

space availability for study groups as of 01/25/2016 04:00PM

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## Online Study Groups

### **Adirondack History 4 cr with Kate Dermody**

spaces avail **13** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This study will examine the history of the Adirondacks through the lens of a critical paradox: how can humans preserve our natural beauty while allowing public access to these places? The study will first investigate the pull factors and industries of the Adirondacks and the effects on the conservation movements. Students will read William H.H. Murray's writings and explore historical promotional images of the Adirondacks. This class will first investigate the pull factors and industries of the Adirondacks, and the effects on the conservation movements. Murray, as well as other writers wrote of the beauty, solitude and intimacy of the nature and Adirondacks. We will examine these writings, to explore how and why this "tourist propaganda" facilitated in the creation of the "American Vacation." In our study we will examine the lure of simplicity and the illusion of "roughing it" in the Adirondacks. We will read William H.H. Murray's writings, and explore historical promotional images of the Adirondacks. The study will explore the future of conservation and the Adirondacks.

### **American History from 1865 to Present Day 4 cr with Kate Dermody**

spaces avail **13** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

We will carefully examine our American culture and what makes us precisely unique. We will connect themes, ideas and main concepts that weave our diverse American tapestry. Specifically, the study will look at the American Dream and how these goals are still relevant today. We will intensively investigate the Industrial Revolution in the United States during the 1880's and connect to the Information Revolution of the 2000's. Will the United States always be innovators? Where is our future going? The goals of this study are to connect the past and future, and to investigate your own direction. We will examine the lives of places, events, and people, it will be your job to find your own sense of historical belonging.

### **Communication for Peace: Graffiti 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden**

spaces avail **15** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

Spanning the centuries, graffiti's existence on walls and objects throughout the world has prompted the understanding of language, lifestyle, and culture. Graffiti is both an anonymous and public voice, accomplished at times when no one is looking yet surfaces for all to see. It can be etched, carved, painted, stenciled, knitted, chalked, or even projected onto a surface. This study will focus on a set vev expressed by this art form, which has incited rebellion, sparked social criticism, and cultivated change/peace. We will explore various topics and issues to include its historical context; aesthetics; legalities; collaborated efforts to promote peace; a set influence on other creative fields such as music, film, graphic design, and advertising; and individual artists – i.e. Banksy (Great Britain), Os Gêmeos (Brazil), Daim (Germany), Shepard Fairey (United States); as no other art movement has had such a profound impact on the physical face of the modern world. And considering that this is an art study, introductory exercises in graffiti will surely add to your knowledge of this medium.

### **Earth Science 4 cr with Linda Jones**

spaces avail **12** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Natural Sciences - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

From volcanic eruptions to earthquakes, disappearing geologic resources to diminishing potable water resources, intensification of severe weather events to global climate change, the natural physical environment undergoes constant change that impacts human populations and natural ecosystems around the world. To better understand the dynamic interactions driving these patterns of change, this study is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the physical and chemical processes operating within natural environmental systems and explore the ways these basic processes shape the world in which they live. Students will examine processes of mineral, rock, and soil formation, stream formation, and mountain building, which shape the physical environments on Earth. They will explore processes which contribute to annual forest fires and mud flows in California, volcanic eruptions in the Pacific Northwest, Iceland, and Indonesia, and earthquakes along the San Andreas Fault, along the Ring of Fire, and in the Caribbean. Students will learn why meteorologists now frequently forecast "tornado outbreaks" instead of "a tornado," why urban areas are increasingly susceptible to heat waves, why decade-long drought has become the norm in north central Africa, and why the state of the ocean impacts the quality of terrestrial life. Particular attention is devoted to the exploration of the inherent global interconnectedness of natural environmental systems and human interactions with the physical environment. Students will consider the ways environmental challenges, like global warming, acid precipitation, desertification, deforestation, natural hazards, and limited natural resources, transcend political, economic, religious, and cultural boundaries.

