



FALL 2018 – Wednesday Schedule

Morning Class: 10:00 – 12:00 and Afternoon Class: 1:30 – 3:30

September 12, 2018

The Scott Family Collection

Peggy Boswell

In 1971, the Scott family of Hawfields donated 48 acres of land along the Haw River in Alamance County, on which Alamance Community College stands today. In 1999, the Scott Family Collection was established and was opened formally in 2005. Today, the Collection includes a gallery of permanent displays, space for temporary installations of themed exhibits, a workroom, and archival storage. Scott family members, friends, businesses, and neighbors have donated the items held in the Collection to demonstrate the impact the Scott Family's leadership has had on the county, region, and state. This talk will highlight Scott family contributions in the fields of education, business, medicine, agriculture, public service, and religion, particularly emphasizing how these contributions affect the community and region.

A native of Alamance County, Peggy Boswell is the founding curator of the Scott Family Collection. Previously, Peggy served as the founding executive director of the Alamance County Historical Museum, where she directed the restoration of the L. Banks Holt Home. She is a former chair of the Mebane Historical Society, where she also served as a founder and interim director of the Mebane Historical Museum. Peggy earned her B.F.A. in Art History from East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee. She also holds a Certificate in Historic Preservation Technology from Durham Technical Community College in Durham, North Carolina, and has pursued additional studies in oral history at UNC-Chapel Hill and textile research at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. A co-founder of the roots, rhythm, and world music ensemble Mebanesville, Peggy lives with her husband and musical collaborator, Larry Vellani, in Mebane, North Carolina, where they raised their two children.

September 19, 2018

Origami²: A Second Helping of Math and Origami

Dr. Alan Russell

If you attended Alan's first session, this will be new information; but, if you haven't seen him before, you will not start at a disadvantage. He will share another glimpse into the world of paper folding and mathematics. The class will explore more ties between origami, art, history, science, and mathematics. You will leave with a better sense of how folded paper impacts the world, and you may also leave with folded models to share with loved ones.

Dr. Alan Russell is an associate professor in Elon's Department of Mathematics and Statistics. He is currently on his 21st year of teaching at Elon. He has taught numerous courses, including statistics, mathematics for teachers, the Global Experience, Life Stories, and Math Origami.

September 26, 2018

**Magnificent Snails, Venus' Fly Traps, and Enigmatic Carolina Bays:
Observation-Based Insights from a Conservation Ecologist
Andy Wood**

In this fun and informative program, ecologist and conservation educator Andy Wood carries participants along a compelling virtual trek through bottomland swamp, Carolina Bay, and longleaf pine savanna habitats in the coastal plain eco-region known as southeastern North Carolina. This area is a global Biodiversity Hotspot, supporting more than 1,000 plant species that in turn support hundreds of species of wildlife, including many found nowhere else on Earth. For more than three decades, Andy has explored this region's natural spaces with special attention to the smaller beings that dwell in tea-colored pond water, including a critically-imperiled aquatic snail that Andy has all but single-handedly protected from extinction for more than 25 years. With the aid of live plants, animals, and other visual tools, Andy shares examples and images of his subjects to help convey meaningful, and sometimes amusing, information.

Ecologist and conservation educator Andy Wood is a fourth-generation biologist and graduate of Texas A&M University. A lifelong educator, Andy joined the modern environmental movement with Earth Day 1970, helping to organize and conduct stream cleanups, paper drives, and river monitoring. These formative experiences channeled his conservation career, which includes 12 years as Curator of Education for the North Carolina Aquariums, 11 years as a State Education Director for the National Audubon Society, and 28 years as a Volunteer Nature Commentator for public radio station WHQR. Andy is the Director of Coastal Plain Conservation Group, a non-profit organization he founded to protect rare and imperiled habitats and the plants and wildlife they support. He is also the Project Manager of Habitats Environmental Services, LLC.

October 3, 2018

**You Can't Teach an Old Dog New Tricks: True or False?
Dr. Dayna Touron**

We are often told that the graying brain simply cannot absorb as much information as a sensitive young child's. Many people believe that you cannot learn complex novel skills, like a new language or to play chess, at the age of 90. Dr. Touron's research focuses on cognition and aging, specifically the strategies older adults use to complete cognitive tasks and how older adults' cognitive abilities and metacognitive knowledge influence their strategic approach. She will describe the latest studies from neuroscience and psychology that show that extraordinary learning achievements in older years are not the exception.

Dayna R. Touron is Professor of Psychology and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at UNCG. Dayna received her Ph.D. from Syracuse University and was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She has widely published and presented research on the above topics and has received research funding from the NIH. She is a member of the editorial board for the APA journals, Psychology and Aging and Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied.

October 10, 2018

A French Nobleman and the American Revolution

Charles Wissinger

Marquis de Lafayette, a young French nobleman, sympathized with the colonialist under British control and came to America in 1777 to help protect the rights of the common man. Even though the fledgling colonial government could not pay him, Lafayette agreed to serve without pay. He was named a Major General and served with General Washington. Lafayette was given command of the troops, fought in many battles, and ultimately helped with the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. Lafayette returned to France in 1787 and stormed the Bastille in 1789, which began the French Revolution.

