

SPRING 2024 SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Schedule subject to change. Classes meet for 75 minutes unless otherwise noted.



| Monday ONLINE ONLY | Tuesday IN-PERSON | Wednesday IN-PERSON | Thursday IN-PERSON | Friday ONLINE ONLY |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|

SESSION I (MARCH 4–MARCH 29)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 9:30 a.m. | Pop Art, Then and Now | Vienna: City of Musical Dreams | America's Cultural Regions | The Origins of Jazz | |
| | | Traits of Triumphant Survivors | | Cosmic News | |
| 11 a.m. | Rembrandt van Rijn and the Dutch Golden Age (11:15 a.m.) | Myth and American History | Uncommon Wisdom | The Story, History, and Geography of the Bible | The Top 25 Film Scores of All Time |
| | | Modernity, A Survey | | The Fitzgeralds and the Lost Generation | |
| 1 p.m. | | The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway | Eight Plays Everyone Should Know, 2024 Edition | The Comedy of Ideas (1–4 p.m.) | The Films of Marlon Brando |
| | | | | The Red Scare | |
| 2:30 p.m. | | Women Composers of the Romantic Era: The Belle Epoque | | | |

SESSION II (APRIL 8–MAY 3)

Class will not be held April 1–5

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|-----------|---|--|--|---|---|
| 9:30 a.m. | | Vienna: City of Musical Dreams | America's Cultural Regions | The Origins of Jazz | The Real Revolution: America, 1775-1783 |
| | | Makeup Mavens | | Unquestionable Answers and Unanswerable Questions | |
| 11 a.m. | Rembrandt van Rijn and the Dutch Golden Age (11:15 a.m.) | Myth and American History | The History of Death | The Story, History, and Geography of the Bible | The Top 25 Film Scores of All Time |
| | | Modernity, A Survey | | | |
| 1 p.m. | Rod Serling: His Life and Legacy | The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway | Eight Plays Everyone Should Know, 2024 Edition | The Comedy of Ideas (1–4 p.m.) | The Films of Sidney Lumet |
| | | | | The Red Scare | Digital Photography |
| 2:30 p.m. | | Women Trailblazers in American Popular Music | | | |

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SESSION I (MARCH 4–MARCH 29) • SESSION II (APRIL 8–MAY 3)

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ARTS, CULTURE & HUMANITIES

“Vienna: City of Musical Dreams” Jonathan Palevsky

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Sessions I & II

Vienna has contributed an enormous amount of music to the western musical canon. Considering that Vienna was the capital of the Austrian Habsburg empire it's not surprising that this amazing metropolis should be the home or adoptive home of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert. Vienna was also a great creative inspiration for Brahms, the entire Straus family, Mahler, Schoenberg, Berg, and Webern. We will examine the rich music and historical context of this imperial capital.

“The Origins of Jazz” Seth Kibel

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Sessions I & II

In this course, we will start our exploration in New Orleans, where multiple ethnicities and several musical traditions all converged to give birth to this uniquely American musical genre. We will then take our story to Chicago, in the 1920's, and wind up in New York, which will remain the epicenter of jazz from the 1930's up until the present day. We'll explore different genres of jazz and the lives, careers, and music of many jazz notables.

“Women Composers of the Romantic Era: The Belle Epoque ” Lisa Woznicki

Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m., Session I

This spring, we will examine three women composers of the Belle Epoque, or Late Romantic Era. Each of the three women profiled this semester faced unique issues as they fought to have their music performed and published. Come hear the compelling personal histories and experience the transcendent music of Melanie Bonis (French, 1858 – 1937), Alma Schindler Mahler Werfel (Austrian, 1879-1964), and Florence Price (African American, 1887 – 1953).

“Women Trailblazers in American Popular Music ” Lisa Woznicki

Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m., Session II

In the study of music history, popular music, particularly American popular music, has always been the poor cousin of concert/art music. In this course, we will look at women's involvement in American popular music starting at the turn of the 20th century and ending with singer/songwriters of the 1970s. Students will examine the obstacles women faced as they worked to make their mark in a field dominated by men.