**Ecological Economics 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann**

spaces avail 13

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

Ecological economics is an emerging field that incorporates fundamental resource constraints and environmental problems into the logic and analysis of approaches for thinking about the economy, markets and public policy. Much of the focus is on systems, global perspectives, and long run concerns. Several topics in the area of ecological economics will be investigated in depth including market failures, globalization, fairness, and sustainable development. Specific problems and possible remedies in areas such as climate change, water and air quality, energy consumption, transportation, biodiversity, or recycling will be examined. Students will gain a better understanding of appropriate roles for government as it relates to natural resources and the environment and the tradeoffs that alternative policy choices entail. A few of the questions we will explore include: Is growth good? Are there better ways to measure progress than GDP? What is sustainable development and what does it look like in terms of everyday practice? Will businesses find it profitable to pursue "green" strategies? This is an advanced level study. This study is designed to meet the SUNY general education Social Sciences requirement and the college's economics expectation for degrees in the Business, Management and Economics area of study.

**Environmental Science 4 cr with Linda Jones**

spaces avail 13

Intro/Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Natural Sciences - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

Global Climate Change. Renewable Energy. Global Water Crisis. Acid Rain. Extinction. Pandemics. Oceans in Peril. Increase in the Frequency and Intensity of Severe Weather. Invasive Species. Disappearing Habitats. Sustainable Agriculture. Deforestation. Desertification. All of these topics studied by environmental scientists appear daily as headlines in mainstream news articles as journalists, economists, politicians, community members, educators, and scientists attempt to understand the changes currently occurring in the natural environment. In this study, students will gain a basic understanding of the complex dynamics driving environmental processes and will consider the ways human activities impact these processes. They will also examine ways to reduce negative impacts of human activities through the adoption of sustainable agricultural and water management practices, the reduction of chemical inputs into the soil, water, and air, and the development of renewable energy technologies. Students will also explore management strategies and techniques for habitat restoration and remediation (i.e. wetland restoration, creation of marine reserves, creation of terrestrial conservation areas, controlled burns, species breeding and reintroduction, erosion control, etc.) and learn about "greening" urban environments. They will also examine policies created by local, national, and global agencies to address environmental challenges. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a field research project.

**Genocide: A Global Perspective 4 cr with Kate Dermody**

spaces avail 10

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully  
Other World Civilizations - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This study will examine the concept of genocide as it is defined by the UN charter. We will investigate the climate building up to each global genocide and patterns that emerge in all parts of the world. We will read and analyze primary documents and answer the questions: What constitutes genocide? How do these events occur? How and why do ordinary citizens participate? Who is to blame and who should be held accountable? Most importantly, how can we prevent genocide? We will study: the Holocaust, Genocide in Rwanda, Cambodia, Armenia, Famine – Genocide of Ukraine and the recent events in Darfur.

**Global Governance in the 20th & 21st Centuries 4 cr with Karen Garner**  
spaces avail 11 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This on-line study group explores global governance associated with the League of Nations (1919-1945), and (primarily) the United Nations (1945 – 2010), as they have responded to global economic, social and political issues. The study covers the theoretical foundations of global governance as well as the practical roles and real-world impact of intergovernmental bodies, their agencies, treaties and conventions on global populations from 1919 - 2010. This study is designed to provide learning in Social and Theoretical Perspectives for students seeking degrees in the Social Science Area of Study; or to provide learning in Theoretical and Philosophical Concepts and Historical and Comparative Concepts for students seeking degrees in the Public Affairs Area of Study. It fulfills the SUNY General Education requirement for Western Civilization and covers the development of distinctive features of the history and institutions of Western Civilization and relates these developments of Western Civilization to other regions of the world across the 20th century and into the 21st century.

**Global Women Leaders 4 cr with Karen Garner**  
spaces avail 13 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - partially

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This on-line study group addresses the following questions: at the global level of political leadership, how have women defined their role as women leaders from the 1980s to the present? What, if anything, distinguishes female leaders from male leaders? We will address these questions through five specific biographical case studies: Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Mary Robinson, Michelle Bachelet, Angela Merkel and a woman leader of each student's choice, and will apply feminist theories of women's leadership to deepen our critical analysis of these women's words and deeds. Who are these women, in terms of their social, cultural, racial and political backgrounds? What was the historical context in which they rose to leadership positions? Have these women used gender expectations that their particular society's constructed for women to their advantage? Have these women used their leadership roles to challenge unequal gender power relations and to promote progressive social change? This study focuses on theoretical concepts, comparative models and issues in the fields of Women's and Gender Studies, International Studies, and Public Affairs and will develop competencies in Critical Thinking and Information Management.

