World History seems to cover so much time and comprise so many individual histories that there is no possibility of gaining a comprehensive understanding of it. This class is meant to dispel that common notion. It will do so by taking a world historical approach to World History. This means starting with the assumptions that the world as a whole has a history (as opposed to numerous separate histories), that there are distinct global developments over time which are shared by or affect numerous peoples throughout the world, and that it is meaningful to view these in the broadest terms rather than as part of regional or national histories. Viewed in these terms, World History from the beginning to the present can be divided neatly (given our class schedule) into six distinct parts, periods, or sets of developments. To put it another way, World History has just six basic stories. When we learn their storylines, we will be able to understand World History.

1. Age of Beginnings, 250,000-500 BC
2. Creating Empires and Cultural Traditions, 500 BC-AD 500
3. Age of Accelerating Connections, 500-1500
4. The Early Modern World, 1450-1750
5. The European Moment in World History, 1750-1914
6. The Most Recent Century, 1914-2014

ETHICAL ISSUES IN THE NEWS

This course will discuss current ethical issues as reported in the news. Prior to each meeting participants will receive a variety of articles/videos to review from major media outlets. Meeting sessions will involve a philosopher framing of the ethical issue(s), possible resolutions, and a group discussion on the right course of action. Topics will vary and participants are encouraged to submit current articles for inclusion in future meetings. Multiple subjects will be covered each session and the focus will be based upon participant interest. If you like an intelligent discussion of ethics in the news then you are an ideal participant in this course.

Participants must provide a working email address.

Mondays, 2:00-3:30 p.m.
September 29 – November 10 (no class October 13)
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
Wade Maki (Bowling Green State University) is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Philosophy where he teaches courses in business ethics, medical ethics, contemporary moral problems, and political philosophy. His scholarly interests are in applied ethics and political philosophy.

AMERICAN LITERATURE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Ever think of jazz as a stylized form of social protest? The painterly technique of Cubism as a literary practice? Can a text be like a painting or a song? This course investigates how literature represents ideas of social justice and citizenship, particularly through its incorporation of music and visual arts. From the slave narrative of Solomon Northup through F. Scott Fitzgerald’s ever-present Gatsby, this course focuses on the influence of the expressive arts on literature to approach lesser-known American texts and re-read “classic” ones like Fitzgerald’s through a new lens. We’ll consider the ways in which these literary texts address America’s critical struggles over the extension of democratic principles across lines of race, class, and gender by looking at how different kinds of literature as well as broader cultural forms combine to create social protest and new forms of art.

Visual art and music will accompany the introduction of texts.


2. Solomon Northup, Twelve Years a Slave (1853; available online). A discussion of the Fugitive Slave Law (1851), Stowe’s Uncle Tom’s Cabin (1852) and the issues of voice and representation in Northup’s narrative.


5. F. Scott Fitzgerald’s Jazz Age: Re-reading The Great Gatsby (1925) through music and its ethnic others.


Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.
September 30 – November 11 (no class October 14)
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

Noelle Morrissette (Ph.D., Yale University) is Associate Professor of English and Women’s and Gender Studies and African American Studies affiliate faculty. She writes about African American narrative, poetics, and expressive culture and is the author of James Weldon Johnson’s Modern Soundscapes (University of Iowa Press, 2013). Her work investigates how sonic experience draws attention to the interdependence of American and African American cultures. She is the current recipient of the Linda Arnold Carlisle Research Grant in Women’s and Gender Studies.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SYMPHONY

This course will examine the development of the symphony from its earliest examples through the last years of the 20th century. Because of its extensive history and the many composers involved in its legacy, representative movements from various symphonies by a variety of composers will be selected to highlight the different trajectories and intentions the genre has taken over time. Classes will focus on “educated” listening experiences, and no previous knowledge of music is required.

1. From Humble Beginnings
2. The Symphonies of Beethoven
3. The Romantic Symphony
4. The Post-Romantic Symphony
5. The Modern Symphony to WWII
6. The Symphony After WWII
**Greg Carroll** (Ph.D., University of Iowa) is Associate Professor of Music. He is a northern transplant to Greensboro from the upper Midwest. He was the first winner of the Outstanding Teacher and Excellence in Online Education Award at UNCG, and loves to share musical insights with others off campus at EMF and GSO concerts. His compositions have been performed all over the world, and he prefers to spend the first weeks of August fishing in northern Minnesota.

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**THE HISTORICAL ROOTS OF THE ARAB SPRING**

The Middle East has changed dramatically in a short period due to the events commonly referred to as the Arab Spring, and this six-week course examines the historical roots, key events and aftermath of these changes. The course begins with a look at the origins of the Arab Spring in Tunisia and Algeria before turning to the turmoil in Egypt, Libya and Syria where the story is of course still unfolding.

1. Beginning of the Arab Spring: Tunisia
2. Algeria as a Comparative Case Study
3. Egypt: The Post-Mubarak Power Struggle
4. Egypt (cont’d): The Fall of the Muslim Brotherhood
5. Libya: from Qaddaffi to Chaos
6. Civil War in Syria

**Jeff Jones** (Ph.D., UNC Chapel Hill) is Associate Professor of History. His specific area of research is Russia-Soviet history, however he also teaches courses in 20th century global history.
MASTERPIECES OF WORLD LITERATURE: MIDDLEMARCH

In eight sections (Books I–VIII) George Eliot (pseudonym for Mary Anne Evans) tells the story of various characters in the English market town of Middlemarch. It is the story of their loves, long-time courting, disappointments and happiness in marriage, death in advanced age and earlier, wealth and poverty in families. The social fabric is made up of the aristocracy, the wealthy land-owning class, and of those who work for them.