ONLINE COURSE: “The Top 25 Film Scores of All Time ” Emanuel Abramovits

Fridays at 11:00 a.m., Sessions I & II (starts on March 15)

The American Film Institute released a list of the best film scores, that includes many well-known classics and some surprises. The composers of those scores had fascinating lives and solid careers. With the help of plenty of audiovisuals, stories and anecdotes, let's enjoy the ride through the process of creating those historical pieces that convey what the movie is trying to say without words and evoke an emotional response even the most brilliant bit of dialogue cannot. With the participation of the students, we'll build our alternative top 25 film scores of all time!

ONLINE COURSE: “Rembrandt van Rijn and the Dutch Golden Age ” Joseph Cassar

Mondays at 11:15 a.m., Sessions I & II

This course will focus on one of the most important artists, Rembrandt, his upbringing, art education and a reflection of the cultural milieu in the mid-1600s. Several masterpieces will be studied which cover, among other things, his many self-portraits. A special section will be dedicated to his late period which is the climax of his works even though Rembrandt was bankrupt by this time.

ONLINE COURSE: “Pop Art, Then and Now ” Michael Salcman

Mondays at 9:30 a.m., Sessions I

Pop Art, the most consequential art movement since abstract expressionism, has influenced the development of virtually all subsequent art, the art market, art theory and the culture in general. We will first examine the progenitors of Pop Art before learning about the kings of Pop, Warhol and Lichtenstein, and other canonical Pop Artists: Rosenquist, Wesselmann, Oldenburg and Ruscha.

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ARTS, CULTURE & HUMANITIES

ONLINE COURSE: “Beginning Digital Photography” Eli Vega

Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Session II

In this highly interactive course, you will learn the basics, like those dials on your camera; those mysterious menu items; composition; f/stops, shutter speeds, exposure meter and how they all work together; ISO and White Balance; Different types of lenses; the #1 solution to the #1 problem in photography; and more!

“Eight Plays Everyone Should Know, 2024 Edition” Greg Jones

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Sessions I & II

This course will introduce students to the wit, style, and social satire of four masters of comedy: Gogol, Chekhov, Feydeau, and Noel Coward. Each class will feature a mix of background, clips from performances, lively discussion and, when possible, live performances from the plays.

“The Comedy of Ideas” William Florman

Thursdays from 1:00–4:00 p.m., Sessions I & II

The thesis of this film course is that comedy can indeed be a vehicle for a serious collaboration of important ideas—social, cultural, moral, and political. We will view and discuss films including “Modern Times”, “Annie Hall”, “Dr. Strangelove”

ONLINE COURSE: “Rod Serling: His Life and Legacy ” Arnold Blumberg

Mondays at 1:00 p.m. Session II

Picture, if you will, a course that will examine one man’s career, with stories that became templates for countless imitators, and a power to tell tales that could only exist...in the mind of Rod Serling.

ONLINE COURSE: “The Films of Marlon Brando ” Arnold Blumberg

Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Session I

There are few actors in the history of the movies that are as fascinating, as magnetic, as wildly controversial, as Marlon Brando. An award-winning star whose idiosyncratic approach to both his work and his life made him an indelible pop culture icon in his own lifetime. Actor, activist, eccentric, and legend – this course will examine the many facets of Marlon Brando, from his earliest work to his final days.

ONLINE COURSE: “The Films of Sidney Lumet ” Arnold Blumberg

Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Session II

Director Sidney Lumet brought a healthy distrust of authority, acute awareness of social injustices, and a uniquely Jewish sensibility to all of his work, resulting in a career that gave the world powerful, dynamic, socio-politically-relevant dramatic films like 12 Angry Men (1957), Fail Safe (1964), Dog Day Afternoon (1975), Network (1976), and The Verdict (1982). This course will look at the career of Sidney Lumet and the many movies that led to him being dubbed a “master of cinema” and “neorealist” in his depiction of the modern American story on the silver screen.

“Uncommon Wisdom” Ed Fotheringill

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Sessions I

This course will examine some of the fundamental insights of Hindu philosophy which, although cryptic and esoteric, are harbingers of wisdom that may literally change the value of one’s life. Passages from the Upanishads and The Bhagavad Gita will be analyzed and discussed, and then evaluated considering the insights of modern science, specifically astronomy and quantum mechanics. Finally, consideration will be given to the wisdom of Hindu gurus, those who guide us in how to live a truly meaningful life.

“The Story, History, and Geography of the Bible” Father Bob Albright

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Sessions I & II

The first four weeks will be spent in the Old Testament or Hebrew Scriptures moving from the Patriarchs through the Post-Exilic period. The second four weeks will be spent in the New Testament moving from Jesus in Paul and the Gospels through early Christianity.