**Herstory: History of Women in America 4 cr with Kate Dermody**  
spaces avail 12 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This study will carefully examine the history of women in America. We will study women through the colonial period to modern day in the United States. We will examine the role of women, and how that role has evolved, changed or stayed the same throughout our history. As a class, we will connect themes, ideas and main concepts of women's history and women's Studies. We will look at individuals as well as events that shaped women's history. Students will explore the history of women in the United States through listening, reading and viewing. Students will be required to analyze primary documents, music and videos from the different historical periods and connect to the modern times. We will also analyze current day women's issues from today's "mom" to what influences our younger women.

**Legal and Ethical Foundations of Public Affairs 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**  
spaces avail 10 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

Public sector professionals face a host of challenging issues everyday as they seek to effectively deliver services amidst new and emerging trends in American society. Despite the multi-layered demands placed on the public sector, questions of the legal responsibility of government and the values that anchor or define public administrators' duties persist. This study is designed to examine the underlying legal structure of American government and its ethical implications for public administration. Accordingly, the study will consider the formation and implementation of public policy within the nation's constitutional framework and explore how legal and ethical issues have affected decision-making in the public sector.

**Political Issues and Ideas in American Literature 4 cr with Christopher Grill**  
spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - partially  
Humanities - partially

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

Are important political ideas and issues often expressed in literature? Do literary works ever have an impact on our political debates and beliefs? Can exploring how the arts address politics provide a better understanding of our political process, struggles, and ideals? The answer to all three questions is YES! In this online study group students will explore the political ideas found in, and the political influence of, some classic works of American literature. Together we will read and assess selected short stories and novels from the late 1800s to the present that provide an invaluable window into key eras/issues/conflicts in our political history, the American "character," and the role played by the arts in shaping our political values and commitments. In the process you will be exposed to such important political ideas and issues as: individual freedom and equality; social protest and reform; the role of "the people" and the state in a democracy; political leadership and corruption; and utopian or dystopian visions of American society. Note: Although there is no formal prerequisite for this study, it is recommended that students have taken a lower level college course in American government or political history or a survey course in American history from the Civil War to the present.

**Rock and Roll History 4 cr with Kate Dermody**

spaces avail 12

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

We will carefully examine American culture through the lens of Rock and Roll. We will examine Rock and Roll as a part of culture and how it changed perceptions and norms. We will look at what makes rock and roll precisely unique. We will connect themes, ideas and main concepts that weave our diverse American tapestry. Specifically, this study will examine Rock and Roll and revolution fit together and how these ideas are still relevant today. As a class we will examine the lives of places, events, and people, it will be your job to find your own sense of historical belonging. Why should we care about Rock and Roll? Students will explore the History of Rock and Roll in the United States through listening, reading and viewing. Students will be required to analyze primary documents, music and videos from the different time periods and connect the historical themes.

**Sex, History & Art 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail 4

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully  
The Arts - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

Perhaps one of the most controversial topics in history, sex is as much a necessity for survival as is food, clothing, and shelter, and we can all say we are here because of it. Discussions and depictions of sex can be both taboo and tolerable at the same time with unpredictable swings of opinion throughout time. As part of the biological and cultural evolution of humanity, it is more than mere procreation. Sex is a powerful force in the development of religion, politics, and art. It has played a role in warfare, moral and legal codes, and sometimes it just drives us crazy. Beginning with a bit of pre-history, we will follow-up with the Greeks and continue through the Renaissance as we examine the symbolism and narratives of sex across a range of topics that include: sexuality, homosexuality, bestiality, incest, rape, prostitution, gender roles, love, and marriage. This study fully meets two Gen Ed requirements: Western Civilization and The Arts.

