Perception, Jinny Webber
Fri 1-3pm
1/10/14-2/28/14
Virginia Woolf herself called To the Lighthouse “easily my best novel”. This autobiographical story is loosely based on her parents; the characters of Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay are in some ways the archetypal parent figures of pre-World War I England. Readers are drawn into their minds and those of their family and friends through Woolf’s rich descriptions and subtle stream-of-consciousness style. A literary classic of modernism that bears rereading, To the Lighthouse inspires readers to explore new ways of regarding our own lives. We’ll look at Woolf’s Bloomsbury circle and their concerns as background to the novel. The Harvest/Harcourt Brace edition is recommended.

Thousand Oaks

From Ziegfeld to Andrew Lloyd Webber: The Great Tradition, Bruce Collins
Tues 10-12pm
1/7/14-2/25/14
Using historic recordings (e.g., Fred and Adele Astaire and Gershwin playing piano for them) and original cast CDs as well as appropriate film clips, we’ll trace the development of that genuine American art form, the Broadway musical, from its inception to its present state of (mainly) revivals. We’ll include numbers from operettas like Romberg’s Student Prince (which ran simultaneously with the Gershwins’ Lady Be Good), as well as cuts from now-forgotten but once huge hits like Follow the Girls and Song of Norway. Classics like Show Boat, Oklahoma!, Gypsy, all provide stories revealing the travails of creating what seem like effortless works of genius.
The Great American Songwriters – Part I, Saul Jacobs and Bob Lipson
Weds 3-5pm
2/5/13 – 2/26/13
This 4-week multimedia course combines lecture, live piano music, videos, photos, and sing-alongs to bring alive the songs, Broadway and Hollywood shows, lives, collaborations, and times of famous songwriters of the Golden Age of American Popular Music (before rock and roll!): Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart, Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein. Come and join in the fun!

Plant Agroterrorism, Norman Schaad and Lt. John P. Sullivan
Weds 6-8pm
1/8/14-2/12/14
This 6 week course will provide an introduction into agroterrorism. Our vegetable production is open and vulnerable to terrorists and human pathogens are often found. A range or disease symptoms will be presented along with a history of agroterrorism. Lectures on the basics of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and designing PCR protocols for rapid detection of pathogens will be discussed. A lecture on pathogen rating and crop vulnerability and the local quarantine on citrus movement in LA and Ventura counties will be presented. A lecture on intelligence and biosecurity will explore the dimensions of intelligence support to bioevents. Experience for agroterrorism, biosecurity, and food security will be discussed. A lecture on emergency management will look at the complex emergency management considerations involved in response to a bioevent.

American Painting in The Gilded Age, Alisa Hall
Thurs 6-8pm
1/9/14-2/27/14
In the years following the Civil War in the United States there was a heightened notion that there was an opportunity to be seized in painting—a self-consciousness for artists about what they should be doing. Artists sought to address anew the question of, “What does it mean to paint an American scene? How does American painting reflect the present day and also address remnants of the past?” Our course will chart the evolution of American painting in the late 1860s to the turn of the twentieth century. We will look at the Civil War as a turning point in American history painting; race in the 1870s/80s; American Impressionism; artists working abroad in Europe (Cassatt, Sargent, Innes), the Hudson River School, and emerging modernism and abstraction (The Stieglitz Circle).

Our Universe: The Known and the Unknown, Robert Piccioni
Sat 10-12pm
1/11/14-2/15/14
A scientific understanding of our universe began to emerge about 100 years ago; it remains a work-in-progress. This 6 week course, intended for a general audience, explores what our universe is, how large it is, how old it is, how much it contains, and of what it is composed. We will examine the primary scientific evidence for what scientists think we know, and describe what remains mysterious. We will delve into science’s leading model of our universe, the Inflationary Big Bang theory, and several intriguing speculations regarding how the universe
originated and what it’s future holds. We will particularly focus on the remarkable properties of our universe that enable Life.

OLLI Courses Spring 2014

CSUCI Campus
Aspects of Italian-American Culture in Cinema, Literature, Philosophy, and Music, Vincent Coppola
Mon 10-12pm
3/10/14-5/5/14
This course will examine different persons within the Italian-American experience, exploring the wealth of contributions made by them in the fields of cinema, literature, philosophy, and music. The works coming out of these chosen fields are the venues that will provide powerful portrayals of Italian-American culture as well as that of the human condition in general in its spirit and struggle within the story of this place called America. Starting with Italianamerican by Martin Scorsese, there will be films and literary, philosophical and musical works that will make up the course’s source material.

