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Online Study Groups

Adirondack History 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** 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.

Aging and Longevity 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

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

** Online Study Group **

This study will provide the student with the opportunity to examine the experiences and processes of aging in cross-cultural context. The student will consider both "universal" or "natural" and "local" or "cultural" aspects of aging, and how human aging experiences (behaviors, expectations, needs, status and supports) vary across time and space. The student will have the opportunity to critically examine the role of gender, ethnicity, race, and socio-economic factors in shaping physical, cognitive/emotional, and sociocultural experiences of aging. The student will reflect on the impact of cultural expectations, myths, norms, and practices – marriage, grand-parenting, family structure, social organization, policies, religion, spirituality, and end-of-life issues. Modern concepts of successful aging and retirement are viewed in cross-cultural perspective, with reference to the effects of global aging patterns and trends, industrialization, globalization, and information technologies. The role of activity and community in preventing cognitive decline and promoting quality of life is addressed in reference to population aging. Students also have the opportunity to explore and discuss various methods, practices, strategies, and recent research to extend or prolong life.

American History From 1865 to Present Day 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** 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 examine American History through a critical lens.

American Sign Language I 4 cr with Cheryl Schiemer

spaces avail **2** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Foreign Language - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This course introduces American Sign Language, a visual-gestural language of the Deaf. It incorporates non-verbal communication techniques, basic sign terminology, basic vocabulary, finger spelling, basic linguistic principles, and conversational skills. This course will also introduce the student to Deaf Culture and the job of the Interpreter. In addition to the online study group requirements, this course requires a minimum of one attendance at a local Deaf chat for two hours with active participation. This is mandatory to pass this class. This can include Deaf chat, workshops, or tutoring hours with a Deaf contact. Other local Deaf chat meets available upon request. Questions and concerns should be directed to the instructor, Cheryl.Schiemer@esc.edu

Art and Terrorism 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden

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

**** Online Study Group ****

The protection and preservation of a cultural heritage reflects on a societal need to educate, to promote historical research, and to reinforce a sense of identity. During periods of conflict, the retention of a cultural identity is amplified – art, buildings, monuments, all become increasingly significant. Consequently, they can become targets of repressive and violent action due to an iconography associated with differing faiths or traditions; as symbols valued by enemies, etc. This course will address the significance of art in a world infused with terrorism. We will explore the motivation of extremists to obliterate cultural sites; the effects of destruction; and the expression of contemporary artists throughout the world via paintings, photography, graffiti, film, etc., in response to terrorism/war.

Biogeography 4 cr with Linda Jones

spaces avail *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal

**** Online Study Group ****

Biogeography is the study of the spatial and temporal distribution of plants, animals, and microorganisms. It is an interdisciplinary field of science which draws upon the theories and methodologies of ecology (species interactions, adaptations, evolution, etc.), historical geology (paleontology, plate tectonics, climate change, disaster, etc.), and physical geography (land forms, topography, climate, island biogeography, etc.) to understand and to describe global, regional, and local patterns of life. Biogeographers study the ways patterns of species, populations, and communities vary from place to place and the ways those patterns have changed over geological and ecological spans of time. As the impact of human activities on natural environmental systems, and the species within them, continues to grow, biogeography has emerged as an essential field of study, which informs conservation efforts and the design of effective natural reserves.

Caribbean Literature 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

spaces avail 13 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

The Caribbean is a dynamic constellation of countries and islands in and around the Caribbean Sea with an array of cultures informed by such historical events and processes as migration, colonialism, oppression, and resilience. Given this reality, it is very difficult to categorize Caribbean literature. The purpose of this study, therefore, is to examine Caribbean cultural identity through novels and poetry specifically from the English-speaking Caribbean. Attention will be paid to historical and cultural contexts, with an emphasis on the analysis of post-colonial literary texts by Afro-Caribbean writers as they present expressions of resistance, celebration and survival.

