

UCALL

Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning

Spring 2019

"I have been taking UCALL classes for many years and enjoying learning from experts in their field. Also, I enjoy the beauty of the campus and the friendly students.

Thanks to all."

- Margaret Launsbach

"Never, ever, stop learning."

- Mark Hallenbeck

"I have been attending UCALL since 1998. I have recommended it to friends and family, and everyone is always pleased by the wide selection of courses offered and the quality of presentations."

- Janice Cooper

"Fabulous. I learn something with every presentation."

- Patty Burch

Our UCALL mission is to provide opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation and social interaction for adults through courses, excursions and special events.

Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Food for Thought – A Variety to Spark Your Interest

9:30 to 11:30 AM

In the first week, Professor **Carol Weisse** of Union College will present her CARE (Community Action Research and Education) fellowship program. CARE places student fellows with people near the end of their lives to provide companionship and care. In week two, **Sara Foss** of The Daily Gazette will discuss *The Challenges of Opinion Journalism*. Ms. Foss will cover reporting vs. opinion journalism, journalistic guidelines, and her challenges. Google Sara Foss/The Daily Gazette to see her recent columns. Next, **Phyllis Budka**, UCALL member, will present *Finding My Polish Roots*. All of Phyllis Zych Budka's grandparents came to Schenectady before WWI from places that were once in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1569-1795). Her presentation will cover the delights and surprises of her genealogy quest. In the following week, **Charles Szuberla**, retired deputy commissioner of the New York State Education Department, will present *Education Reform in the Crossfire*. Mr. Szuberla will give us an inside look at New York policymakers' efforts over the last 25 years to improve prekindergarten through high school classroom instruction and raise student achievement. In the final week, **Margaret Lynch-Brennan, Ph.D.**, will discuss *The Irish Bridget: Irish Immigrant Women in Domestic Service in America, 1840-1930*. This presentation, based on Dr. Lynch-Brennan's book of the same name, will touch on American and Irish history, women's history and labor history. Dr. Lynch-Brennan, now retired, worked for the New York State Education Department.

Coordinator: Jim Burns

FILMS: Foreign and Domestic

12:30 to 2:30 PM

Thanks to the enthusiasm of Union's Modern Languages and Literatures faculty, we will have a grand tour of films from other countries, as well as the United States. Professor **Erika Nelson** will introduce us to German film, while Professor **Kristin Bidoshi** will present a Russian film, *Burnt By the Sun*, Professor **Stephanie Mueller** will focus on films from Spain, and Professor **Zhen Zhang** will introduce us to Chinese film. Finally, Professor **Robert Edelman**, of SUNY Albany and WAMC, will lead a discussion on an American classic: *The Graduate*.

Coordinator: Joan Ham



Wednesdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1

Innovations in Medicine

9:30 to 11:30 AM

This informative course will begin with *Surgical Treatments of Heart and Lung Diseases Using Robotics*, presented by **Dr. Kyril Choumarov**, thoracic and cardiac surgeon at Ellis Hospital. In the second week, **Dr. Andalib Nawab**, medical director of Women and Heart Disease at Ellis Hospital, will present *Cardiovascular Disease in Women*. In week three, **Dr. Gary Siskin**, professor and chairman of Albany Medical Center's Department of Radiology, will present *How Medical Imaging Has Revolutionized the Way We Diagnose and Treat Patients*. In week four, **Dr. Mark Fruiterman**, assistant professor of endocrinology and metabolism at Albany Medical College and founding partner of the Endocrine Group in Albany, will offer *Diabetes Mellitus and Endocrine Diseases*. In the final week, **Dr. Ira Zackon**, director of stem cell transplant for New York Oncology Hematology and clinical assistant professor at Albany Medical College, will present *Immunity-Oncology-The Future Treatment of Cancer Is Now*.

Coordinators: Bob Saltzman and Dr. John Fulco



Wednesdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1



Music Styles Through Centuries

12:30 to 2:30 PM

In this course, taught by Union Professor Emeritus **Josef Schmee**, we will cover grand masterpieces from several centuries, looking at how the style and intentions of music had been changing from 1610 to 1913. We begin with the *Marian Vespers of 1610* by Claudio Monteverdi, a piece whose original intention is not well known, but one that, thanks to musicians like John Elliot Gardiner, has been acclaimed and revered. We also review the French baroque opera *Armide* by Jean Baptiste Lully, whose standing at the French court was high enough for Louis XIV to appear on stage as – what else? – the sun. What should symphonies sound like after Beethoven? Franz Schubert's answer was his *Great C Major Symphony*. He never heard it. Robert Schumann found it and Felix Mendelssohn performed it for the first time over a decade after Schubert's death. Johannes Brahms wrote *A German Requiem* before he wrote any of his symphonies. Not a religious man, he nevertheless extracted biblical texts for a distinctly humanistic message. Finally, what would 20th century music be without *The Rite of Spring* by Igor Stravinsky? A fairly short piece, it caused a scandal at the first performance by the Ballets Russes and made Stravinsky famous. Today, it is still performed as a ballet, but the Rite has also become a popular “chestnut” in the concert hall.