The History of Radio Entertainment, Bob Koster
Mon 1-3pm
3/10/14-5/5/14
This course will explore the history of the great radio shows many of us remember, including Jack Benny, The Shadow, The Lone Ranger, and other classics. We’ll also discuss wonderfully artistic productions featuring the brilliant work of Norman Corwin, the "Shakespeare" of radio. We would be remiss if we did not feature a few of the better offerings from one of the greatest newscasters, Edward R. Murrow, broadcasting from London during World War 2.

The Early Novels of Barbara Kingsolver, Shannon Diffner
Tues 10-12pm
3/11/14-4/29/14
“I always begin with a question I can’t answer,” says Barbara Kingsolver. “Then I climb in and write my way to an answer.” Join us as we read and discuss the questions and answers in the renowned author’s first three novels: The Bean Trees, Pigs in Heaven and Animal Dreams. Sometimes referred to as a “quasi-trilogy,” these best-selling works explore the themes of politics, culture, friendship and family. On the first day of class, we’ll discuss chapters 1-3 of The Bean Trees, which follows a spirited protagonist who heads west from Kentucky and along the way inherits a 3-year-old Native American girl named Turtle. Come celebrate these early works of the author who won the National Humanities Medal, our country’s highest honor for service through the arts.

RNA: The Other Nucleic Acid, Robert Stellwagen
Weds 10-12pm
3/12/14-4/30/14
While DNA gets a lot of attention, its poorer cousin RNA is often under-appreciated. In addition to the classical roles of RNA in protein synthesis, RNA is involved in many other biological
processes. These include serving as the genome of some viruses, acting as a catalyst in certain biological reactions, helping mobile genetic elements move about the genome, and participating in some aspects of the regulation of gene expression. In addition, RNA is believed to have played a critical role in the early evolution of living organisms. In this 6 week course we will use RNA as a connecting thread to explore a number of fascinating biological phenomena including virus replication, jumping genes, RNA processing, epigenetic regulation, and the origin of life.

San Francisco Literature: The Place is the Story, Theresa Ferguson-Gonzales
Weds 1-3pm
3/12/14-4/16/14
Do you like to use a city map when you read novels? If so, this six week course is for you! Bring your San Francisco map. We will armchair tour and focus on the sense of place in fiction as we read three works set in San Francisco: Dashiell Hammett’s *The Maltese Falcon*; Amy Tan’s *The Joy Luck Club*; and Armistead Maupin’s *Tales of the City*. We will explore the historical, cultural, and social settings in these novels as well. Join us!

Understanding Africa: An Introduction to Africa and its Peoples (Part 2), Matt Curtis
Thurs 9-11am
3/13/14-5/1/14
Understanding Africa part 2 is a continued look at the anthropology of Africa and African studies. This course provides a further exploration into the peoples of Africa, focusing on cultural, historical, economic, sociopolitical, environmental, and health issues from an anthropological perspective. Other topics, including geography, archaeology, languages and literature, art, music, popular culture, gender studies, and the African Diaspora will be explored as well. The course introduces students to a wide range of topics and issues stressing the diversity and complexity of African cultures and societies. The course examines rural and urban African communities, assesses misconceptions and stereotypes concerning Africa and African peoples, and explores the roles played by African societies and peoples in the past and the modern world.

Cultural History of Iran, Bill Garlington
Thurs 1-3pm
3/13/14-5/1/14
This class will provide a survey of Iranian Cultural History beginning with the ancient Persian Empire and concluding with contemporary developments under the Ayatollahs. Major topics to be covered will include religion and philosophy political and social organization as well as examples from a variety of aesthetic fields: literature, music, dance etc. The final classes will trace major cultural consequences of the Iranian Revolution as well as examine a number of issues related to modernity.

The Epics of India - Ramayana and Mahabharata, Srinivas Chari
Fri 10-12pm
3/14/14-5/2/14
This course is designed to acquaint the student with the ancient Indian epic. It will cover, in brief, the body of the epic followed by a discussion of the main ideas generated by it that have profoundly influenced Indian society over the centuries. It will serve as an introduction to the Bhagwad Gita which has assumed the status of a seminal text on yoga as well as a sacred scripture for Hindus. In the process we will learn of the beliefs and practices, including concepts such as dharma, karma and yoga, of ancient India in their nascent form. In both the Ramayana and the Mahabharata are found the foundations of the unique culture of Indian society, its moral standards and its ethical norms.

