The Academy of Lifelong Learning at Trinity College

An opportunity for adults to pursue new interests, expand intellectual horizons, and enrich their lives
Open to adults in the community at large, the Academy of Lifelong Learning presents a series of minicourses on diverse and intellectually stimulating topics. Enrolled students have access to many Trinity College resources, including the Raether Library and Information Technology Center, for research. They also receive discounts at Cinestudio, Austin Arts Center, and Trinity College sporting events.

Courses cover a wide range of interesting subjects taught by distinguished former and current Trinity faculty members. The hallmark of a Trinity education has long been the close interaction between professors and students, and the Academy of Lifelong Learning continues that tradition. Courses are taught in an engaging, collaborative manner, and there are opportunities to meet with fellow students and professors.

Classes are conveniently scheduled for the late afternoon and early evening in classrooms easily reached from the center of the campus. Well-illuminated, secure parking is available on campus within walking distance of classrooms. In addition, some classes meet during daytime hours at various attractive locations in the Greater Hartford vicinity.

CO-DIRECTORS
Frank Kirkpatrick, Ellsworth Morton Tracy Lecturer and Professor of Religion
Patricia J. Bunker, Head Reference Librarian, Retired

PROGRAM COORDINATOR
Rashana Lord

COURSE FEES
Courses meeting FOR:

- four class sessions ................................................................. $  85
- five class sessions .................................................................$105
- six class sessions .................................................................$125
- eight-session Memoir Tutorial ..............................................$300
- Saturday Academy .............................................................$100

Trinity alumni, faculty, and staff are eligible for a 10 percent discount. If you are an alumna/alumnus, please include your class year, and if you are an employee (current or retired), please include a photocopy of your Trinity ID with your registration.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION
Academy of Lifelong Learning
Trinity College
300 Summit Street
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 297-2125
lifelonglearning@trincoll.edu

Gift certificates for The Academy of Lifelong Learning are available and make a special gift for friends and family.
Human Rights:  
HISTORY, JUSTICE, AND WELFARE

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015

Coffee: 8:30 a.m.
Classes: 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
Lunch: Noon-1:00 p.m.

Two morning sessions, lunch, and one
afternoon session on the Trinity College campus

Special pricing for the
Saturday Academy and lunch.........$100

Human Rights and Animal Welfare
Maurice Wade
9:00-10:15 a.m.

Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Brief History
Dario Euraque
10:30-11:45 a.m.

What’s Forgiveness Got to Do with It?: Exploring Restorative Justice
Donna Dale-Marcano
1:15-2:30 p.m.
Portraits of a First-Century Jew
Each of the Gospels of the New Testament presents a unique portrayal of Jesus in his first-century context from a particular perspective. Even when common material is treated, the writers do so within their own understandings and as appropriate to their distinctive purposes for writing. This course will explore the special character of each gospel story: its themes, its structure, and its delineation of the hero—and so enhance an appreciation of the remarkable character of the individual Gospels.

John Gettier
Five Tuesdays: February 3, 10, 17, 24; March 3
10:30 a.m.-noon
Avery Heights, 705 New Britain Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Four Contemporary Lives and the Road to the Modern World
Four remarkable individuals shared the scene in the first half of 16th century Europe: Erasmus (1469-1536), Luther (1483-1546), Machiavelli (1469-1527) and Henry VIII (reigned 1509-47). Each left a deep mark on the politics, culture, and religion of the day, but they also unintentionally paved the way to the modern world. The course will examine each of them in turn and then consider how their thoughts and actions shaped the world in which we live.

Borden Painter
Five Thursdays: March 26; April 2, 9, 16, 23
2:00-3:30 p.m.
The McAuley, 275 Steele Road,
West Hartford, CT 06117
Memoir Writing: Tell Your Own Story

It’s the human condition: the desire to get down on paper the most memorable events of your life. That’s why almost every celebrity you can think of—from Oprah Winfrey to Billy Idol to Barack Obama—has at some point tried his or her hand at a memoir. That’s also why so many of our most beloved novels—*To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Catcher in the Rye*—are very largely memoirs in disguise. We might want to tell our whole life story or just cherished moments, but we all have recollections we want to pass on. Give in to that urge! Sit down at your computer, and start writing about yourself! Whether your motivation is to have a neatly packaged memoir to pass down to your children or grandchildren or a keepsake to enjoy for yourself—or to knock Lena Dunham, Mary Karr, and Frank McCourt off the best-seller list!—this course will help you do it. You’ll learn how to write easily and naturally, in your own voice, about your favorite subject: you.