**The Art of Memoir 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail 1

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully  
Basic Communications - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

In this study, we will read memoirs written by a variety of writers and have the opportunity to write their own. When reading memoirs we will look at how writers have edited their lives, what they have included and omitted, and from a literary point of view, the ways they constructed their stories. We will also get advice about what to pay attention to when writing memoirs. Students will use the assigned memoirs as models to begin writing their own memoirs. This study will develop the students' critical thinking, reading and writing skills, and hopefully provide them with new insights and records of their lives. This study fulfills the general education requirement for Humanities OR Basic Communication, not both. This study will meet the Cultural Studies guideline for "Distinguish among and apply different forms and approaches in the field. As well, it meets the Creative Writing concentration guidelines for "practice" and the Literature concentration guideline for "knowledge of different literary genres."

**The Hudson River & its Valley: A Highway of Ideas & Commerce 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail 12

Intro and Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully  
American History - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

In his search for the imagined Northwest Passage to China, Henry Hudson sailed up the river that now bears his name. The immense wealth that would have followed from such a discovery was an irresistible lure for intrepid explorers and European nations. Realizing that he could navigate no further than present-day Albany, Hudson turned back, but over the next four centuries, immense wealth has steadily flowed from the waterway that the Indians called "Muh-he-kun-ne-tuk" (river that flows two ways). We will look at the River and its valley from a multitude of perspectives as we examine its role in the development of the original colonies, transportation, commerce, warfare, literature, the art of the Hudson River School, environmental concerns, and American Identity. Additionally, we will consider the notion of local history. In that context, even though the River is in the eastern part of New York State, the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 stretched its influence across the state. Few things have transformed a state so completely, and in this study, we will explore the many connections between culture and history.

**The Literature of Aging 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail 10

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

Using fiction, drama, poetry, memoir and films we will explore the experience of aging and ask the questions what does it mean to age? What purpose and meaning can it have both for the aged and those around them? These questions have new immediacy as people live longer and consequently have the opportunity to question the moral and spiritual dimensions of their life in "the third age." As a lamp and a mirror literature takes on the complex dilemmas of being human---and aging is the vibrant literary topic that will be investigated in this study. This study will expose students to a wide range of literature and will be useful for anyone considering a career in some aspect of gerontology or working with senior citizens, such as student pursuing a Community and Human Services degree.

**Urban Ecology 4 cr with Linda Jones**

spaces avail 10

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Natural Sciences - fully  
Social Sciences - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

In this study, students will explore the broad, interdisciplinary field of Urban Ecology. Students will examine ways habitat fragmentation in urban areas has impacted ecosystems and the physical environment upon which those ecosystems depend. Specific topics of emphasis will be socio-ecological dynamics (human interactions with the environment), biodiversity, species migration, introduction of non-native/invasive species, erosion, strategies for surface water control, and urban micro-climates. Students will also explore ways urban centers have attempted to mitigate the negative impacts of fragmentation by conserving and/or restoring natural areas or recreating green spaces on lands owned by the urban center. They will explore recent trends in urban gardening and topics related to local food alternatives. They will consider the impacts green spaces have on urban areas and the environment in terms of individual and community health, land use planning, policy, and economy.

## Albany Study Groups

### Mondays

#### **Human Development 4 cr with Efrat Levy**

spaces avail 14 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18

This study group will provide an overview of the current theories and research findings about human development. Participants will be introduced to the major conceptualizations and methods of understanding development. Students will study expected developmental achievements and variations, both group and individual, as well as the factors, biological and environmental that influence development across the lifespan. In addition to texts, the study group will make use of literature and other media.

#### **Management Principles 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy**

spaces avail 14 Intro/Non-Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18

This study is an introduction to the study of management through which a modern business organization can be understood as a functioning system. The focus is on learning practical applications of management concepts in the work environment. The study will cover the role of the manager in modern business and the functions that define the scope of managing including decision-making, planning, organizing, staffing, leading, motivating and controlling.

### Tuesdays

#### **Cultural Diversity Competence 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**

spaces avail 11 Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

This study in human diversity enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate and provide culturally sensitive and competent human services to members of diverse groups. The study gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural development and to be more sensitive to others. Upon completion of this study, students would be expected to demonstrate the ability to evaluate and apply informed perspectives on the social, cultural and political influences that commonly impact individuals and communities in contemporary societies.

#### **Family Intervention 4 cr with Joseph Yogyta**

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 4/26

The study will examine a range of family theories and family intervention strategies, and also survey family structures and functions (traditional and nontraditional.)

