

space availability for study groups as of 05/22/2016 09:15AM

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## Online Study Groups

### **Adirondack History 4 cr with Kate Dermody 8 week**

spaces avail **15** 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 8 week**

spaces avail **14** 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.

### **Building a Civil Society in the Middle East 1 cr with Efrat Levy 8 week**

spaces avail **24** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Other World Civilizations - partially

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This one credit component is a requirement for anyone registering for the other studies offered as part of this field experience. Students will participate in an introductory online module, which will include general topics as well as preparatory work for the specific courses they are enrolled in. General topics to be covered will include: the historical background and current initiatives in building a civil society in the Middle East; the framework of non-governmental organizations in the Middle East; new initiatives in social entrepreneurship, the basics of non-profit management. Online modules after the field experience will be tailored to the specific topics of their courses.

### **From Toy Story to Frozen: Exploring Gender Roles in Children's Animated Films 4 cr with Cynthia Bates 8 week**

spaces avail **1** 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 various Toy Story movies, the Tinkerbell movies (Great Fairy Rescue, Lost Treasure, etc.), Mulan, Hercules, 101 Dalmatians, The Lorax, 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

**Genocide: A Global Perspective 4 cr with Kate Dermody 8 week**

spaces avail 14 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.

**Herstory: History of Women in America 4 cr with Kate Dermody 8 week**

spaces avail 13 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.

**Information Technology, Ethics & Society 4 cr with Mete Cetiner 8 week**

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

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

In this study, we will evaluate the impact of information technology (IT) on our lives and society, and we will examine how we use current IT applications for different purposes. The study will also provide you with an understanding of the fundamental principles of ethics. You will analyze a series of cases and real-life situations where individuals or organizations face social or ethical dilemmas, or legal sanctions in relation to the use of IT in different environments.

**Introduction to Spoken Arabic 3 cr with Efrat Levy 8 week**

spaces avail 14 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Foreign Language - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This is part of the field experience "Building a Civil Society" in the Middle East, and registration for and participation in that is a co-requisite. . This study will be offered at the introductory level. Using an experiential approach to language learning, this study will incorporate cultural content, various media (films, poetry etc.) and advanced technology. Students will be able to gain basic reading and writing skills in Classical Arabic (reading and writing). The emphasis will be on gaining spoken skills in Arabic language spoken in the Levant. Classroom learning will be complemented by field trips in the surrounding area. Students will continue learning after the field experience through an on-line Arabic language program.

**Leadership for a Sustainable Democracy in the Middle East 3 cr with Efrat Levy 8 week**

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

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This is part of the field experience "Building a Civil Society in the Middle East" and registration for, and participation in that is a co-requisite. This course will present prominent models in current leadership scholarship that strive to strengthen democratic values and communities' resilience through participatory action. The course will present various models of democratic ruling, highlighting the values and elaborating on the practices of deliberative, participatory-democracy. Students will apply these models in discussing the need for and ways to support civil societies in the Middle East. Students will consider multiple perspectives on leadership and how those perspectives also contribute to an understanding of leadership that is consistent with theories and practices of conflict resolution and management. Students will also develop and articulate their own profile of leadership as related to conflict resolution and management.

**Managerial Leadership through Film 4 cr with Cynthia Bates 8 week**spaces avail 4 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.

**Photography as a Bridge Between Cultures 3 cr with Efrat Levy 8 week**

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

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This is part of the field experience "Building a Civil Society in the Middle East" and registration for, and participation in that is a co-requisite. In addition to gaining individualized photography skills, this study will engage students in learning how art can be used as a way to learn about other cultures, as the means through which to "recognize the other." Photography lessons will be complemented by projects including visits to Arab and Jewish communities. Students will also be exposed to the work of curating museum exhibits in a gallery with a social mission.

**Rock and Roll History 4 cr with Kate Dermody 8 week**

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal

\*\* 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 8 week**spaces avail 13 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 Hudson River & its Valley: A Highway of Ideas & Commerce 4 cr with Anthony Anadio 8 week**

spaces avail 14

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.

## Albany Study Groups

Tuesdays

### **Painting Outdoors: Summer Landscape for Beginners 4 cr with Marta Jaremko 8 week**

spaces avail **10** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-8:00 p.m. May 17, 24, 31, June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 5

The emphasis of this study is on learning technique and fundamental watercolor painting skills while developing a basic understanding of composition. Progress in this study depends on completing all assignments and on weekly critiques of each student's individual work. Therefore, it is essential that work be turned in on a weekly basis. Painting students learn so much from having their work critiqued, as well as from critiquing others' work. There will be short weekly critiques with students' participation at the end of each session.

### **Understanding and Managing Stress 4 cr with Cathy Davison 8 week**

spaces avail **10** Adv./Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 5/17, 5/31, 6/14, 6/28

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

Thursdays

### **Quantitative Reasoning 4 cr with Amy Salvati 15 week**

spaces avail **10** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Mathematics - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-&:30 p.m. 5/19, 6/2, 6/9, 6/30, 7/14, 7/28, 8/11, 8/18

This introductory level study will develop the ability to interpret and reason with information that involves mathematical ideas or numbers. As students explore issues that directly affect their lives, they will gain an appreciation of mathematics and its importance in a technological world. Topics will be chosen from statistical reasoning, symmetry and proportion, mathematical modeling, probability, and geometry. These topics will cover the required general education competencies of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, data analysis, and quantitative reasoning. Applications of mathematics to the social sciences, environmental issues, business, art, and music will be featured.

### **Researching Social Issues 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba 8 week**

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

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 P.M. 5/19, 6/2, 6/16, 6/30

The study will introduce the scientific enquiry and focus on the nature, approaches, importance and process of social research. Also, it will examine ethical issues and the evaluation of research reports. Students will have experience in hands-on independent conducting of research and writing a research report.

## Saratoga Study Groups

Mondays

**Writing for Caregivers 2 cr**    **with Elaine Handley**    **8 week**  
spaces avail **14**                      Intro and Adv./Liberal                      fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - partially

111 West Avenue, Saratoga Springs    Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 5/16, 5/23, 6/6, 6/20

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. Based on the work of Dr. James Pennebaker, this course will use writing as a tool to process our caregiving experience while coming to a deeper understanding of the caretaker role.

## Schenectady Study Groups

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

### **General Mathematics 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn 8 week**

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

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

This study is designed to cover fundamental mathematical topics and their applications (e.g. number theory, algebra, probability, geometry). Student and instructor will meet weekly to use a combination of tools and strategies such as classroom discussion of case examples, worksheets and multimedia to engage the study topics in meaningful and relevant ways. No textbook required.