



Fall 2022 – Wednesday Schedule

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

September 14

Der Fuhrer's Face: World War II Music and Popular Culture

Jo Ann Williford, MA

Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries wars have inspired music, both vocal and orchestral. This class combines lecture with music and popular culture to examine major themes of World War II: military, social, and political.

Jo Ann Williford has a BA in History and teacher certification from Meredith College and a MA in American History from UNC Greensboro. She worked for over thirty years at the Office of Archives and History, most of them as an educator, including nine years as Education Coordinator for the State Capitol Building. Her last fifteen years were spent as state coordinator for National History Day in North Carolina, an in-school academic program for students in grades 6-12. Ms. Williford has also taught in the Osher Lifelong Institute at North Carolina State.

September 21

Ritual and Death in the Greek Bronze Age

Joanne Murphy, PhD

Dr. Murphy's major field work is from Pylos, a Bronze Age palace. Tombs there span the rise and fall of the palace, and you can see how the dead were treated differently over time. Pylians initially used tombs to compete for status. As in 19th-century America and England, the wealthier a family was, the bigger the tomb. But once hierarchy was firmly established, people at Pylos shifted their investments to other areas. Her findings are different from what you see at Mycenae, the most famous Greek Bronze Age palace. There, people continued to invest huge amounts of money into the dead – it didn't taper off. Greek archaeologists historically thought what they found at Mycenae would be everywhere. But that's like saying everything that happens in New York City will happen in Greensboro, because they're both cities. The rituals at the two sites are different, reflecting their different sociopolitical and economic histories. (Taken from UNCG Research Magazine, 2021)

Joanne M. A. Murphy is a Bronze Age archaeologist whose work focuses on two main areas: ritual and mortuary practices and theory and methods. Her work on rituals and mortuary practices explore how these practices help us understand the related society. Her work on theory and methods focuses on examining the value of survey as a primary archaeological method. After receiving her BA and MA from UCD, she earned her PhD at the University of Cincinnati in Classical Archaeology. As an MA student she taught tutorials in Greek and Roman Civilization at UCD and since receiving her PhD she has worked at the University of Akron and the University of North Carolina Greensboro, where she is currently a professor of Classical Studies. As well as being a professor of Classical Studies at UNCG, she is involved in several professional service

roles at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and is the newly appointed director of the Irish Institute of Hellenic Studies at Athens. In her position as IIHSA Director she oversees the activities of the Institute, and the running of the Athens office in collaboration with the Assistant Director. She is also a member of the board's fieldwork sub-committee. She is director of the Kea Archaeological Research Survey (KARS) a multi-period and multi-disciplinary archaeological project (2012-), on the Cycladic island of Kea.

September 28

How Diversity Can Heal Racial Division

Paul Herron, PhD

Dr. Herron grew up as a sharecropper in racially segregated Mississippi. When he was 8 years old, he read and heard about the torture and murder of another Black boy, 14-year-old Emmitt Till, by two white men on another plantation. When he was 19, he moved to a diverse and inclusive community in Michigan and flourished, earning a PhD. from Michigan State University and becoming a neuroscientist. Dr. Herron will discuss how the torture and murder of Emmitt Till and the culture that permitted it damaged his brain, genes, and behavior whereas living in a culture of diversity and inclusion stimulated his brain and made him smarter.

Dr. Paul Herron earned a BS in Chemistry, an MS in Psychology, and a PhD in Psychology and Neuroscience from Michigan State University. He did postdoctoral studies at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, and at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. He started his academic career at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and retired from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis as a professor. Dr. Herron has conducted neuroscience research on the diversity of mammalian brains, learning, and memory.

October 5

Outside Looking In: Unexpected Encounters of Dramatic Time and Place

Frank Bradley

The program covers a twenty-two-year period (1999-2021) during which Frank Bradley taught and directed plays at the American University in Cairo, holding the titles of Director of Theatre and Chair of the Department of Performing and Visual Arts. As the major English language theatre in Egypt, AUC Theatre is an ongoing experiment in intercultural drama and performance, featuring a mix of plays from the Western and Arabic traditions, whose graduates have gone on to major professional careers in Egypt, the US, and the UK. This talk will cover topics such as promoting the US ideal of freedom of expression in a country with official censorship and shaping Western texts, both classical and contemporary, to engage with contemporary Egyptian and Middle Eastern realities.