College Writing for CVPH Students 4 cr with Anastasia Pratt

spaces avail *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

In this study, we will consider the qualities of good writing through reading a variety of works that focus on business and/or community and human services. As we read, we will write our own essays, using the writing process and our reflections to become more effective and more compelling. We will focus on rhetorical strategies that may be used a variety of settings. This course is only for students of the Radiologic Technology Program offered in conjunction with the University of Vermont Health Networks CVPH School of Radiologic Technology.

Communication for Peace: Graffiti 4 cr with MaryAnn Borden

spaces avail 11 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 verve 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.

Comparative Health Systems 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail 12 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

** Online Study Group **

The objective of this study is to help students to think critically and analytically about the current US health care system and other countries' health care systems. Students will gain an understanding of the organization, delivery and finance of health care services in the US and a number of other countries. Students will gain an understanding of differences and similarities across these systems and the implications of these differences for access to and quality of health care services. Students will gain an understanding of the differences and similarities in approaches to financing health care services across nations. Students will examine in detail the health care systems of both developed and developing countries and consider the variety of challenges that countries face in improving the health of their populations.

Ecological Economics 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

spaces avail 11 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.

From The Lorax to Frozen: Exploring Gender Roles in Children's Animated Films 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

This study engages students in a meaningful exploration of gender roles in animated films for young children. Through the perspectives of gender studies, child development studies, and film studies, students will analyze a range of popular films aimed at young audiences such as Frozen, The Lorax, the Tinkerbell movies (Great Fairy Rescue, Lost Treasure, etc.), Mulan, Hercules, 101 Dalmatians, Pocahontas, The Lion King, Cinderella, and more. What do these films teach our children about gender roles? Why does Disney focus so much time and money on "princesses" and "fairies"? Why do so many children's films depict the death of one or both parents, and what are children learning from such stories? Strong-willed characters such as Tinkerbell and Princess Anna (Frozen) provide positive messages to our young kids (girls and boys alike!) about personality, gender, resilience, and ethics. But the physical portrayal of these characters continues to provide a "Barbie-like" physical image where the size of one's waist and the "classic" design of one's hair is emphasized. Even Hercules is portrayed first by a slender, under-developed physical appearance only to later develop into a classically sculpted muscular physique. How can we help our youngsters interpret positive qualities from these films while teaching them to critically interpret the physical imagery and gender roles? Students in this study will learn techniques for analyzing films and for understanding how audiences make meaning from what they perceive on the screen. This study meets the following Arts AOS Guidelines: • knowledge of relevant theoretical and philosophical issues

Genealogy, Your Family, and History 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal

** Online Study Group **

Who am I? Where did I come from? How am I connected to history? Although these may be questions you've asked yourself many times, you are not alone - people in the past have wondered the same things, and people in the future will as well. Today, we have numerous electronic tools to help us investigate our lineages that complement the time-honored methods of digging through musty historical documents in a dusty archive. Fortunately, historical archives have mostly modernized with very few being "dusty," but that is not the only change. Professional historians and researchers, who were once the lonely occupants of those research rooms, now have some welcome company in the form of many "regular" people using archives to investigate their own family's history. In fact, few things bring out a person's inner historian than genealogy. And few things are as satisfying as making historical discoveries. The primary focus of this course, however, is not how to do genealogical research, though there will be some of that, but rather taking the results of your genealogical research and exploring the history of time and place. In other words, you will learn how to connect your ancestors to their time and place in history, just as you are connected to your time and place in history. Family trees have many roots and branches, but adding some "foliage" of historical context will make it more complete and meaningful.

Genocide: A Global Perspective 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** 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, Famine – Genocide of Ukraine

Global Climate 4 cr with Linda Jones

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

** Online Study Group **

In this study, students will build upon their basic knowledge of atmospheric science: physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the atmosphere, global climate classification, and geological/historical patterns of climate change. Students will study ways the atmosphere interacts with land surfaces and the oceans to create the global climates to which individual species and entire ecosystems have adapted. Students will explore ways climate has changed throughout geological time and examine current observable climate trends. They will consider atmospheric system dynamics that may have influenced past climate trends and those which may be influencing current trends. Particular emphasis will be placed on recent trends in weather patterns -- including trends towards the extremes and increased frequency of severe weather events -- and on the impacts climate change might have on species and communities of species and on water and food security.