The themes of the novel are love and death, and all the tribulations which form part and parcel of these central moments in any human being’s life.

George Eliot is a master storyteller, not only in terms of the events related, but also in her analysis and commentary on these events. These analyses enable her to assess the human condition, its underlying psychological conflicts and its never-ending vagaries. Everything is always unpredictable (“There’s something singular in things.”) She presents her narrative material and thoughts in a most vivid style, full of figures of speech, comparisons and metaphors. She suggests that life’s events and our responses to them might be seen as a parable, the symbolic titles to her eight sections potentially pointing in the same direction.


Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30 p.m.
September 24 – November 12
Christ United Methodist Church

Joachim (Joe) Baer (Ph.D., Harvard University) is Professor Emeritus and former Department Head (German, Russian, and Japanese) who taught Russian language and literature at UNCG. His Ph.D. is in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

SPECIAL EVENTS

EAT YOUR WORDS

We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves
by Karen Joy Fowler
Luncheon and Book Discussion led by UNCG Professor Deborah Seabrooke

Rosemary Cooke narrates this compelling novel in a voice that is smart, funny, quirky…but most of all the voice of a deep-hearted person. This book is about longing for a lost sister, about trying to piece together a family caught in an experiment that went wrong, about parents lost in their own story, and about children who both love and resent their extraordinary childhood. But it is also about great questions like what does it mean to be human or animal? How do bonds form between siblings? And, can families actually break…and heal?

Fowler pulls off something monumental with such grace and responsibility to the reader. The book is absolutely whole and complete, and yet you will want it to go on just to keep hearing the narrator talk.

Wednesday, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
November 19, 2014
Greensboro Country Club
$35 per person

Deborah Seabrooke has taught undergraduate courses at UNCG for more than thirty years. She’s been teaching in the Graduate Liberal Studies Program since 2008. She has an MFA in Creative Writing from UNCG, where she studied with Fred Chappell. Her short stories have appeared in Long Story Short, The Virginia Quarterly Review, The Greensboro Review, and Best American Short Stories. She co-founded the Jabberbox Puppet Theater in 2009, writing and performing adult-themed puppet comedies with her friend, Marianne Gingher. Their newest production, based on a Fred Chappell story, will be performed at the Carrboro ArtsCenter in March, 2015.
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Emeritus Society is open to men and women of all ages and educational backgrounds. The Society is a self-supporting arm of the University. Class fees, not tax dollars, are used to meet costs of the program. Classes are $100 per course. Additional courses are $75.

Retired UNCG faculty and staff may subtract $25 from their total course fee. This discount is for six week courses only and cannot be taken on fees for events, workshops or trips.

You are registered only when payment is received. Register early to avoid inconvenience. Late registrants could miss important announcements such as last-minute changes in location. Instructors may not have enough materials for those registering late. Registration is on a first come, first served basis. If the class you want is filled, we keep a waiting list. Partial registrations to attend portions of the classes cannot be accepted. Detailed information on class location and parking will be supplied upon confirmation.

REGISTRATION

Online: (for credit card users only) http://dcl.uncg.edu

Mail: Fill out the registration form. Include check payable to “UNCG” or MC/Visa information. To assure accurate registration, it is suggested that only one person be registered per form. Mail to:

UNCG Emeritus Society
Division of Continual Learning
Becher-Weaver Building
915 Northridge Street
P.O. Box 26170
Greensboro, NC 27402-6170

Phone: Call (336) 315-7044 to register with your credit card. Outside Greensboro, call (866) 334-2255.

Refund: To receive a full refund, a written request must be received prior to the first class meeting. Cancellations after the first class but before the second will receive a full refund minus a $10 cancellation fee. After the second class meeting no refunds will be given.

REGISTRATION FORM

FIRST NAME _____________________________________ LAST NAME _____________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________

CITY/STATE __________________________ ZIP ________________

PHONE (DAYTIME) ____________________ (EVENING) ________________

EMAIL ____________________________________________

COURSES

☐ WORLD HISTORY: A SHORT VERSION OF A LONG STORY
☐ ETHICAL ISSUES IN THE NEWS
☐ AMERICAN LITERATURE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
☐ A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SYMPHONY
☐ PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS IN THE 2014 MIDTERMS: THE FOURTH ELECTION
☐ THE HISTORICAL ROOTS OF THE ARAB SPRING
☐ MASTERPIECES OF WORLD LITERATURE: MIDDLEMARCH

One course at $100 __________________________ $ ________
Additional courses #__________ @ $75 ____________ $ ________
Course Total ____________________________ $ ________
Retired UNCG Faculty/Staff discount $25 ____________ $ ________
Subtotal __________________________ ____________ $ ________

SPECIAL EVENTS

☐ Eat Your Words @ $35 __________________________ $ ________
Total Enclosed __________________________ ____________ $ ________

Make checks payable to UNCG

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard Exp. Date __________________________

CHARGE CARD # ________________

CARDHOLDER’S NAME PLEASE PRINT ____________________________________________

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