#### **Social Welfare Policy 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**

spaces avail 13 Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 4/26

This study is designed to provide students with a substantial understanding of social policies and the social welfare system in the United States. Rational and political frameworks for policy analysis are developed across multiple areas of social welfare policy including poverty, disability, welfare, hunger, healthcare, education, employment, services for children and elderly, and policies surrounding mental illness and substance use. The study will explore issues of diversity in terms of social welfare policies directed at achieving racial equality, civil rights and gay rights. Students will examine ethical issues of policy making and policy implementation. Students will be encouraged to think critically about the role of politics and policy in the delivery and sustenance of human rights and social and economic justice.

#### **Wellness: Mind, Body & Spirit 4 cr with Cathy Davison**

spaces avail 3 Intro and Adv./Liberal

Using a holistic approach, we will learn how a balance of body, mind and spirit plays a vital role in our well-being. We will read about exceptional communities around the world in which people live particularly long and healthy lives, and learn what factors contribute to their longevity. By exploring eastern spiritual teachings, we will appreciate how kindness, empathy, compassion, and social connections enrich our lives. In addition, we will experience writing as a tool for wellness. Students must attend 6 study group sessions and complete reading, writing and journaling assignments between meetings. This study is being offered at the introductory and advanced levels. Students should check with the instructor and/or their primary mentor to determine the appropriate level prior to enrolling. This study is particularly relevant for students pursuing degrees in Community and Human Services and Human Development, where the course content addresses the "knowledge" guideline for each of these areas of study.

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Wednesdays

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**A More Perfect Union: American Political History and Culture, 1760-1865 4 cr with Christopher Grill**

spaces avail 12                      Intro and Adv./Liberal                      fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
Social Sciences - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:45-8:15 p.m. 1/20, 2/3, 2/10, 2/24, 3/9, 3/23, 3/30, 4/13, 4/20

This study group will explore the critical period of American history from the Revolution to the Civil War. Considerable time will be spent examining the transformation of political culture and institutions during the Founding Period (1763 - 1800), with special attention paid to the creation of the U.S. Constitution (and resulting ratification debate between Federalists and Anti-Federalists) and the bitter political conflicts that culminated in the "Revolution of 1800." Following a look at the Jeffersonian Era, we will then turn to the development of the party system and emergence of Jacksonian Democracy from the 1820s -1840s. Finally, we will examine the deepening divisions over slavery and related issues that resulted in the disintegration of America's national polity in 1861. Although our primary focus will be on political developments, conflicts, and ideas, we will also explore the major currents in social, economic, and intellectual life that profoundly shaped the development of our young nation, including the abolition, women's rights, and other reform movements of the 1830s & 1840s; the early industrial revolution; and the growing impact of (and reaction to) the "peculiar institution" in antebellum America.

**Academic Reading, Research and Thinking 4 cr with Lisa D'Adamo-Weinstein**

spaces avail 11                      Adv./Liberal                      fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Critical Thinking - fully  
Basic Communications - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/20, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/9, 3/30, 4/13, 4/27

The purpose of this study is to sharpen students' abilities to read, research, think and communicate in academic contexts through written and other formats (debate, presentation & public speaking). The study pushes students to enhance their academic skills beyond what would be expected of students in their first or second year of undergraduate study. The focus of the study is on effective and critical application of strategies in order to expand upon academic research and writing skills. It also includes work on critical academic reading and information literacy research strategies applied to a term long project. Movement from basic to more advanced development of both the mind-set and skills needed to think critically and engage in sophisticated analysis of issues are the key desired learner outcomes of the study. Students will complete a term long academic research project on a topic of their choice. The project will focus on an academic area that is specific for the student's individual needs and interests. Skills such as critical thinking, writing, time management, public speaking, academic research, peer collaboration and portfolio compilation will be incorporated into the project through various assignments.