Hank Herman

Eight Wednesdays: January 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 4, 11, 25, (No class March 18)

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Memory and Brain

This course reviews the biological principles of remembering, forgetting, and retrieving. We explore such questions as: What are the brain processes supporting memory? Why can I remember my first-grade teacher but not where I left my car keys? Why does our memory decline as we age? We will read Hilts’s book *Memory’s Ghost*, which describes the case of Hartford native Henry Molaison (HM), who underwent brain surgery at Hartford Hospital for intractable epilepsy.

We conclude the course by reading Howard Owen’s novel *Littlejohn* for a personal view of autobiographical memories of an 82-year-old. Through the lens of his recollections, we experience joy and tragedy.

Books:

Karl Haberlandt

Five Thursdays: January 29; February 5, 12, 26; March 5

5:30-7:00 p.m.
Abraham Lincoln, President

Most historians rank Lincoln as one of the two greatest American presidents. (George Washington is the other.) To understand why Lincoln is held in such high regard, we will examine such topics as his skillful handling of the secession crisis, his political adroitness, his evolving approach to the explosive issue of slavery, his contributions to Union victory as commander in chief of the armed forces, and his reelection in 1864 (the first person to win a second term since Andrew Jackson in 1832). Attention will also be given to his shortcomings. A theme running through the course will be Lincoln’s eloquence in endowing the Union cause with noble purpose and in defending such controversial policies as emancipation, the enlistment of African American troops, and government infringement of civil liberties.

J. Ronald Spencer
Five Wednesdays: March 11, 25, (No class March 18); April 1, 8, 15 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Physics in Science Fiction

A spaceship accelerates uncontrollably, bringing her crew ever closer to the speed of light and the end of time. A parallel universe with slightly different physical laws offers mankind a limitless source of energy. A teleportation accident creates a duplicate passenger—but is either of them truly the original? A radio message from a nearby star confirms that we are not alone in the universe and instructs us to build a colossal machine ... We will read and discuss these four novels, paying particular attention to the physics they present and placing them in context within the larger body of science fiction literature.

Required texts:

Because the first three titles are out of print, you can buy all four books, used for $20, as a bundle from the Trinity College bookstore (located in Mather Hall). Please contact the bookstore at (860) 297-2191 for more information.

David Branning
Four Thursdays: March 12, 26, (No class March 19); April 2, 9 5:30-7:00 p.m.
O Pioneers!

The evolution of jazz has been marked by moments of inspired exploration, often by instrumentalists who found expanded forms of improvisation, some technical, some harmonic, after which the patterns of performance were unalterably changed: Louis Armstrong, Lester Young, Jimmy Blanton, Charlie Christian, Charlie Parker, “Dizzy” Gillespie, Bud Powell, J.J. Johnson, Bill Evans, John Coltrane, and Miles Davis, to name but a few. We will engage their work in both a musical and a personal context, better to appreciate just how influential as pioneers they were.

Andrew De Rocco
Five Wednesdays: March 25; April 1, 8, 15, 22
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Don’t Miss Out on Life: Read Proust!

Marcel Proust (1871-1921) hoped that “his readers would discover themselves.” Contrary to the myth surrounding his monumental work, In Search of Lost Time, Proust’s ideas are neither arcane nor reserved to the “happy few.” On the contrary, his novel explores our human condition with great sensitivity, compassion, insights, and humor. Proust helps us reflect on our own life experiences, such as the passing of time, the joy and sorrow of love, our relationship with the society we live in, and the importance of the arts in our lives.

Each session is organized around a chosen passage of the novel which will be passed out in class. The reading will reflect the following themes.

1. The question of time: Can we recapture lost time?
2. The protagonists: We will focus on the narrator, Marcel, and his family, as well as Swann, Baron de Charlus, and Albertine.
3. Proust and his world: Paris, High Society, La Belle époque, the Dreyfus affair.
4. Love: “We do not succeed in changing things according to our desire, but gradually our desire changes.”
5. The arts: “Life’s truth resides in the arts.”

