

GREAT INEXPENSIVE CLASSES – INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING – WINTER-SPRING 2016 SCHEDULE

#16-1 UNEXPECTED ECONOMICS

John Somers, Fridays, 10 am - noon
MV Cactus Room, 1/8, 1/15, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12

This course will focus on current economic issues from a non-mathematical perspective. Topics include how economists reason, markets and culture, religion and economics, crime and terrorism, risk and uncertainty, and the economics of happiness.

#16-2 CHINESE CULTURE AND RELIGIONS

Ann Kuperberg, Mondays, 10 am - noon
MV Sonoran Rm, 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8

Chinese culture has maintained a strong belief system including ancestor worship for over 5,000 years, through both dynastic and Communist rule. This course will cover myths about creation, the spiritual world, and ghosts, as represented in dance and opera. The teachings of Confucius, Daoism and Buddhism will be highlighted as influences on the government and on the people.

#16-3 CANTERBURY TALES

Linda Griffin, Mondays, 2-4 pm
MV Sonoran Rm 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8

Geoffrey Chaucer is a writer for all ages. He wrote in a time much like our own: "wracked by wars, labor disputes, high taxes, and dangerous new ideas." He wrote one of the most famous works of his time period, The Canterbury Tales. In it is a composite of people of that time period, travelling to Canterbury to visit the shrine of Thomas a Becket. Along the way, they each tell a tale. From the pious to the profane, from the dramatic to the comic, these tales are entertaining yet informative of life in that time period. Text: Penguin Classics' Geoffrey Chaucer: the Canterbury Tales, Translated into Modern English by Nevill Coghill.

#16-4 TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Sharon Cotter, Tuesdays, 10 am - noon
MV Sonoran Rm 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9

This course is aimed at people who want to improve their photography. The emphasis is on taking better photos while traveling, but the techniques apply as well to other types of photography. Topics include how to treat different subjects, landscapes, cityscapes, flowers, wildlife, and sunsets, with emphasis on composition, lighting, and exposure. Also covered will be equipment and equipment use, from phones to SLRs. Also covered will be some simple to use, but powerful digital editing tools for improving photos and for photo publications.

#16-5 MINERAL MANIA (A REPEAT)

Harlan Clare, Tuesdays, 2 - 4 pm
MV Sonoran Rm, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9

Minerals and gems can be beautiful, but did you know that many of the products you use today come from common minerals? Come join us and learn about common and not so common minerals. You will participate in hands-on activities and demonstrations, while learning how and why minerals are different. See unusual properties of some minerals demonstrated - fluorescence, phosphorescence, radioactivity, pleochroism, and magnetism, among others. You will also learn about gemstones, including how gems are valued. As an optional experience, the instructor will lead a tour of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

#16-6 AMERICAN ARTISTS AND THE MET

Laurie Brussel, Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 except 9-11 am on 2/3/16; MV Sonoran Rm, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10

This course begins with a brief overview of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's history, from a dream in the minds of Americans to the iconic and ever growing museum of today. Its extensive collection of American Art provides a record of the nation's aesthetic evolution. The lectures will include American Art 1650-1900, Art in the 20th Century before and after WWII, and the Robert Lehman Collection 1800-1960. The course will also elaborate on a few artists, including Roy Lichtenstein and Georgia O'Keefe.

#16-7 ENERGY: TECHNOLOGIES AND CHOICES

Lockwood Carlson, Thursdays, 10 am - noon
HOA1 Activities Center. 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18

This course is about current, emerging and long term energy technologies. Energy technologies drive most of the key global issues, such as economics, security, governance, demographics, and health. We will survey the technologies currently used, emerging technologies, and longer term opportunities. We will discuss coal, petroleum, natural gas, hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, nuclear fission, nuclear fusion and others. The goal is to understand how the technologies work, their interactions, their advantages and disadvantages relative to one another, and related issues such as energy storage and security. The focus will be on science, engineering and economics rather than ideology and hype.