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 online 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.

Groupwork 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

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

** Online Study Group **

. The purpose of this study is to guide students on an exploration of the history, context, types, developmental phases, ethical questions and relevant theories of group work. Through the course, students will be able to articulate the history of group work within the context of relevant human service professions and distinguish the developmental phases of group work. Students also will be able to recognize the various roles and relationships among group members and if relevant, the group leader apply skills and major theoretical concepts of group work to diverse groups, settings and populations. The study meets the "Skills" and "Application" requirement of the CHS Guidelines.

Harry Potter & the Wizarding World of the Entertainment Industry 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

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

** Online Study Group **

Welcome to the Hogwart's Express! In this study, you will consider the Harry Potter books and how they were adapted into films by Warner Brothers for international audiences. You will also look at how Harry Potter has become a marketing sensation by investigating how Harry Potter souvenirs, parties, costumes and more have become common household items for so many people. And of course, the Hogwart's Express would not be complete without stopping off at the Harry Potter Theme Parks in Orlando and London. All aboard!

Healthcare Policy 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

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

** Online Study Group **

In this study, students will learn about the process of making health care policy and some of the institutions responsible for creating health care policy at the federal and state levels. Student will gain an understanding of the complexities and tradeoffs inherent in the development and implementation of health care policy. Public policy is the study of how societies make decisions regarding the appropriate level of government involvement in the market. Students should find this study of benefit in understanding and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the government sector and market mechanisms in making production and distribution decisions in the health sector. Students will study the major public insurance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, and consider various proposals for reform of the health care system in the U.S., including the 2010 Affordable Care Act (ACA). Students will examine the functions and effects of public health insurance on access, cost and market efficiency, and quality of health care. Students will investigate several topics in health care policy in some detail; these may include the uninsured, long term care, pharmaceuticals and patents, medical malpractice, and international comparisons of health care policy.

History of Women in America 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail *CLOSED* 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 roles 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 though 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.

Managerial Leadership through Film 4 cr with Cynthia Bates

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
Humanities - fully

**** Online Study Group ****

This study teaches students the principles of managerial leadership and helps them identify and analyze these principles through the medium of film. Students study topics related to managerial leadership such as the traits and behaviors of successful leaders as well as how leaders use motivation and empowerment to build successful teams. Each topic about leadership will be explored through one or more films that demonstrate that topic in action. Students will read and respond to a managerial leadership textbook throughout this term while also engaging in a close analysis of each of these films. Films such as Apollo 13, Dave, Glengarry Glen Ross, Freedom Writers, Twelve Angry Men, It's A Wonderful Life, Stand and Deliver and others may be utilized in this study. Students should be prepared to rent, borrow, or purchase the assigned videos for this study after they are announced on the Learning Contract or via this study's Moodle site. This study fulfills the Business Administration guideline for Management and the Management guideline of "The use of roles" as noted in the Student Degree Planning Guide. It is also an excellent supporting study for students in any Area of Study who might be planning a career that involves acting in the capacity of a leader. Note that students may take this study for the Arts General Education OR for the Humanities General Education requirement but not for both.

Political Deception & Discontent: Understanding Contemporary American Political At 4 cr with Christopher Grill

spaces avail **9** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully
American History - partially

**** Online Study Group ****

Did you know that only about 50% of eligible voters vote in presidential elections (and far fewer in congressional races), while trust in government has plummeted since the 1960's? Or that civic participation in the U.S. has declined over the same period that inequalities of wealth and income have risen dramatically? All the while public opinion surveys consistently show that many Americans know very little about their system of government and political process. Why are we so disenchanted with yet so poorly informed about politics? Why do so many citizens appear to support policies and leaders that may not be in their best interest? In this study we will examine some of the forces that may explain these paradoxes, including: the psychological roots of (political) self-deception; the shaping of public opinion in the media and in political messaging; the obstacles to being an "informed citizen" in modern society; and the impact of "new media" (such as talk radio and the Internet) on people's political attitudes and beliefs. We will also consider what, if any, solutions there are to these dilemmas. Advanced level critical thinking and writing skills are required.