Coordinator: Jim Comly

Thursdays, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2

Eastern Europe Today

9:30 to 11:30 AM

This series opens via Skype with Professors **Ewa Kopczynska**, sociology, and **Marcin Waligora**, philosophy and biomedical ethics, of Jagellonian University in Krakow, Poland. Professor Kopczynska will discuss *What Does Eastern Europe Taste Like?* Reflecting a recent year in the United States, Professor Waligora's topic is *What the Heck Is a BLT?!* In week two, Union Professor **Anastasia Pease** will present two themes: *Czech Republic and Slovakia Today* and *Kaliningrad, a Russian Bear's Claw in Eastern Europe*. The following week, Union Professor **Stephen Berk** will focus on the history of anti-semitism in Poland and Hungary. In week four, Union Professor **Kristin Bidoshi** will present *Putin Will Teach You to Love the Motherland: Contemporary Russian Music and Politics*. The series will conclude with Union Professor **Robert Hislope's** *Crisis Points in Eastern Europe*, exploring the several political crises gripping Eastern Europe today.

Coordinators: Phyllis Budka and Anastasia Pease

LET'S CELEBRATE SPRING!

12:30 to 2:30 PM

ARBORETUM: A place where trees and shrubs are grown for study and display. A garden of trees. Landis Arboretum Executive Director **Fred Breglia**, our opening course speaker, will teach us why Landis is much more than that! Bird expert **Richard Guthrie**, our second speaker, will discuss how to identify birds, their ranges, as well as their songs and calls. Next up will be **Farial English**, a beekeeper and member of the Southern Adirondack Beekeepers Association. Ms. English will discuss bee behavior and seasonal variations, as well as what is involved in becoming a beekeeper. Next, **Kristopher Williams**, of Cornell Cooperative Extension, will share the most recent information about invasive species, including what are the threats to flowers, plants and trees statewide. For the final class, **Tom Heisinger**, groundskeeper for Union College, will join us, along with head gardener **Connie Schmitz** and arborist **Joe Conti**, for an informal discussion about how the Union College grounds have developed over the years. The trees, gardens and landscaping here create an exceptionally beautiful campus. Weather permitting, we will have a guided stroll around campus at the end of the course.

Coordinator: Mary Ivey



Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning

Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning (UCALL) is a membership-based program for adults who enjoy learning. Our courses cover a wide range of topics and are presented by UCALL members, Union College professors or other qualified speakers. UCALL courses are non-credit and require no exams or prerequisites. Classes are held for five 2-hour weekly sessions in the fall and spring on the Union College campus. Parking is available at College Park Hall, located on lower Nott Street. Bus service is available to shuttle participants from the College Park Hall parking lot to class locations. Persons with special needs or requests, please contact Valerie D'Amario at 518-388-6072.

Established in 1988 on the historic Union College campus, UCALL serves the adult community of the Capital District. Now over 500 members strong, UCALL continues the Union College tradition of academic excellence.

Benefits of membership include: participation in UCALL courses, special events and excursions; UCALL Newsletter subscription; borrowing privileges at the Schaffer Library; tuition waiver to audit one undergraduate course (based on availability) and information about Union College events.

FRIENDS OF UCALL

Friends of UCALL is a voluntary, annual contribution fund. Its purpose is to support our mission and provide a financial backup for contingencies that may arise in our regular operations.

Thanks to all who voluntarily contribute to the Friends of UCALL Fund we can ensure that existing and future members will enjoy quality educational programs for years to come.

The UCALL Steering Committee acknowledges all participants in Friends of UCALL in the 2018/2019 academic year, as shown below. If you have contributed since this listing went to press, you will be on subsequent updated lists.

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UCALL Membership Registration Form - Spring 2019

Mail completed form and all payments to:
UCALL, Union College, 807 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12308

Name(s) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Are you an Alumnus/Alumna of Union College? Yes Graduation year _____
Are you a new or returning member? New Returning Year Joined _____
If you are a new member, how did you learn about UCALL? _____

FEES: Annual membership fee (September – August) is \$75 per person. Tuition is \$30 per course. If you pay for two courses, you may enroll in additional courses without an extra tuition fee, provided there is space.

Please make your check payable to UCALL.

COURSE SELECTION: In the spaces provided, indicate the name of the course(s) for which you would like to register in order of preference. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Some classes fill quickly, so we urge you to register early.

Please return your registration form no later than March 4, 2019. You will receive a confirmation of your registration/course enrollment within two weeks before the start of classes.

Individual Member Name _____	Member Spouse Name _____
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Subtotal Individual Member \$ _____	Subtotal Individual Member \$ _____

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If you would like to make a contribution to Friends of UCALL, ***please send your donation in a separate check payable to Union College with FRIENDS of UCALL in the memo line.***

Please indicate how you would like your name(s) to appear on our donor listing _____

Amount of donation \$ _____

Yes, I am affiliated with a matching gift company. Direct your match to the Trustees of Union College.

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*Look for UCALL
Special Events
& Excursions to be
announced on
our website!*

UCALL
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Staff
Valerie D'Amario, Director
Carrie Lipfeld, Administrative Assistant

Office Hours
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (and by appointment)

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Howie Eskin