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UCALL

**UNION COLLEGE
ACADEMY FOR
LIFELONG LEARNING**

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

SPRING 2020

TUESDAYS

APRIL 7, 14, 21, 28, MAY 5

Food for Thought – A Potpourri

This course features presentations on a different subject each week.

Week 1. Self-published authors panel discussion. Local authors will describe their journey to self-publishing and then engage us in an interactive panel discussion. Maybe there is a self-published book in your future.

Week 2. **Mike Collins** will enlighten us with “Possible Futures,” including projections of where rapidly advancing technology may lead us, and challenge us in the future.

Week 3. “Tales of the Mohawk” by **Bob Cudmore**. Bob is a popular local radio commentator and a student of our rich Mohawk Valley history.

Week 4. “Metal Detecting” by **Larry Ehlinger**. There are undiscovered treasures all around us! We just have to find them.

Week 5. “The Transfinder Story” by **Antonio Civitella**, CEO of Transfinder Corporation. Tony has an inspirational and informative tale to tell about how he started our Schenectady-based Transfinder Corporation.

COORDINATORS: JIM BURNS, GERI MULLIGAN, PAUL O'BRIEN

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Our Criminal Justice System

Critical elements of our system of criminal justice are in need of examination. Law enforcement is not always even handed. Prisons are overcrowded, with many incarcerated for nonviolent crimes. There is public distrust among some segments of society. What steps are being taken to address these issues?

Week 1. Professor **Giza Lopes** of UAlbany’s School of Criminal Justice will address the task of how to deal with young offenders to help them avoid a life of crime. She will explore the issue of sentencing reform, mandatory minimums and the “three strikes” law.

Week 2. Albany County District Attorney **David Soares** and New York State Sheriffs’ Association Executive Director **Peter Kehoe** will present differing views on the legalization of drugs, and will discuss how the drug industry factors in.

Week 3. Chief **Eric Clifford** of the Schenectady Police Department will discuss reforms in police training, body cameras, community policing, as well as gender and minority issues on the force.

Week 4. **Cheryl Vallee**, executive director of Schenectady’s Center for Community Justice, and **Alice Rudnick**, principal court analyst at the New York State Unified Court System, will discuss the concepts of restorative justice, community and societal resolution of ongoing issues, and alternative dispute resolution.

Week 5. **Scott Erfe**, former warden of the Cheshire Correctional Facility (Conn.), will discuss the T.R.U.E. program of intensive rehabilitation of young inmates, its inception in Europe and its implementation and history at Cheshire.

COORDINATOR: HARRY WILLIS

12:30 to 2:30 pm

WEDNESDAYS

APRIL 8, 15, 22, 29, MAY 6

Innovations in Medicine 3

For the third installment of this informative series, a variety of topics related to the fields of medicine and healthcare will be presented by experts in their respective fields.

Week 1. We begin with a tale of adventurism, technology and scientific inquiry – “Structural Heart Interventions” – by **Dr. Satish Madiraju**, interventional cardiologist at Ellis Medicine and Albany Medical Center. The talk will provide an overview of advances in minimally invasive heart repair techniques that have given a new lease on life to patients who have no other options.

Week 2. **Dr. Glenn Thompson**, surgeon and chairman of ophthalmology at Ellis Hospital, will discuss the “History of Ophthalmology,” which will include eye disease treatment from ancient civilizations to the present, technological advancements and what the future might hold.

Week 3. **Daniel Alcorn**, D.G. Alcorn & Associates, independent insurance specialist in senior life, health and prescription drug plans, will present the “History and Evolution of Medicare.” The talk will address the advantages and disadvantages of current programs and supplemental plans, and compare proposed future U.S. healthcare with that of other developed nations.

Week 4. **Dr. David Liebers**, infectious disease specialist and chief medical officer at Ellis Medicine, will speak about “Infectious Diseases and Adult Vaccinations,” with emphasis on shingles, influenza, pneumococcal pneumonia, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough) and tetanus.

Week 5. **Dr. Jared Roberts**, orthopedic surgeon at Capital Region Orthopedics and Albany Medical Center, will give a presentation about “Innovations in Orthopedics.” He will address trauma and arthritis-related bone and joint injuries and diseases, and knee and hip replacement.

COORDINATORS: BOB SALTZMAN WITH DR. JOHN FULCO

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Baroque Pearls by Josef Schmee

Baroque Music flourished from about 1600 to 1750. It is a time of new forms of music – such as the suite, the concerto grosso – when sonata and symphony did not yet mean the same as in the classical period. Baroque music brought the beginning of opera in Italy and later in France and other countries. It is the time when old instruments got redesigned and new ones invented to meet the new style. Baroque music developed along distinct national styles. Italy had Monteverdi, Corelli, several Scarlattis, Vivaldi and Pergolesi, to name a few. In France we find the great Lully, Charpentier, Couperin, Rameau and many others. England produced Purcell but also claimed Handel, who wrote so many Italian operas but was born in Germany. North of the Alps are names like Schütz, Buxtehude, Biber, Telemann and J. S. Bach, who also wrote in the Italian and French style. The Baroque period also covers the year 1685, in which J. S. Bach, G. F. Handel and Domenico Scarlatti (three of the greatest composers ever) were born. Nowadays, the original performance movement has revived the richness of this musically exciting time for the enjoyment of all of us. We will contemplate many shorter pieces of music demonstrating styles and performance practice. We will also play several longer pieces that fully reveal the grandeur of this period.

COORDINATOR: JIM COMLY

1:30 to 3:30 pm

THURSDAYS

APRIL 9, 16, 23, 30, MAY 7

Faith, Society, Relevance

Fellowship and partnership have been the trademarks of religious and cultural diversity in the Schenectady community. A group of our religious leaders (known as Schenectady Clergy Against Hate) have come together to speak and act against hatred, bigotry and discrimination on the basis of appearance, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or any other identity used to divide us. These clergy, together with noted non-profit leaders, form the core of our presenters.