**Writing Non-Fiction 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail 17                      Intro and Adv./Liberal                      fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/20, 2/3, 2/17, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/13

Writing non-fiction is a skill that anyone can learn, and learn to do well. In college and beyond, the ability to write effectively offers lifelong advantages. Many students struggle needlessly with writing because they think a person is either born with it or not, or they simply do not understand the basic concepts. If we ask and answer the right questions, it is really not that difficult to demystify the process. Consider this: people who are good thinkers are not always good writers, but good writers are always good thinkers. One of the keys to becoming a good writer is learning how to think about the act of writing. We will build our writing skills and strategies from the ground up by understanding grammar, sentence structure, paragraph construction, and composition. Examples of non-fiction writing from history through the modern day will help us understand the modes of narrative, descriptive, expository, argumentative, and critical writing. Most importantly, the classroom exercises in writing are designed to be entertaining and humorous. I want us all to enjoy and look forward to our meetings. By the end of this course, you will become a better writer. Good writing is never easy, but it certainly can be easier - and a whole lot more fun!

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Thursdays

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**American Art: The New World to the Modern World 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**spaces avail 8 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully  
American History - fully

21 British American Blvd. Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/10, 3/24, 4/7, 4/21

American Art: The New World to the Modern World is an exploration of America from its founding in 1607 through the 1960's by looking at art. We will predominantly center our focus on paintings, which are more than images of people, places, and things (and sometimes not even those) – they represent an artist's and/or a society's values. How artists gradually found a place in American culture and how art became a profession in an evolving nation are key themes we will examine in order to understand how art both reflected and directed particular periods in history. Architecture and Sculpture will round-out our study. From very humble beginnings in the 17th century, American art ultimately displaced Paris as the center of the art world in the post – WWII era. Throughout those years, there were incredible successes, raging controversies, and numerous struggles for dominance, as artists, patrons, critics, and the public made and remade their place in American society. Students do not need any specialized knowledge in order to take this study, and in fact anyone can learn how to look at art and grasp its many meanings. The essential task is learning how to think about art. This study fulfills the general education requirement for the Arts, and because historical context is so important, it also fulfills the general education requirement for American History.

**Statistics 4 cr with Amy Salvati**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Mathematics - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/21, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/10, 3/24, 4/7, 4/21

This study covers the fundamental concepts and methods of descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will gain an understanding of statistical concepts and statistical methods in summarizing and interpreting information. Major topics include data distributions, data relationships, producing data, probability, inference, regression, and analysis of variance. Students should have a working knowledge of algebra.

**Western Civilization 1 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail 14 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/3, 3/17, 3/31, 4/14

Western Civilization 1 is designed to introduce the student to the emergence of the first civilizations and the trajectory of their development into Western society. We will examine the contributions of Greece and Rome and how they expanded their empires; how ideas are conceived, put into practice, and have social consequences; how and why empires collapsed; how people and societies existed during the Middle Ages; how numerous cultures developed values and coexisted/clashed with others; and how a broken Europe, after several starts, reinvigorated itself with the Renaissance, and split again in the Reformation. Throughout the study, culture and the role of ideas will be emphasized as a means of analyzing and connecting the people and events that make up the trajectory of history.

[Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published](#)

**Understanding and Managing Stress 4 cr with Cathy Davison**

spaces avail 15 Adv./Liberal

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\* This study is for CDS employees only.

Note: This study group is designed for students who are employees of the Center for Disability Services, and will meet at the Manning Blvd. location in Albany. If you would like to register for this course and are not an employee of the Center for Disability Services, please see the course offering through the Northeast Center BME/CHS residency. According to Hans Selye, father of stress research, "It is not stress that kills us, it is our reaction to it." In this study, students will learn the definition of stress, key sources of stress, effects of stress on health, and strategies to prevent and cope with stress. Students will explore the consequences of stress on individuals and in social environments such as families, workplaces, and communities. Students will apply their knowledge in a series of practical exercises designed to cope with stressors in modern life. This study group will meet four times. Students will read from assigned texts, write short daily reflections, complete four written assignments, and create a final project. This course is designed to address the following degree plan guidelines: Community and Human Services: knowledge of human behavior

**Wellness: Mind, Body & Spirit 4 cr with Claudia Hough**spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully  
Social Sciences - partially



\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

Using a holistic approach, we will learn how a balance of body, mind and spirit plays a vital role in our well-being. We will read about exceptional communities around the world in which people live particularly long and healthy lives, and learn what factors contribute to their longevity. By exploring eastern spiritual teachings, we will appreciate how kindness, empathy, compassion, and social connections enrich our lives. In addition, we will experience writing as a tool for wellness. Students must attend study group sessions and complete reading, writing and journaling assignments between meetings.