Frank Bradley has recently retired after twenty-two years as Associate Professor of Theatre at the American University in Cairo, where he served as Director of Theatre and Chair of the Department of Performing and Visual Arts. Originally from Mt. Airy, NC, and currently a resident of Carrboro, he has produced more than one hundred and directed more than fifty plays in Egypt

and the US and taught courses in directing, theatre history, and dramatic literature. He has been a member of the Arabic Working Group of the International Federation for Theatre Research and is on the International Advisory Board of the Marvin Carlson Theatre Center at Shanghai Theatre Academy.

October 12

The Aging Process: More Than Shrinking and Creaking

Robert M. Palmer, MD

In this interactive class, Dr. Palmer will pose Socratic questions to the audience before informing them of the answer, e.g., "Why were there no 60-year-olds competing in the winter Olympics this year?" or "What are antioxidants and why are they important components of our diet as we age?" "Your spouse forgot your anniversary? Is that normal for a 70-year-old person or is this a sign of Alzheimer's dementia?" After finishing his slide show, he will open the discussion up for questions from the audience. His practice is to keep the answers short and focused and to avoid going into long answers to questions of participants dealing with personal/family health questions. Expect to learn lots of great information on aging!

Dr. Robert M. Palmer is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Internal Medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School (EVMS). He obtained his undergraduate and medical school degrees at the University of Michigan. His internal medicine residency was completed at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center. He attained an MPH (Master of Public Health) and later a Geriatrics fellowship at UCLA. His distinguished career has included appointments at Oregon Health and Sciences University and Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. He spent fourteen years as the section head of Geriatric Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic, before moving to the University of Pittsburgh where he was vice-chair of Medicine and clinical director of Geriatric Medicine. He was director of the Glennan Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology at EVMS for nearly ten years.

Dr. Palmer has attained national and international recognition for his research and clinical expertise related to efforts to improve clinical outcomes of hospitalization of older adults. Dr. Palmer is the author of numerous publications and is associate editor of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS). His contributions to academic geriatrics have been recognized by the AGS with awards that include the prestigious Edward Henderson Award in 2015.

October 19

Wandering Lark Artisan Soy Candles and Other Business Adventures of an Elon Alumna

Laura Schaefer

Fragrances have always brought back memories of people or places. A scent can take you back to a moment you thought you had forgotten. This presentation will cover the candle-making process, materials used and why, and tips to buying candles for your home. In addition, Laura will share her knowledge of flower arrangement, design, and flower care, including advice that will help your

flowers last longer. Lastly, she will describe her multiple business ventures and how she managed to grow her businesses during challenging economic times.

***Laura Schaefer** graduated from Elon University in 2002 with a BS in Business Administration, a minor in Psychology, and a concentration in Marketing. In 2006 she received an MBA from Elon. In 2003, Laura opened her first business venture, a florist shop, and that's where her entrepreneurial journey began. Currently, Laura owns three businesses: Three Keys Creative, a marketing and strategy business that assists other entrepreneurs in building their brands; Wandering Lark, an artisan soy candle company; and FlowerKind, offering floral design education, both online and in-person.*

October 26

The Art of Puppet Fabrication for Movies

Kathi Zung

If you've ever seen a stop-motion animation movie or commercial, you may not realize there is a team of puppet fabricators that create that world of characters who are brought to life. One studio, Standing Figure, is located in Graham, North Carolina and it has made puppets for mainstream movies, Amazon, and MTV. This presentation shows the entire process of how a puppet is transformed from a 2-dimensional drawing on paper, into an articulated, animatable, camera-ready model. It will talk about the challenges faced in adapting to the shift from analog animation to digital over the years. The lecture will include many examples of the vast amount of work that goes into creating the puppets, and cover the creative side of commercial art.