Political Issues & Ideas in American Literature 4 cr with Christopher Grill

spaces avail **15** 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. This study meets the General Education requirement in Humanities OR American History, not both.

Rock & Roll History 4 cr with Kate Dermody

spaces avail ***CLOSED*** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully
The Arts - 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 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 9 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 8 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully
The Arts - fully

** Online Study Group **

In this study, students 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 articulated their stories. We will also learn about how to construct a story, using literary devices to write memoirs. Students will use the assigned memoirs as models to begin writing their own, and will engage in online discussions about the different aspects of the memoir genre. Students will develop their critical thinking, reading and creative and analytical writing skills, and hopefully the study will 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 SHORT STORY 4 cr with Robert Congemi
spaces avail 15 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

** Online Study Group **

A. PURPOSE The purposes of this contract are to

Writing & Mindfulness for Caregivers 4 cr with Elaine Handley
spaces avail 14 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully
Basic Communications - partially

** Online Study Group **

Most of us are caregivers at some point in our lives and many of us are professional caregivers. Research shows that caring for a loved one on a regular basis produces stress, illness, and a higher frequency of death. Even with professional training, caregiving is challenging and can lead to burn-out. Studies show that writing about stressful aspects of our life, such as taking care of another person, promotes physical and mental wellbeing in the caretaker. We will use writing as a mindfulness practice, and incorporate other mindfulness and self-compassion activities in our lives to further decrease stress, build resilience and articulate our caregiving experience, resulting in increasing our self-knowledge and awareness of our caregiver role. This study will provide students with practice expressing themselves through writing while enhancing their writing skills, and help them to discover the ways in which writing can be a wellness tool based on the work of psychologists Dr. James Pennebaker, Dr. Kristen Neff, and Dr. Christopher Germer. This study meets the general education requirement for Basic Communication or Humanities, not both.

Writing About Art 4 cr with Elaine Handley

spaces avail 12

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully
The Arts - partially

** Online Study Group **

This study is designed to strengthen students' critical thinking and writing skills as they explore works of art. One aspect of this study will involve curatorial writing, which accompanies exhibits of all kinds and serves to educate and illuminate works of art and history for the viewer. Students will do the research necessary to create interpretive text. By writing about art in myriad ways students will gain an intimate understanding of works of art and the culture surrounding the works. As a result, students' research and documentation skills will be enhanced. Students will have the opportunity to choose works of art they would like to write about.

Adirondack Study Groups

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Degree Program Planning 4 cr with Connelly Akstens

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal

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

In this study, students formulate and design a program of study consistent with the students' personal needs and interests which also satisfy the academic expectation of the institution. This study is for matriculated students. Students who want credit amounts other than 4 should contact their primary mentor to have a study added to their worksheet that meets their needs.

College Writing 4 cr with Sandra Winn

spaces avail 14 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

Albany(Latham) 424 Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/16, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17

College writing focuses on the basics of academic writing: writing processes, essays, research skills. Students will write and evaluate thesis statements for essays, and learn how to develop the thesis idea with supporting details. Students will learn how to structure ideas and information in essays. Students will learn how to research, incorporate, and document sources to support a thesis argument. Additionally, students will develop proficiency in oral discourse through discussion of essays and college writing skills.

Crisis Intervention: Theory & Practice 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

spaces avail 11 Intro and Adv./Liberal

Albany(Latham) 423 Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/16, 1/29*, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24 (*note-1/29 is a Monday)

This study surveys the major theories, evidence based practices, concepts of crisis intervention assessment and intervention. Students will demonstrate crisis intervention skills and illustrate ethical, legal, and cultural considerations. On completion of this course students will be able to describe major theories, evidenced based practices, and fundamental concepts relevant to crisis intervention. They will also be able to apply specific skills in crisis intervention to a range of crisis situations as well as identify and articulate the ethical and legal dilemmas that arise in crisis intervention. Students also will be able to compare and contrast how different cultures define and cope with crises. The course meets CHS AOS Guidelines in Skills and Application

Diversity Competence 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

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

Albany(Latham) 444 Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/16, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24

This study in human diversity enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate and provide culturally sensitive and competent professional 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.