## Empire State Plaza Study Groups

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

### **Enriching Writing Skills 4 cr with Robert Congemi**

spaces avail 15 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

This study will focus on the skills necessary to become a more confident and proficient writer at the college level. Students will learn the steps in the writing process from pre-writing to final revised essays and become familiar with writing concepts. They will also engage in further developing grammar, sentence building, usage and punctuation skills, as well as organizing and developing paragraphs and essays for academic writing assignments.

## Saratoga Study Groups

### Mondays

#### **Forensic Science 4 cr with Thomas Jones**

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Natural Sciences - fully

111 West Ave., Room 104 Mondays 6:00-8:00 p.m. 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18

Forensic Science covers evidence collection techniques, evidence analysis, crime scene management, and the use of a range of sciences in a forensic setting. The study will heighten the student's awareness of evidence and evidence collection issues and of the ways in which crime scene investigators and forensic scientists operate in a crime scene setting. The categories of evidence students will learn to examine include fingerprints, blood, DNA, geological/botanical/entomological/palynological evidence, written evidence (handwriting, paper, and ink analysis), trace evidence, ballistics, shoe evidence, and tire evidence. We will also look at the tools of the forensic scientist. We will conclude the term with a mock crime scene in which the students apply what they have learned and use real "CSI" equipment and supplies to gather evidence. This study can be taken at the introductory or advanced level and will be of interest to students in criminal justice and a wide range of other disciplines.

#### **Organizational Behavior 4 cr with Kathy Tarrant**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Adv./Liberal

111 West Ave., Room 145 Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/25, 2/8, 2/29, 3/28, 4/11, 4/18

Authors Kreitner and Kinicki define organizational behavior as an "interdisciplinary field dedicated to better understanding and managing people at work". A cornerstone study for all managers and an integral aspect of supervision and leadership positions, this course will provide an understanding of individual behavior, group and social processes as well as organizational processes within a variety of organizations large, small, public and private. Topics covered include organizational culture, personalities, values and attitudes, foundations of motivation, group dynamics and decision making, teams and teamwork, leadership, and managing change and stress. Supplemented with case studies, journal articles and web resources, this course will provide a contemporary examination of organizational behavior and practices in today's organizations. This study fully satisfies the Business, Management and Economics guideline for understanding people in an organizational context.

### Tuesdays

#### **The Harlem Renaissance: Politics & Art 4 cr with MaryNell Morgan**

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
Humanities - fully

113 West Ave., Room 146 Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

Students will examine the political and cultural expressions and experiences of African Americans before, during, and after the era of The Harlem Renaissance, with emphasis on the period initially called the age of "The New Negro." In addition to the literature, art, music, and performing arts of the period, students will learn about significant and enduring political, social, and economic issues. This study fully meets the general education requirements in American History OR Humanities, not both.

### Wednesdays

#### **Critical Thinking & Writing 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail 11 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

111 West Ave., Room 175 Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/20, 2/3, 2/17, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/13, 4/27

This study is a very practical one: because everything we do or want or feel is influenced by our thinking, it makes sense that we should study how we think and cultivate the best possible thinking skills. Without developing critical thinking skills we often rely on biased, partial, uninformed, distorted or prejudiced thought processes to make decisions, which often don't involve good judgment. We now know that writing and thinking are intricately linked--by improving one you improve the other. So in addition to improving how you think, this study will help you hone your college writing skills. Through a variety of lively activities, projects, readings and writing assignments we will develop strategies for looking at the complexity of issues and reasoning them through. The skills developed in this study should enhance your academic ability (especially writing), work and personal life. Students will need to attend 7 study group sessions that will meet every other week held in Saratoga Springs. This study fully meets the general education requirement in Basic Communication as well as the competency in Critical Thinking.