Week 1. "The Role of Religion in Society – Constitutional Standards, Community Norms and the Role of the Pulpit" with **Rabbi Matt Cutler** (Congregation Gates of Heaven, Niskayuna), **Rev. Bill Levering** (First Reformed, Schenectady), **Rev. Dustin Wright** (Messiah Lutheran, Rotterdam) and **Bruce Feldman, Esq.** (NY State, AG's Office).

Week 2. "Voices of Change from Within the Community" with **Paul Uppal** (Sikh Temple, Niskayuna), **Rabbi Matt Cutler**, **Rev. Horace Sanders** (Mt. Olivet Missionary Baptist, Schenectady), **Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck** (Trinity Reformed, Rotterdam) and **Rev. Sarah Baron** (First Methodist, Schenectady).

Week 3. "Art of Preaching – The Use of the Pulpit to Communicate Social Change and Examining Sermons Throughout American History" with **Rev. Bill Levering**, **Rev. Kathy Gorman-Coombs** (Trinity Presbyterian, Scotia) and **Rev. James McDonald** (St. Stephen's Episcopal, Schenectady). In the second half, a minister, a rabbi and an Imam will discuss the role of texts in guiding preaching on contemporary issues: **Rabbi Rafi Spitzer** (Congregation Agudat Achim, Niskayuna), **Rev. Bill Levering** and **Imam Genghis Khan** (Schenectady County Jail).

Week 4. "Various Perspectives on Economic Policies and Social Issues" with **Deacon Frank Thomas** (Our Lady of Grace, Ballston Spa), **Rev. Wendy Bartel** and **Rev. Lynn Gardner** (Unitarian Universalist Society, Schenectady), **Rev. Phil Grigsby** (Schenectady Community Ministries) and **Rev. Tim Coombs** (Trinity Presbyterian, Scotia).

Week 5. "Examples of Community/Faith Partnerships – Not-For-Profit Leaders Discuss Faith and Policy Making" with **Michael Saccocio** (City Mission of Schenectady), **Rev. Donna Elia** (Troy Area United Ministries), **Angelia Morris** (Schenectady County Human Rights Commission) and **David Olsen** (Samaritan Counseling Center).

COORDINATORS: JACK SWEENEY WITH RABBI MATT CUTLER

9:30 to 11:30 m

"All courses have been interesting to me. I try to select topics I know little about and come away with a better understanding."

—Ruth Robin

Women Writers: Building an American Literary Tradition

If you Google "famous American writers," the first names that appear are Hemingway, Poe, Twain, Fitzgerald, Irving, Faulkner, Melville and Hawthorne. While this is a decidedly unscientific and unscholarly approach to literary study, it is telling that not a single woman writer tops the list. Yet without women writers and readers there may never have been an American literature. **Billie Bennett Franchini**, Ph.D. (Director of the Institute for Teaching, Learning and Academic Leadership at the University at Albany) will lead a discussion of works written by American women between the mid-19th and mid-20th centuries, with an eye toward making sense of the development of both American literature and women's literary tradition. We will consider how women writers helped shape, stretch and question the American literary canon. We will put texts in conversation with each other, examining cultural contexts and writers' treatment of issues including marriage, family, domesticity, sexuality, racial identity and the development of women's voices. Participants should read and be prepared to discuss the following: *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte (4/9), *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by Harriet Jacobs (4/16), *Summer* by Edith Wharton (4/23), *Passing* by Nella Larsen (4/30) and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston (5/7). In order to allow for an active discussion, registration will be limited to 30 UCALL members.

COORDINATORS: JENNY OVEREYNDER AND LINDA DOYLE

12:30 to 2:30 p.m.





UCALL MEMBERSHIP AND COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

SPRING 2020

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

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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 \$75.00 per person. Tuition is \$30.00 per course.
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, 2020.

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1	_____	\$30	_____
2	_____	\$30	_____
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4	_____	\$30	_____
5	_____	\$30	_____
6	_____	\$30	_____
Membership Fee (September-August) Do not include if you paid in Fall 2019.		\$75	_____
Grand Total (annual membership fee plus tuition)		\$	_____

Friends of UCALL: 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:

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Established in 1988 on the historic Union campus, Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning (UCALL) is a membership-based program for adults who enjoy learning. Courses cover a wide range of topics and are presented by volunteers from the UCALL membership, Union faculty and community leaders. All courses are non-credit with no exams or pre-requisites. Classes are held for five 2-hour weekly sessions in the fall and spring. Parking is available at College Park Hall on lower Nott Street with bus service to campus. For special needs, contact Valerie D'Amario at (518) 388-6072.

UCALL is open to all who want to learn with their peers, regardless of formal education. Benefits of UCALL membership include: participation in courses and special events; newsletter subscription; tuition waiver to audit one Union College undergraduate course (based on availability); borrowing privileges at Schaffer Library; and access to Union events including films, exhibits, concerts and lectures.

FRIENDS OF UCALL 2019/2020

Thanks to all who voluntarily contribute to the Friends of UCALL Fund, we are able to continue in our mission and ensure that existing and future members will enjoy quality educational programs for years to come.

DONATION CATEGORIES ARE:

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"This was my first experience taking UCALL courses and I am hooked. The presenters are well prepared and clearly love their various disciplines. At my age I am so happy to be able to learn something new and consequential."

—Suzanne Killin



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www.union.edu/UCALL

STAFF

Valerie D'Amario, *Director*
Debbie Catharine, *Administrative Assistant*

OFFICE HOURS

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

Look for UCALL Special Events & Excursions to be announced in upcoming newsletters