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ARTS, CULTURE & HUMANITIES

“The Fitzgeralds and the Lost Generation” Jack Burkert

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Session I

This course examines the personalities of the “lost generation” of the 1920s, starting with an in-depth look at Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. We will also take a look at the influences of Hemingway, Picasso, Stein, and others on arts and culture in this interesting time period.

“The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway” Robert Jacobs

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. Sessions I & II

This course will concentrate on Hemingway’s short stories that are his primary legacy and major contribution to American literature. We will conduct close readings of a string of his most critically acclaimed short stories and will investigate the way that Hemingway revolutionized the modern short story.

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

“Myth and American History ” Bob Baer

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. Sessions I & II

Societies select and promote information about their past to help people develop a sense of their history and identity. Much of this material is often overly simplified, half-true, excessively biased or just false. It’s often difficult to separate legend and popular misconceptions from historically accurate information. This course will identify many of the mythic stories of America’s past, explore why these myths became accepted, the role they play and what historians of today say really happened.

ONLINE COURSE: “The Real Revolution: America, 1775-1783 ” Richard Bell

Fridays at 9:30 a.m. Session II

Declaring independence on a piece of parchment on a summer’s day in Philadelphia in 1776 would have meant nothing had not tens of thousands of ordinary Americans been willing to support that cause and fight to make it a reality. We will examine four of the extraordinary groups of people who played central roles in the war for independence: patriot soldiers, non-combatants on the home front, Black Americans, and white loyalists.

“America’s Cultural Regions” John Danz

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. Sessions I & II

Students will be aware of the various origins and cultures of the original immigrants at the European colonization of America. As such, each culture made an “imprint” that has persisted to the present. With this knowledge, students will better understand why certain areas respond differently to political and social issues.

“Modernity, A Survey” John Spears

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. Sessions I & II

In the last 250 years the world has seen more changes in the life of humans on this planet than in the past 300,000 years. This course will present a rapid international survey of many of them, including the technical, scientific, artistic and political. Some of those changes will be familiar, but none of us has been able to pay attention to them all. Discover new stories from near and far, all of them lavishly illustrated in slide presentations, all of them important in shaping both the optimism and pessimism of the current day.

“The Red Scare ” Bill Barry

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. Sessions I & II

The history of the Red Scare is timely and important. The class will cover the history from 1798, with an emphasis on the McCarthy period, activities in the Baltimore area, and the personal experiences of participants.

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HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

“The History of Death” Jennifer Liles

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Session II

We will examine our rituals, our beliefs, and our relationship to death. Studying the Victorian and Modern eras, we can see how our society was shaped by death and how society shaped our views on death. As Ben Franklin famously quoted, “...but in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.”

“Makeup Mavens” Barbara Blumberg Ressin

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Session II

How did today’s billion-dollar makeup business get its start? In this course, you will see the trajectory through the history of companies and the people behind them—from Avon, Mary Kay, and Helena Rubenstein to Elizabeth Arden, Estee Lauder, and Charles Revlon.

“Traits of Triumphant Survivors” Ann Stearns

Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m., Session I

In this course, Dr. Stearns will describe what her research has shown to be the personal traits, choices, and behaviors commonly shared by resilient people (for whom she coined the term “Triumphant Survivors”). She brings a powerful message of hope to those dealing with the pain of a loss or wanting to support others.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

“Cosmic News ” Daniel Golombek

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. Session I

We are living in a remarkable era of astronomical discoveries as we have opened all known windows to observe the cosmos. Many of these findings were so unexpected that have forced us to reexamine our understanding of the universe. In this course we will learn about the current probes, rovers, helicopters, landers, telescopes and particle accelerators in operation in the ground and in space and we will examine what we recently learned about planets, moons, stars, galaxies, black holes, the origin of the universe and everything in between. It will be quite an adventure!

“Unquestionable Answers and Unanswerable Questions ” Daniel Golombek

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. Session II

Why is there something rather than nothing? Was there a beginning? Are we alone? Are we just sentient stardust? We’ve been asking these questions since the first humans looked up at the night sky, at the changing seasons, at what was around them. We have learned considerably, we can explain a lot about the universe, about nature and about ourselves. We have answers for many of these questions but there are still details that need to be understood and difficult questions that we don’t even know how to ask.

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