

SCOVILR Fall 2019 Courses

All courses on Monday through Thursday will be held in Activity Center, Hopi Room

ILR website: <http://www.suncityilr.com>

Mondays

1. Before Independence: Colonial Life in America to 1770 9:00-11:00 Jim Williams

4 weeks Oct 21-Nov 11

Americans established Great Britain's 13 colonies between 1607 and 1710. By 1770 colonists had developed a society distinct from Great Britain and began to contemplate independence. How did the geographic regions of British North America each develop differently by 1770? How did religion and the Enlightenment shape American attitudes? What difficulties did colonists face in everyday life? How did the French and Indian War lead to tensions between the colonies and Great Britain? This course will examine these issues and more. Lectures and discussion will be used to examine topics.

Jim Williams has been teaching ILR courses since 2007. He taught American history at the secondary level for 35 years.

**2. Blackouts on the Electric Power System 9:00-11:00 Dean Chapman 3 weeks
Nov 18-Dec 2**

There have been several major power blackouts in North America in the past 50 years, most notably in the densely populated Northeast. Some covered wide areas affecting multiple States and Provinces. Others were limited to major cities such as New York or San Diego. Why did these major outages occur and what can be done to prevent them in the future? This course will discuss the composition and the operation of the electric grid in North America. Then, based on that knowledge, we will analyze these blackouts to determine what went wrong and what has been done to attempt to prevent future occurrences. This material will be presented in layman's terms with no prior knowledge of electrical principles required.

Dean Chapman holds a Master's Degree In Electrical Engineering and has over 40 years of experience in creating, maintaining and managing the computer systems used to monitor and control the power system.

**3. Closer to Truth: Consciousness, Cosmos, God 11:30-1:30 Gene Bammel 5 weeks
Oct 7-Nov 4**

This course will use material from Robert Lawrence Kuhn's long-running series on PBS, "Closer to Truth." It will highlight the conclusions of Kuhn's interviews with Cosmologists, Philosophers, and Brain Scientists.

Gene Bammel has been a long time presenter of ILR classes.

4. Music to Stir Your Emotions 2:00-4:00 Jim Ford 4 weeks

Nov 4-25

This course will consist of short selections of classical music that stirs the emotions or creates a mood. There will be a brief discussion after each selection.

Jim Ford has been a music lover for 75+ years and was formerly a trumpet player and band member. His sizable collection of recordings enables him to put together comprehensive music programs for the benefit and enjoyment of class participants. Jim is a frequent contributor to the ILR and has presented many music programs for our enjoyment.

5. Extinction! 2:00-4:00 Marion Cimmino 4 weeks Oct 7-28

Extinction. What does it mean? Why does the word conjure up dire events and consequences? In this program extinction will be examined scientifically, along with its causes and importance. The program will look at the emergence and loss of species throughout the history of the Earth through geological, biological, and ecological science without political or religious furor to better understand the process of change and perhaps our role in the process.

Marion Cimmino is a frequent contributor to the ILR and has presented several courses in the past.

Tuesdays

6. Good Morning Vietnam 2:00-4:00 Randy Moody 3 weeks Oct 8-22

In 1968 a young Army Captain was sent to Vietnam to serve as officer-in-charge of network news for the American Forces Vietnam Network (AFVN) – six radio stations and eight television troops stationed there. After more than 50 years, Randy Moody revisits in this course some of his experiences: the dangers of covering a war, including the killing of three of his newsmen; the pervasive attempts at censorship by the brass, which resulted in a Congressional investigation; and the first-ever live coverage of a presidential election in a war zone. AFVN was made famous by the movie “Good Morning, Vietnam” which made a star of its lead actor, Robin Williams.

Randy Moody is a retired lawyer and lobbyist who served on active duty as an Army officer from November 1966 to June 1969 and has served various command positions during that period. He has had a varied career as a journalist, Congressional and gubernatorial staffer, political consultant and lobbyist as well as practicing law. Since his retirement he has written op-ed and travel articles for the Arizona Daily Star and the Lincoln (NE) Journal Star.

Wednesday

7. Early Music Backstories: Music in Context 9:00-11:00 Garry Buck 5 weeks

Oct 9-Nov 6

This course is about Early Music (pre-1750). It is not “just music.” It will include simple explanations of the background, history, instruments and research involved in early music. Each class session will consist of about 20 short YouTube videos. They will include musicologists and directors talking about the music followed by several examples.

Garry Buck is neither a professional musician nor a musicologist although the topic is a passion of his.

Thursday

8. Origami: In Art and Science 9:00-11:00 Lei Bammel 3-5 weeks Oct 10-Nov 7

Have you always been fascinated with Origami and/or wanted to be able to fold little Cranes out of colorful squares of paper? Then this course is tailor made for you. But it will go much beyond just learning some traditional Japanese folds. It will also include a little history of Origami, viewing a DVD documenting 10 artists many of whom are scientists, and watching a PBS

NOVA DVD about how the knowledge of folding is being applied in science by engineers to design drugs, micro-robots, and future space missions. The basic course is 3 weeks long. But wait – there’s more! If enough are interested in learning how to fold more objects, the course can go longer. Please don’t register unless you believe that you can attend all three classes and are interested in learning/doing the folding and not just interested in watching the DVDs (which will be available in the SCOV Library after being shown in class). **This class requires a minimum of 11 participants and is limited to a maximum of 21 participants.**

Lei Bammel has been doing Origami off and on for a few years with her most recent achievement being able to fold 4 Cranes attached at their beaks from just one 8.25” piece of paper. Her pre-retirement years were primarily allocated to University teaching, research, writing articles and books, and conference presentations. She has presented many ILR courses.

Institute of Learning in Retirement

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