Social Psychology, Mark Rafter
Fri 1-3pm
3/14/14-5/2/14
We'll explore the questions that occupy social psychologists and the methods they use in their study of the individual in a social world. Topics include: social perception, social influence, prosocial behavior, stereotypes, interpersonal attraction, and cross-cultural differences in social behavior. Classic research in social psychology is highlighted as we examine conformity, obedience to authority, helping behavior, and prejudice. By comparing the fields of social psychology and sociology, we'll come to understand why some of the same studies are referenced by both fields. Questionnaires and activities will be included throughout the course to enable students to experience the type of research social psychologists conduct. These experiences will stimulate a more analytic approach to the issues that are central to social psychology.

VACE

Essential Questions -- from different points of view, Bill Garlington and Jerry Clifford
Weds 3-5pm
3/12/14-4/2/14
There are many “essential questions” which mankind has attempted to answer over the millennia. They often address our place in the cosmos or the purpose for life itself. The “essential questions” may include: What is our place in the universe? How have we evolved? What is the nature of human beings? Do we have "free will"? What is the basis of morals and ethics? Is there a divine being?
The questions have particular interest from both a philosophical and a scientific perspective. In this class, we will examine a few “essential questions” from different points of view. Our goal is to shed some historical and contemporary light on these areas rather than answer them definitively.

Ventura College

Mon 2-4pm
3/17/14-5/5/14
From the emergence of rock ‘n roll in 1954 to the height of hip-hop and grunge music in 1994, this course will highlight key singer-songwriters who continued the 20th century protest tradition established in blues, and folk music. After an introductory session outlining early protest
practitioners such as Joe Hill, Robert Johnson, and Woody Guthrie, we will study Chuck Berry and the formation of a rebellious youth culture and the revival of a politics of humanism in the offerings of Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan and others during the late fifties and early sixties. Dylan will be the central figure in an examination of the growing cultural defiance and the lifestyle rebellion of the latter half of the 1960s. Introspective singer-songwriters such as Gordon Lightfoot, Carole King, James Taylor, Neil Young, and Jim Croce will receive special focus in a study of the “sense of loss” of the early 1970s. The remainder of the course will continue this thematic approach, highlighting new expressions of the protest tradition.

Cinema Francais: The French Film from Melies to Post-New Wave, Bruce Collins
Weds 3-5pm
3/12/14-4/30/14
Edison may have invented the motion picture, but it was Frenchman Georges Melies who made the “first film,” A voyage to the Moon in 1902. Using primarily film clips and one or two complete films, we’ll explore the development of French cinema, including the realism of Jean Renoir, Jean Cocteau’s fantasy worlds, the anguish of Bresson, Clement, and Clouzot, films noir, the New Wave (Truffaut, Godard, Resnais), and the comedy of Rene Clair and Jacques Tati. Join us on this exciting “voyage”.

The Poetry of Vision: Wordsworth, Eliot and Dante, Richard Robinson
Thurs 3-5pm
3/13/14-4/3/14
We visit concert Halls and hear great classical music, but great poetry is rarely to be heard outside the schoolroom. The aim of this 4 week course is to open up the work of three great visionary poets for people today. Poetry will be considered as an instrument with different possible uses, the chosen poets using it primarily to express some over-arching vision. We start with Wordsworth, the simplest of the three, then Eliot, the most sophisticated, then Dante, standing between the Middle Ages and Renaissance, and finally look at the evolution of poetic diction which they demonstrate. There will be a twofold emphasis: one on the actual business of reading aloud and listening to poetry; the other on unraveling historical, literary and psychological backgrounds.

Little House in Ojai

Cultural History of Iran, Bill Garlington
Fri 10-12pm
3/14/14-5/2/14
This class will provide a survey of Iranian Cultural History beginning with the ancient Persian Empire and concluding with contemporary developments under the Ayatollahs. Major topics to be covered will include religion and philosophy political and social organization as well as examples from a variety of aesthetic fields: literature, music, dance etc. The final classes will trace major cultural consequences of the Iranian Revolution as well as examine a number of issues related to modernity.