Economics: Micro & Macro 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann

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

Albany(Latham) 423 Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17

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.

Economics: Micro & Macro 6 cr with Duncan RyanMann

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

Albany (Latham) 423 Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17

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 on 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.

Social Welfare Policy 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn

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

Albany (Latham) 444 Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17

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.

Thursdays

American Art: The New World to the Modern World 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail 12 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully
American History - fully

Albany (Latham) 102 Thursdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12

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.

Genealogy, Your Family, and History 4 cr with Anthony Anadio

spaces avail *CLOSED* Intro and Adv./Liberal

Albany (Latham) 102 Thursdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, 3/8, 4/5

Who am I? Where did I come from? How am I connected to history? Although these may be questions you've asked yourself many times, you are not alone - people in the past have wondered the same things, and people in the future will as well. Today, we have numerous electronic tools to help us investigate our lineages that complement the time-honored methods of digging through musty historical documents in a dusty archive. Fortunately, historical archives have mostly modernized with very few being "dusty," but that is not the only change. Professional historians and researchers, who were once the lonely occupants of those research rooms, now have some welcome company in the form of many "regular" people using archives to investigate their own family's history. In fact, few things bring out a person's inner historian than genealogy. And few things are as satisfying as making historical discoveries. The primary focus of this course, however, is not how to do genealogical research, though there will be some of that, but rather taking the results of your genealogical research and exploring the history of time and place. In other words, you will learn how to connect your ancestors to their time and place in history, just as you are connected to your time and place in history. Family trees have many roots and branches, but adding some "foliage" of historical context will make it more complete and meaningful.

History of Beer & Brewing from Earliest Times to the Present 4 cr with Gerald Lorentz

spaces avail 15 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully

Albany (Latham) 424 Thursdays 6:00pm-8:00pm 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12

Brewing is one of the world's oldest biotechnologies, with evidence of brewing dating back to 3,500 BCE. Since at least that time, beer and brewing have been integral parts of many human societies, playing roles in commerce, trade, medicine, religion, and politics across cultures and across time. The history of beer and brewing is, therefore, not only one of scientific and technological advancement, but also the story of people themselves: their governance, their economy, their rites and their daily lives. In this study students will explore the history of beer and brewing from earliest times to the present. Students will examine beer and brewing in their social, cultural, and political contexts, examining both the development of brewing technology and infrastructure, and the role of beer in society. Through this study students will gain a broad understanding of the historical and cultural development of societies from ancient Sumer and Egypt, to medieval and renaissance Europe, to new colonial societies, to the present day.

No Ordinary Time: America in the Depression Years (1929-1941) 4 cr with Christopher Grillspaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully
Social Sciences - partially

Albany (Latham) 423 Thursdays 5:45pm-8:15pm 1/18, 2/1, 2/15, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 3/29, 4/12, 4/19

This study will offer a comprehensive overview of one of the most trying and transformative decades in American history: the 1930's. Key social, cultural, economic, and political events and developments during the era will be explored. Topics to be addressed include the collapse of the economy and emergence of a new "school" of economics; the immediate impact and lasting legacies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal; protest movements; how the Great Depression challenged and to some degree reshaped core American values and beliefs; the emergence of a "golden age" in American popular culture during a time of terrible hardship; and why this period still matters today. Students will be encouraged to choose a topic of special interest for their primary research assignment.