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#16-8 VISUAL PERCEPTION

Robert Springer, Mondays, 10 am - noon
MV Sonoran Rm, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21

This course discusses the amazing human visual perception system. The eye is often compared to a camera however, our visual system is very different. Instead of a sharp lens, we have two low quality lenses. The image that enters our eye travels through a substantial number of blood vessels before getting to the retina, but amazingly, the visual system erases these blood vessels from view. We will review research that shows how the visual system breaks down images into pieces, gathers information on edges, motion, direction and color for each, and then reassembles all these into the complete "picture" we see. You will also see entertaining optical illusions and discuss why they occur.

#16-9 THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE NAVAJO PEOPLE

Larry Stillman, Mondays, 2pm-4pm
MV Sonoran Rm, 2/15, 2/22, 2/29, 3/7, 3/14

This course provides a fascinating look at America's largest Indian tribe, the *Dinetah*, the Navajo Nation: its turbulent history, its remarkable people who have impacted tribal politics and the arts, its historic contribution to the outcome of World War II, its legends and traditions, and more. Attendees will leave with a new appreciation for The People, as the Navajos call themselves, who share the same hopes and aspirations as the rest of us.

#16-10 FIRST AMENDMENT ISSUES

Mel Durschlag, Tuesdays, 10 am - noon
MV Sonoran Rm, 2/16, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15

This course will provide a historical context to our current debates about the scope of our Free Speech protections, and will introduce the concepts of limitations on speech. The first session will provide a brief history of speech restrictions in 15th, 16th, and 17th Century England, and speech restrictions in the Colonies and the early United States. The question "what is speech" will be addressed, including symbolic speech as well as the spoken and written word. Other topics include why speech enjoys special protection, and how speech may be regulated. Subsequent sessions will focus on limits on Free Speech, including "incitement and provocation", offensive speech, speech that inflicts injury, sexually oriented and violent speech, and the regulation of speech in public places.

16-11 PERU: ITS HISTORY, GEOGRAPH & CULTURE

Bonnie Wehle, Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:30 am
MV Sonoran Rm, 2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23

From its waterless deserts to its snow-capped Andes and steamy Amazon jungles, from the Incas with their huge Empire and incredible architecture to modern Peru's fusion of cultures and ongoing quest for economic, political and social progress, Peru is a land of diversity, superlatives and extremes. This course will delve into Peru's history, geography and culture, using lecture, discussion, PowerPoint presentations, and videos.

16-12 THE WHITE HOUSE AND BEYOND (A REPEAT)

Joan Elder, Tuesdays 1 pm - 3 pm
MV Sonoran Rm, 2/23, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22

This class explains the origin of the home of the President of the United States from the original planning, construction, first occupants, and the numerous additions and remodeling throughout its history. The class will also discuss occupants of the Oval Office AFTER their presidency, especially those with unique experiences. Included will be videos of the White House, Presidential Homes, Libraries and Memorials.

#16-13 BUDDHISM: THE EIGHT-FOLD PATH

Harriet Schultz, Wednesdays, 2 pm - 4 pm
MV Cactus Rm, 2/24, 3/2, 3/09, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30

The Noble Eightfold Path contains the do-it-yourself instruction manual that leads to the creation of more happiness and the experience of enlightenment. This course will focus on the eight steps of the path that create the experience of enlightenment. Each step creates healthy factors of the mind that will lead to less suffering. When healthy factors are present, unhealthy ones are not; a simple truth. We begin to see here that Buddhism is indeed a science of the mind.

#16-14 THE WAR OF 1812

Marv Andrews, Thursdays, 10 am – noon
MV Cactus Rm, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24

This course will cover an important event in American history of which most Americans only have vague knowledge. It will start the events leading up to the U.S. declaration of war on Great Britain in June, 1812, in the context of the Napoleonic Wars. It will cover the fighting that took place on the water and on land, including U.S. invasion attempts of Canada, the involvement of Native Americans, and the British occupation of Washington, D.C. The war ended with the last and most significant land battle (New Orleans), which actually took place after the signing of the Treaty of Ghent between Great Britain and the US in Belgium on December 24, 1814.