Sonia Lee
Five Tuesdays: March 31; April 7, 14, 21, 28
5:30-7:00 p.m.
David Branning is associate professor of physics at Trinity College and teaches introductory mechanics, electromagnetism, optics, and relativity, as well as specialized courses in contemporary optics, modern physics, electrodynamics, and advanced laboratory techniques. He experimentally studies the quantum-mechanical behavior of light, one photon at a time, with his students. He earned his B.A. from Rice University and his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester. Before coming to Trinity in 2005, he worked at several other institutions, including the University of Illinois and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Donna Dale-Marcano is currently associate professor of philosophy and director of the Human Rights Program at Trinity College, where she teaches courses on race and philosophy, feminism, existentialism, and the philosophy of human rights. Marcano is a co-editor of the volume, *Convergences: Black Feminism and Continental Philosophy* (SUNY, 2010) and has published articles on the social construction of race, black feminism and philosophy, and race and philosophy.

Andrew De Rocco, former Trinity dean of the faculty and college professor of the natural sciences, also has served as president at Denison and as Connecticut’s commissioner of higher education. After completing his graduate studies at the University of Michigan he joined its faculty and remained until his appointment as Institute Professor of Molecular Physics at the University of Maryland. In addition, he has held visiting appointments at Tufts, Colorado, and Vanderbilt, and as the first Distinguished Visiting Professor at the United States Air Force Academy. His musical and scientific interests developed early and have remained amiable companions. He hosts a jazz program on Trinity’s radio station, “The Dean’s Den,” each Wednesday afternoon from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and co-hosts a Sunday afternoon classical program.

Dario A. Euraque, a native of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, has taught at Trinity College since 1990, after he received his Ph.D. in Latin American and Caribbean history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Between June 2006 and September 2009, he served the Honduran government as the director of the Honduran Institute of Anthropology and History, until ousted in a military coup. He is currently writing a biography of a gay Honduran writer and poet.
John Gettier, professor of religion, emeritus, at Trinity College, retired in 2001 after teaching for 35 years. With degrees from Wesleyan University, Yale University, and Union Theological Seminary in New York, he has taught a range of courses on biblical literature, specializing in apocalypticism, mythology, Hebrew narrative, and Hebrew language.

Karl Haberlandt has been fascinated by memory research for all of his adult life, in college in his native Germany, in graduate school at Yale, during his 40-year career at Trinity, and now in retirement. The appeal of memory as a focus of study should not be surprising. After all, memory is more than a storehouse of information; memory defines who we are as a person. At Trinity College, Haberlandt has taught courses in the areas of learning, memory, and cognition. He has written a book on the subject, *Human Memory: Exploration and Application*, and published numerous research articles on various aspects of learning and memory.

Hank Herman is an award-winning columnist for the *Westport News* and blogger for Hearst Media. He is also the author of a series of sports novels for children. His latest book, *Accept My Kid, Please! A Dad’s Descent into College Application Hell* (Dacapo Press) is a humorous memoir about the college admissions process. He also teaches writing at the University of Pennsylvania’s Kelly Writers House, Norwalk Community College, and the Mark Twain House. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania.

Sonia Lee, professor of language and culture, emerita, at Trinity College, taught courses in French and Francophone literatures, as well as French and African cinema, for 35 years. Her research interests focus on African literature, particularly from North and West Africa, and her publications include both books and journal articles in this field.

Borden Painter is professor of history and president, emeritus, of Trinity College after serving 40 years on the faculty, teaching courses on European history from the Renaissance and Reformation to the 20th century. He served as chairman of the History Department on two occasions, as dean of the faculty for three years, as director of Italian programs for 15 years, as acting president in 1994-1995, and as president in 2003-2004. He is the author of *Mussolini’s Rome: Rebuilding the Eternal City* (2005) and *The New Atheist Denial of History* (2014).
J. Ronald Spencer, associate academic dean and lecturer in history, emeritus, taught courses on the antebellum and Civil War eras at Trinity from 1968 to 2012. He is the editor of *A Connecticut Yankee in Lincoln’s Cabinet: Navy Secretary Gideon Welles Chronicles the Civil War* (Acorn Club/Wesleyan University Press, 2014)

Maurice L. Wade is professor of philosophy and contributing faculty member in public policy and law and international studies. Professor Wade has taught at Trinity College since 1983. His teaching interests include environmental philosophy, philosophy of the body, Merleau-Ponty, African philosophy, ethics and public policy, race theory, and Latin American philosophy. He has published on Rawls’s theory of justice, philosophy of sport, ethics and medical technology, ethics and public policy, and Frantz Fanon. He is currently working on the thought of Frantz Fanon and European Humanism, as well as on the implications of the thought of David Hume for the justifiability of punishment.