Shakespeare’s Controversial Plays: Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Merchant of Venice, Cymbeline, Jinny Webber
Fri 1-3pm
3/14/14-5/2/14
These three plays of Shakespeare’s introduce different sorts of controversial themes and formats that have kept us guessing and reassessing over the centuries. *Two Gentlemen of Verona* depicts the conflict between male friendship and love between the sexes. *The Merchant of Venice* has frequently been banished from study and stage because of its characterization of Shylock the Jew. *Cymbeline* (soon to be a film) is difficult to place: is it a comedy, a tragedy or something else? Any Shakespeare text or anthology is fine. If you are buying a paperback, the Folger/Washington Square editions are a good choice.

Thousand Oaks

Diversity of Vertebrates – A Survey of Animals with Backbones, Steven Norris  
Mon 3-5pm  
3/10/14-4/28/14  
There are 2-3 million species in the Animal kingdom. Although only 1-2% of these animals are vertebrates (fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, and all sorts of fossil creatures), they are highly visible members of a great many habits. Humans are vertebrates as well, and thus this group is more intensively studied than non-vertebrate animals. This course will survey vertebrate diversity and biology, introducing the class to the familiar and well-known, but also the rare, odd, obscure and poorly known. Always keeping in mind that animals are living things (not just words and pictures in textbooks) with complex biologies, histories and roles to play in habitats. The course does not require any special science background and will begin with a quick survey of some basic ecological and evolutionary thought.

The Goals & Means of US Foreign Policy, Carolyn Dorrance  
Tues 3-5pm  
3/11/14-4/29/14  
Analysis and discussion of the goals and means of United States Foreign Policy will be the focus of this course. Contrasting theories of international relations such as Realism, Liberalism and Constructivism will be reviewed along with the new realities of global economic interdependence, communication technologies, migration, environmental challenges, cultural conflicts and terrorism. In the light of these new realities, contrasting means of pursuing foreign policy goals will be examined and debated. The issue of military intervention compared to diplomatic means will be examined. Student discussion will be encouraged, but theoretical and scholarly research will be used to provide some perspective on current events. Comparisons of foreign policy goals and means of other governments will be presented as time and topic permit.

The Great Requiem, James Stemen  
Tues 6-8pm  
3/11/14-4/15/14  
The great requiem mass. How did it come about? What has inspired composers to write such dramatic, majestic, inspiring, gut-wrenching and soul-searching choral music? Discover why the requiems of Mozart, Verdi, Berlioz, Faure and Britten are so popular. What is the “dies irae” and why is it the common denominator of the requiem form. Learn the answers to the above as we compare the old and the new from Gregorian Chant to the music of modern times. Course
content includes examples of the earliest requiem beginnings, the familiar traditional requiems and the newer, non-traditional genres. Occasionally, the class time might exceed the 2-hour session.

The Great American Songwriters – Part II, Saul Jacobs and Bob Lipson  
Weds 3-5pm  
3/12/14-4/16/14  
This 6-session multimedia course combines lecture, live piano music, videos, photos, and sing-alongs to bring alive the songs, Broadway and Hollywood shows, lives, collaborations, and times of famous songwriters of the Golden Age of American Popular Music (before rock and roll): George & Ira Gershwin, Harold Arlen, Dorothy Fields & Other Women Songwriters, Hoagy Carmichael & Johnny Mercer, Songwriters for Crosby & Sinatra.

The Novel of the Exotic, Marilyn Vail  
Thurs 3-5pm  
3/13/14-5/1/14  
A good novel always takes us to unknown territory. In this course, we will consider the attraction of an exotic landscape: how does a land and culture foreign to us as well the protagonist enhance the adventure of reading? In The Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys (1966), we travel from Caribbean islands to the English castle of Jane Eyre’s Rochester; in The Sheltering Sky by Paul Bowles (1949), to the Sahara Desert as experienced by three English friends who meet unexpected internal and external threats. These stories are as beautifully written as the lands they describe. We will also view film interpretations of each novel, to enhance our inquiry into the enchantment of the exotic.

American Higher Education at the Crossroads: Directions From Here, Cliff Wilcox  
Sat 10-12pm  
3/15/14-4/19/14  
This 6 week course begins with a brief historical examination of the emergence and development of American higher education from colonial beginnings through the late twentieth century. The primary focus will be placed, however, upon contemporary challenges facing American institutions of higher education, including rapidly increasing tuition costs, dominance of big-time sports, soaring student debt, decline of tenured versus adjunct faculty, rise of for-profit universities, the internet and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), and changing perceptions of the value and utility of a university degree in contemporary society. The course will be taught using a collection of brief readings, film clips lectures/slide presentations, and group discussion.