Special Topics in Human Services 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal

Albany (Latham) 109 Thursdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/18, 2/8, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

In this course, students will have the opportunity to explore a specific topic within the broad scholarship of Human Services. This course gives the student and instructor to develop a learning experience to enhance the degree program by focusing on a specialized area of interest (e.g., a response to current events, new technique). On completion of the course students will be able to categorize and connect distinct disciplinary fields to the selected topic in order to delineate and analyze its key issues and concerns. Also they will be able to apply multidisciplinary approaches, theories, and methods to critically evaluate a key issue or concern in the selected topic. The course meets CHS AOS Guideline(s) in Knowledge of human behavior, Knowledge of service delivery, and Diversity Skills.

Statistics 4 cr with Amy Salvati

spaces avail 8 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Mathematics - fully

Albany (Latham) 444 Thursdays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/18, 1/25, 2/8, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

The focus of this introductory course is on the application and use of statistics, rather than the detailed complexity of the underlying mathematics. Study and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of data analysis, including both descriptive and inferential statistics, including arranging data, tables and graphs, measures of central tendency and dispersion, regression analysis, correlation, sampling, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing. The student will make use of technology based tools (Excel, StatCrunch, etc.) to assist in summarizing, interpreting, and communicating with data. Prerequisites: Algebra would provide a good background for statistics, although the minimum entering skills would be arithmetic essentials (fractions, decimals, ratios) and graphing. Students must attend study group sessions in Latham.

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Academic Reading, Research and Thinking 4 cr with Lisa D'Adamo-Weinsteinspaces avail *CLOSED* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Critical Thinking - fully
Basic Communications - fully

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

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.

Human Development 4 cr with Efrat Levy

spaces avail *CLOSED*

Intro/Liberal

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

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

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 *CLOSED*

Intro/Non-Liberal

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

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.

Saratoga Study Groups

Mondays

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

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

Saratoga (113 West) 146 Mondays 5:30pm-7:30pm 1/22, 2/5, 2/26, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23

This study invites students to explore our growing awareness of the cultural and psychological -- even cognitive -- effects of war by reading stories, essays, articles, 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 Historical Studies, Human Development, Cultural Studies and Community and Human Services.

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

Unsolved Crimes: Forensic Science in Historic Cases 4 cr with Thomas Jones

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

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

This study examines cases that have captivated observers for years, including Jack the Ripper, the JonBenet Ramsey murder, the Black Dahlia, Dr. Sam Sheppard (the case that inspired The Fugitive), the Zodiac Killer, O.J. Simpson, the Cleveland Torso Killer (was this connected with the Black Dahlia?), and others. Rather than simply using conjecture, as is common in popular books on these cases, we will utilize methodologies and theories from forensic science to develop new ideas and test hypotheses put forth by others who have looked at the same cases. In some cases, we will attempt to determine how methods that were not available at the time might be used to re-examine evidence that may have been missed -- could modern methods help determine if Jack the Ripper was right- or left-handed and perhaps how tall he (or perhaps she) was, or the shape of the weapon/item used in the murders? Could pollen analysis have provided definitive proof of guilt or innocence in the O.J. Simpson case? Might there have been hidden DNA evidence in the Zodiac cases that has since degraded as items sit in boxes? In other cases, we will try to determine how mistakes were made and how evidence can be re-evaluated once it has been weakened by errors -- the Jon Benet Ramsey murder and the Dr. Sheppard case were famously mishandled, even though evidence was found.

Writing & Mindfulness for Caregivers 4 cr with Elaine Handley

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

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

Most of us are caregivers at some point in our lives and many of us are professional caregivers. Research shows that caring for a loved one on a regular basis produces stress, illness, and a higher frequency of death. Even with professional training, caregiving is challenging and can lead to burn-out. Studies show that writing about stressful aspects of our life, such as taking care of another person, promotes physical and mental wellbeing in the caretaker. We will use writing as a mindfulness practice, and incorporate other mindfulness and self-compassion activities in our lives to further decrease stress, build resilience and articulate our caregiving experience, resulting in increasing our self-knowledge and awareness of our caregiver role. This study will provide students with practice expressing themselves through writing while enhancing their writing skills, and help them to discover the ways in which writing can be a wellness tool based on the work of psychologists Dr. James Pennebaker, Dr. Kristen Neff, and Dr. Christopher Germer.