#### **War Stories: Reading & Writing about the Impact of War 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail 14 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

This study invites students to explore our growing awareness of the cultural and psychological -- even cognitive -- effects of war by reading stories, essays, articles and poems and viewing films. We will be looking at how men and women have used stories to give meaning to experiences of war, whether or not they have experienced war first hand. Reading, writing and viewing films about many different wars will allow us to delve into how we are affected by war as a society and as individuals. This study is dedicated to looking at war as a rich and complex subject for study, a subject both deeply emotional and politically fraught; however, the intention is for all political views to be respected and for no view to be honored over another. Designed to provide a safe, supportive environment, this study is an opportunity for students to read deeply and write honestly about their reactions to the material used in the study, and if appropriate and they choose, about their own experiences. Reading and writing will be used as tools to develop our critical thinking skills, to clarify or rethink and reshape both experience and beliefs about war. Students will need to attend seven study group sessions held every other week in Saratoga Springs. This is an especially useful course for students in Cultural Studies and Community and Human Services.

\_\_\_\_\_ Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published \_\_\_\_\_

**Rock & Roll as Cultural History 4 cr with Tom Akstens**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
The Arts - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

Rock and Roll provides us with very rich possibilities to consider historic contentions that "cultural artifacts exist in time, and . . . are bound up with personal and institutional conflicts, negotiations and appropriations" (Stephen Greenblatt). From Jackie Brenston's "Rocket 88" in 1951 to Punk and Grunge in the 80's, Rock is a chronicle of race, sex, war, drugs, materialism, adolescence, generational conflict, the role and status of women, ideals of beauty, constructions of masculinity, fashion, regionalism, suburbanism, the car culture and escapism. We will study the ways in which Rock and Roll, as a material cultural artifact, was a product of both roots music forms and cultural turmoil at a time of radical transformations within American society. We will also examine the ways in which Rock had a reciprocal impact on the culture that produced and sustained it. Basic readings will include The Rolling Stone History of Rock and Roll and David Shumway's "Rock and Roll as a Cultural Practice." Listening will be based on an extensive list of titles that are available as downloads.

## Troy Study Groups

Tuesdays

### **Economics: Micro & Macro 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann**

spaces avail 11                      Intro/Liberal                      fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

Rice Building 216 River Street, Troy    Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

The goals of this study are twofold: to introduce some of the ways in which economists view the world, and then, to apply these approaches to some current economic issues. We will not try to cover all of the concepts and tools of macroeconomics and microeconomics, but will pick and choose the more central and interesting ones. Throughout, we will pay serious attention to the broader context in which markets operate and the appropriate roles for government involvement in markets. In macroeconomics, we will focus of the determination of aggregate income and how monetary and fiscal policy might influence the level of economic activity in both the short and long run. We will engage in the Keynesian -- monetarist -- supply side debate concerning the appropriateness of public policies aimed at restraining inflation and promoting economic growth. In microeconomics, we will be primarily concerned with how markets work. On the demand side we will examine consumer behavior and the concept of elasticity. On the supply side of the market, topics will include cost minimization and profit maximization. The economic behavior of firms, such as pricing strategies and investment decisions, will be considered in the context of market structure. The study will conclude with an examination of the theory of international trade and finance. This study group will meet for seven evening sessions during the term, on alternating Tuesdays.

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

### **Economics: Micro & Macro 6 cr with Duncan RyanMann**

spaces avail 15                      Intro/Liberal                      fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*    5:30-7:30 p.m. 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

The goals of this study are twofold: to introduce some of the ways in which economists view the world, and then, to apply these approaches to some current economic issues. We will not try to cover all of the concepts and tools of macroeconomics and microeconomics, but will pick and choose the more central and interesting ones. Throughout, we will pay serious attention to the broader context in which markets operate and the appropriate roles for government involvement in markets. In macroeconomics, we will focus of the determination of aggregate income and how monetary and fiscal policy might influence the level of economic activity in both the short and long run. We will engage in the Keynesian -- monetarist -- supply side debate concerning the appropriateness of public policies aimed at restraining inflation and promoting economic growth. In microeconomics, we will be primarily concerned with how markets work. On the demand side we will examine consumer behavior and the concept of elasticity. On the supply side of the market, topics will include cost minimization and profit maximization. The economic behavior of firms, such as pricing strategies and investment decisions, will be considered in the context of market structure. The study will conclude with an examination of the theory of international trade and finance. This study group will meet for seven evening sessions during the term, on alternating Tuesdays.