THE HISTORY OF SPARROWS POINT
Bill Barry

Sessions I and II
Thursday, 11:00 a.m. (begins on March 4)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

The world’s largest steel mill in Sparrows Point, MD, created an epic civilization from its founding in 1887 to its closing in 2012. The course will cover the history of the mills, the development of the town of Sparrows Point, the struggles for union, civil, and women’s rights and will evaluate the reasons for the decline and closing of the mill. An important discussion will be the consequences of the closure for the workers and for the communities.

Bill Barry is the retired director of labor studies at the Community College of Baltimore County-Dundalk, where he taught classes at Sparrows Point, and is the author of two books on Sparrows Point.

THE HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENCY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
Ed Berkowitz

Session I
Monday, 11:00 a.m. (begins on March 1)
Fee: $65

This course traces the historical evolution of the modern presidency by examining the lives and key elections of Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan. Since the course will be conducted in an election year, it will consider how past presidential elections have shaped this one.

Ed Berkowitz, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of history at George Washington University. He earned his Ph.D. in American History from Northeastern University. He has extensive scholarship in the areas of American social welfare policy, recent American history, and American cultural history. He worked in the Carter White House.
DIGGING THE CLASSICAL WORLD: Archaeology of Greece and Rome
Bob Baer

Session I and II
Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. (begins on March 2)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

The civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome made major contributions to our western heritage. A great deal of the knowledge of these influential cultures is due to discoveries made through archaeology. This highly illustrated course will explore the history and significance of archaeological exploration of the Greek and Roman worlds. The work of pioneering archaeologists will be presented and analyzed. The course will cover archaeology from Greek Bronze Age, classical and Hellenistic periods, and the Roman Republic and Empire periods. Many of the most significant discoveries will be discussed and evaluated. The course will examine how these archaeological discoveries have contributed to the understanding of western culture.

Robert Baer holds a B.A. in history from Towson University, an M.L.A. in the history of ideas from the Johns Hopkins University, and a D.Ed. in higher education from Morgan State University. He spent 30 years as a college administrator in Connecticut, New York, and Maryland. He has been an instructor in history at York College-CUNY, Norwalk Community College, Community College of Baltimore, and Howard Community College.
A QUICK HISTORY OF HUMANS
John Spears

Session I and II
Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. (begins on March 3)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

Archaeology, anthropology, evolutionary biology and traditional history have all made incredible strides in understanding human nature over the last 50 years—to such an extent that it is now possible to outline the most important patterns of human history over the last 75,000 years. This will be a bird’s eye view, no doubt very different from any other history course you’ve ever taken. If you’re thrilled by long vistas, join us. We’ll do a whirlwind tour stretching from human origins in Africa to the present, all of which will help to understand today’s headlines and tomorrow’s crises. Lectures are extensively illustrated, and all readings are optional. Bring your curiosity. Dipping into one of these excellent survey texts would be useful: David Christian, Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History; Wm H. McNeil and J. R. McNeil The Human Web: A Bird’s-Eye View of World History; Michael Cook, A Brief History of the Human Race.

John Spears received his Ph.D. in European history from Hopkins in 1978, after a 1972 master of arts in teaching, but taught only sporadically over a long and varied career, which he finished recently with 20 years as a consultant at Towson’s Regional Economic Studies Institute. But with retirement came the opportunity of re-firing his passion for history, especially the “big history” of the world now becoming more popular in the 21st century. He has now taught a version of “A Quick History of Humans” at several institutions in the area, including Towson in 2016, and keeps modifying and updating as new discoveries are made. He finds that the life experiences and available time of seniors make them a wonderful group to teach.

JEAN JAURÈS: MARTYR FOR PEACE
Bob Moore & Eric Stewart

Session I and II
Monday, 9:30 a.m. (begins on March 1)
Fee: $130 ($65 for each session)

Jean Jaurès (1859–1914) was a French politician, historian, philosopher and journalist who devoted the last eight years of his life to prevent what became the Great War. The greatest orator of his time, Jaurès was an eloquent advocate for democracy, justice and peace. He and Emile Zola were the most influential spokesmen for Alfred Dreyfus, and he was responsible for the unification of the French Socialist Party in 1905. Jaurès was assassinated by a French nationalist on the eve of World War I, on July 31, 1914. He is buried in the Panthéon in Paris among the immortals of the French Republic. This course will trace the life of Jaurès in the pivotal period prior to World War I. You will meet a cast of characters along the way including Georges Clemenceau, Alfred Dreyfus, Ariside Briand, Henri Bergson, Raymond Poincaré and Karl Marx. We will discuss the legacy of Jaurès. The issues that he dealt with—democracy, justice, war and peace—are relevant to our current era. Jean Jaurès is not well known in America, but he deserves to be.

Bob Moore is a retired high school teacher. He taught French, Spanish, European and American history, and economics. Bob was a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger. He holds a bachelor’s degree from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and a master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Eric Stewart co-presented the “Causes of the Great War for Osher” in 2015 and 2020, and “Jean Jaurès: Martyr for Peace” with Bob Moore. He taught the “Songs of Social Engagement” in the spring of 2016. A retired computer analyst at the Social Security Administration, he attended Georgetown University in the late 1960s.