Charles Wissinger is the Principal of Richmond Discoveries, a company in Richmond Virginia with a description of “Living History: Educating through Entertainment.” Wissinger portrays Lafayette and other historic characters in full costume.

October 17, 2018

The End of the War to End All Wars

Jackson Marshall

World War I was a monumental historical event that left a lasting impact on the world; however, it is largely misunderstood or forgotten today. The causes of the war were complicated and the results were devastating. Here we will explore the causes of the Great War, the terrible unfolding of the European conflict that cost millions of lives, what ultimately drew in the United States, and the legacy of the war that President Woodrow Wilson told his soldiers would be “the war to end all wars.”

Jackson Marshall is a native North Carolinian with degrees in history from Wake Forest University. He has been with the North Carolina Museum of History for 30 years and is currently the museum’s deputy director. Marshall served as the museum’s curator and project manager of “North Carolina in World War I,” a 6,500-square foot exhibition that commemorated the centennial of the war. Marshall is a published historian on North Carolina’s role in World War I. His book, Memories of World War I, is based on his interviews with WWI veterans in the 1980s. He has taken numerous trips to France and Belgium to study WWI battlefields.

October 24, 2018

A Hero's Journey: What Does It Mean to be Human?

Freebird McKinney

Freebird McKinney currently has the distinction of being named the 2018 North Carolina State Teacher of the Year. He describes himself as a “Village Teacher” who engages his students in a “Hero’s Journey,” helping them to understand our collective purpose and its meaning. He uses history, philosophy, anthropology, and sociology to uncover each person’s individual story, connecting it to what it means to be human. Join Freebird to explore the Hero’s Journey and what exactly it means to be human – just like his students.

Freebird McKinney believes literally and figuratively that HE WAS BORN TO BE A TEACHER! According to him, it is his calling, his destiny, and his purpose. Learning and teaching are defining aspects in his life. He has had the self-described blessing and honor of educating and inspiring countless young men and women inside and outside of the classroom, both in public high schools (14 years) and at the University level. He is currently at Walter M. Williams High School in Burlington, North Carolina and at Elon University as a School of Education adjunct professor. He is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill (B.A. in Anthropology) and UNC-Greensboro (B.A. in History and a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction- Social Studies). History and Philosophy have long been his passions and favorite subjects to teach.

October 31, 2018

Writing the Story of Your Life

Rev. Richard W. McBride

Future generations will someday ask, “Where did I come from?” and “Who are my People?” This session will offer recommendations about how to begin to tell our stories, based on questions that students often ask about the life experiences of their elders. For 16 years, Chaplain McBride taught an interdisciplinary course called “Life Stories” for college seniors, inviting them to explore the key life events and relationships that shaped their lives. He has also led a weekly discussion with faculty and staff exploring similar questions. This session will inspire you to communicate the legacy that your life experiences provide for your family.

The Rev. Richard McBride, Chaplain Emeritus, spent the last twenty-five of his thirty-nine-year career in campus ministry at Elon. He also served at Wake Forest and Gardner-Webb Universities. Prior to that he taught high school English. A native of Virginia, he graduated from the University of Virginia and prepared for ministry with degrees from Union Theological Seminary in New York City and Duke Divinity School. He and his wife, Wendy, live in Hillsborough and have four children and eleven grandchildren.

November 7, 2018
Legacy of Louis Armstrong
Gary Hastings

Gary traces the life of this great American trumpeter, singer and composer from his boyhood days in New Orleans until his death in 1971. He highlights Armstrong's influence on modern music, and the incredible success of his career. Known as "the Father of Jazz," Louis Armstrong is one of the most important figures in American musical history. Gary combines recordings of original Louis Armstrong performances with his own authentic interpretations of the classic tunes made world famous by Louis. Using a keyboard player and his own trumpet playing and singing, he brings an entertaining and educational program that should delight, inform and entertain.

Gary Hastings is an accomplished jazz trumpeter who is a respected authority on the music of Louis Armstrong. He has traveled throughout the world playing traditional jazz and presenting concerts of the music of Louis Armstrong.

November 14, 2018
Have Questions About Judaism?
Ginny Vellani

Ginny Vellani will offer an overview of Jewish beliefs, holidays, practices, and symbols, emphasizing the diversity of practice and thought throughout Jewish communities. In addition, the instructor will share her journey of conversion to Judaism, her career working with Jewish college students, and her experiences being a part of a diverse interfaith family.

Ginny Vellani is the Director of Statewide Initiatives for North Carolina Hillel, the foundation for Jewish campus life for the public universities across North Carolina that oversees student engagement, programs and leadership development across the state. From 2012-2016, Ginny was a member of the staff of Elon Hillel. Her work has emphasized immersive experiences, pluralism, Holocaust and Israel education, and interfaith dialogue. She holds a B.A. in Religious Studies from Agnes Scott College, a M.A. in Jewish-Christian Studies from Seton Hall University, and has also studied at the University of Haifa's International School and Yeshivat Hadar. A proud native North Carolinian, Ginny lives in Winston-Salem with her husband.

