

Humanities Institute for Lifelong Learning

"... the best education in upstate New York."
—Warren Roberts, U. at Albany

The University In Our Town

Spring 2012

MONDAY A.M.

The Writing & Ratification of the U.S. Constitution

Starts: March 5
Time: 10:00-12 noon
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: Bob Wells, Chauncy H. Winters
Professor of History, Union College

This course will examine the writing and ratification of the U.S. Constitution. We will start with the English and colonial roots of the document, i.e., what the authors had to draw upon as they sat down in Philadelphia in 1787. We will give the actual Constitutional Convention close attention, and will conclude with the ratification process (no sure thing) and the writings that helped result in the addition of the Bill of Rights in 1791. We will also consider the social and political assumptions behind these documents and their connection to contemporary issues confronting the United States.

Registration Info:

Make checks payable to Bethlehem Central School District.

Mail check(s) and registration form to:
HILL Program, c/o Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054.

The registration deadline for HILL courses is February 24, 2012.

TUESDAY A.M.

Perspectives on Politics—Trend Lines in National & New York State Politics

Starts: March 6
Time: 10:00-12 noon.
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: Bruce Gyory, Adjunct Professor of Political Science, University at Albany (SUNY), and political consultant

We will analyze some of the major political issues facing America as the 2012 elections approach. These will include the implications of the "Great Recession;" an examination of presidential politics, focusing on the Republican primary battles; and analysis of the impact of ethnic, racial, gender gap, and sexual orientation issues on national politics. The course will conclude with a look at major New York State trend lines and their implications for the State's political future in both the short and long term.

TUESDAY P.M.

The Art & Architecture of Islamic Lands from the Umayyads to the Early Ottomans: 7th-17th Centuries

Starts: March 13
Time: 1:30-3:30 P.M.
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

Note: To accommodate professor's schedule, remaining 5 classes will meet at same time on following dates: Thursday, March 15; Tuesday, March 27; Thursday, March 29; Tuesday, April 3; Tuesday, April 10

INSTRUCTOR: Louisa Matthew, Professor of Visual Arts, Union College

This course will examine the art & architecture of the Middle East, the Maghreb, Central Asia, and India following the Muslim conquest. It will concentrate on the era starting with the Umayyad caliphate and ending with the first two centuries of the Ottoman Empire. In addition, we will look at the art in Spain, North Africa, Iran and northern India under Muslim rule. We will focus on artistic processes and materials, from manuscript painting to ceramics and metal work as well as architecture. Finally, we will consider to what extent the cultural production in these societies should be termed "Islamic", and as a corollary, what this art owes to earlier traditions and contemporary neighbors, including China, the Byzantine Empire, and even Western Europe.

CLASS notes

- Each HILL class meets 6 times a semester.
- Starting dates and times differ for each course. See descriptions.
- HILL observes Bethlehem Central School District's snow day cancellations. Check local stations or the district Web site (<http://bcsd.k12.ny.us>), for closing information.
- Messages with questions about HILL courses should be left on (518) 368-7029. Refer to HILL's Web site at <http://bcsd.k12.ny.us/HILL> for information about classes and special events.

SPRING 2012 HILL COURSES

WEDNESDAY P.M.

Spring Sampler

Starts: March 7
Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

A lecture series, each session presented from the prospective of an expert in that area.

March 7

When do People Revolt?

INSTRUCTOR: **Victor Asal**, Associate Professor of Political Science & Director of the Center for Policy Research, Co-Director of the Project on Violent Conflict, University at Albany (SUNY)

March 14

The Brain and Behavior

INSTRUCTOR: **Carol Weisse**, Director of Health Professions, Union College

March 21

Arab Spring

INSTRUCTOR: **Michele Angrist**, Associate Professor of Political Science, Union College

March 28

Memory and Myth in Commemorating the American Civil War

INSTRUCTOR: **Andrea Foroughi**, Associate Professor of History & Director, Women's & Gender Studies Program, Union College

April 4

Cultural Responses to Natural Disasters

INSTRUCTOR: **Michael Brannigan**, Pfaff Endowed Chair in Ethics & Moral Values, The College of St. Rose

April 18

The History of the Future

INSTRUCTOR: **David Hochfelder**, Assistant Professor of History, University at Albany (SUNY)

THURSDAY A.M.

Feminism's Literary Classics

Starts: March 8
Time: 10:00 a.m. -12 noon
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

Note: The 5th Class will meet on Monday April 2, 1:30 P.M.-3:30 P.M. instead of Thursday, April 5

INSTRUCTOR: **Peter Heinegg**, Professor of Comparative Literature, Union College

This course will identify and analyze some of the major literary works that defined and shaped modern feminism. Feminism, one of the most important revolutions ever, had a slow start, was fiercely attacked, and is only now winning widespread support. From the beginning, however, the movement had reason and justice on its side. Powerful thinkers, including those we will study, have argued that most of what society has said about and done to women is, in one way or another, simply wrong.

Please see the Readinglists Page in the HILL web site for a list of the books that will be discussed in this course.

HILL COMMITTEE

Cynthia Abele
 Bruce Bushart
 Tom Clash
 Maryanne Gridley
 Polly Hartman
 Barry Isenberg
 Wendy Jordan
 Donald Kennedy
 Henry Peyrebrune
 Dick Ramsey
 Sandra Shapard



HILL Spring 2012 Registration Form

Fee for **each** course is \$35. Seating is limited. Please provide all information (including telephone #) requested on this form and enclose a **separate check** for each course.

Name: _____ Phone (h) _____

Address: _____ Phone (w): _____

I've enclosed course fees for the following courses:

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The U.S. Constitution | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perspective on Politics | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Islamic Art | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Sampler | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feminism's Literary Classics | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |

This form is for HILL classes only.