November 28, 2018
What Can We Learn from the 2018 Mid-Term Elections?
Dr. Jason Husser

What explains results from the November 2018 elections? Which key factors were most persuasive to voters? Will the election outcomes mean big changes for legislative activity and the Trump presidency in months to come? While we will focus on U.S. House and Senate elections, we will also discuss implications for state government in Raleigh.

Jason is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Policy Studies at Elon. He researches American political behavior and survey methods. From 2012 to 2016, he served as Assistant Director of the Elon Poll. He became Director of the Elon Poll in the summer of 2016.

Additional Offerings

More details and sign up information will be shared at class.

Special Seminar: Overview of Medicare

Bob Godfrey

Thursday, October 25 in Johnston Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Class member Bob Godfrey, who specializes in Medicare in his benefits practice, will conduct an informational seminar on Medicare for interested LIFE@Elon members on October 25. An associate of his and long-time Medicare Specialist, Anita Hawkins, will help facilitate this special seminar. They will touch on Original Medicare, Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, as well Medicare Complete and Medicare Supplement. More information and a sign-up sheet will be available at class later in September.

Fun Friday Campus Tours with Nicole

Many of you already know Nicole, one of LIFE@Elon's student workers. She has been with us for four years now, but outside of LIFE@Elon she is very involved across campus. This past summer she had the opportunity to work as a University tour guide, and she wants to bring her training to her favorite group of people on campus—LIFE@Elon members! Nicole will be offering several campus tours on different Fridays throughout the semester. Tours will start at Johnston Hall and last approximately an hour and a half, so make sure to wear comfortable shoes! Sign-up sheets will be located in the lobby during class so you can sign up for a date and time that is convenient for you. We hope you take advantage of this opportunity to properly tour our growing campus and to let Nicole talk about her favorite place in the world.

LIFE@Elon Book Club

New members are welcome to join our book club! The group meets six times a year to discuss six different books. Commitment is minimal - you may read one book or all of them; you may come to as many or as few discussions as you wish. The location for each discussion will be in one of the conference rooms in Johnston Hall, the building where our regular classes are held. If you are already a member of the book club, there is no need to sign up again. To join the mailing list, please email Kate Hickey at hickey@elon.edu. The list of books and discussion schedule for the fall semester can be found below. Please note than members are responsible for locating their own copy of each book.

Monday, September 17, 6:30 p.m.

Trapped under the Sea: One Engineering Marvel, Five Men, and a Disaster Ten Miles into the Darkness by Neil Swiday (2014)

Monday, October 29, 1:30 p.m., or Thursday, November 1, 10:30 a.m.

The Oregon Trail: A New American Journey by Rinker Buck (2015)

Thursday, December 6, 10:30 a.m., or Monday, December 10, 1:30 p.m.

Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised our Nation by Cokie Roberts (2005)

Discounted and Free Tickets

Discounted tickets (\$5) will be offered to the following cultural event:

Gina Chavez
Thursday, September 27, 7:30 p.m.
McCrary Theater

Multi-ethnic Latin pop songstress, Chavez is a nine-time Austin Music Award winner and her album, *Up.Rooted*, topped both the Amazon and Latin iTunes charts. Her passionate collection of bilingual songs takes audiences on a journey through the Americas, blending sounds and rhythms with tension and grace. Backed by a talented four-piece band, Ms. Chavez is winning audiences everywhere traversing cumbia, bossa nova, vintage pop, reggaeton and folk combined with dynamic vocals and sharp social commentary.

Tickets are not required for the following cultural events:

Dmitri Steinberg
Thursday, October 4, 7:30 p.m.
Whitley Auditorium

Dmitri Shteinberg is a Russian-born artist who began his musical training in Moscow. When his family moved to Israel, he continued training and received his degree in piano performance from Tel-Aviv University Academy of Music. He received his Doctoral degree from the Manhattan School of Music in New York. Equally adept as a recitalist and as a collaborative pianist, Shteinberg has performed extensively worldwide and is recorded on the Fleur de Son Classics label. Currently he teaches piano at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and is recognized as one of North Carolina's most renowned piano artists.

Elon University Fall Convocation and Inauguration of President Connie Ledoux Book
Thursday, October 18, 3:00 p.m.
Schar Center

The inauguration of Elon's ninth president, Connie Ledoux Book, will serve as the university's Fall Convocation ceremony. Dr. Book, who began her service as president on March 1, will offer an inaugural address during the formal ceremony in Elon's new Schar Center.

Please go ahead and mark your calendars for our spring semester dates.

The final spring schedules will be mailed in January:

February 13, 20, 27

March 6, 13, 20, 27

April 3, 10, 17, 24

May 1