***Kathi Zung** is a stop-motion animation puppet fabricator with scientific knowledge of mixing and measuring chemicals for mold-making, casting resins, epoxies, polymers, foam latex, and silicone. Her many award-winning film credits include: Kubo and the Two Strings, The Boxtrolls, Paranorman, Tumble Leaf, Celebrity Deathmatch and many others. She is now working on three upcoming projects, the feature length films, Pinocchio and Weatago Wars, and the Netflix series, Wendell and Wyld.*

November 2

Estonia: A small Baltic County, making a Global Impact

Keyu Kay

This presentation will introduce you to the small country by the Baltic Sea that has grown tremendously since the collapse of the Soviet Union. During our time together you will learn about the history and culture of the country, the Singing Revolution, and e-Estonia (digital society). This session will be interactive, informative, fun and woven with personal memories of growing up at a time when the country regained its independence.

***Keyu Kay** is a former member of the Estonian Women's National Basketball Team. After retiring from basketball, she moved to North Carolina, became a US citizen and is now serving the Greensboro community as a massage therapist. Having grown up in Estonia at a pivotal time in the country's history, she has vivid memories of the momentous events that shaped Estonia's*

independence and global recognition.

November 9

Scotland's Emigrants in North Carolina

Mara Shea

This presentation will briefly cover the 18th-century emigrations from Scotland to America, focusing on a North Carolina connection and highlighting some of the music and dance traditions that came with the settlers. Mara will educate and entertain as she weaves her beautiful fiddle playing into the history lessons she shares.

Mara Shea has been a dance fiddler for almost 30 years--Scottish, contra, and English country dance. She is also a teacher; her fiddle students range from seven to 87, most between 50 and 75. She studied classical violin for the first part of her life until she was 20, when she abandoned the violin entirely, picking it up again 15 years later to become a dance fiddle player. She studied ethnomusicology and folklore in Scotland for a year at the University of Aberdeen, and she loves to write and do research about tune histories. She has lived in North Carolina for 30 years and now lives at Twin Lakes in Elon, North Carolina. She travels throughout the US and UK, playing for dance events and teaching workshops.

November 16

An Introduction to Socrates

Stephen Bloch-Schulman, PhD

Socrates' influence on Western philosophy is impossible to overestimate. In this presentation Stephen Bloch-Schulman will lead a discussion and examination of who Socrates was and what his work as a philosopher means. This will also raise essential questions about the relationship between ethics, knowledge, and power.

Dr. Stephen Bloch-Schulman is professor and chair of Philosophy at Elon. The recipient of the Daniels-Danieley Award for Excellence in Teaching at Elon in 2018, he has taught the Ancient Philosophy upper-level class at Elon more than a dozen times. He was also the inaugural winner of the Prize for Excellence in Teaching Philosophy, sponsored by the American Philosophical Association, the American Association of Philosophy Teachers, and the Teaching Philosophy Association. Dr. Bloch-Schulman has twice won the Lenssen Prize, granted for the best article about teaching philosophy over the two-year period prior to the award. His and Elon University colleague Dr. Anthony Weston's recent book, Thinking Through Questions, is an exploration of the meaning of questions, how to categorize them, and how to get to better questions (and reject those that are problematic).

November 30

A Life in Languages

Lara Olson, DMA

Language frames the concepts we use to understand and talk about our World and ourselves but do those concepts express different realities from one language to another? Can speaking another language make you feel like a different person? The presenter, who speaks three languages besides English (and is working on a fourth), will explore these possibilities through personal experience, data from linguistic research, and anecdotes of other multi-linguists.

Dr. Lara Olson's first "foreign language" is music, which she began to study in childhood, and continued through her Doctorate in Musical Arts degree. She also speaks French and Italian, living abroad as she continued her musical studies, and Thai, which she learned in her Peace Corps service (2010-2012). Her latest linguist challenge is Ukrainian, and she enjoys helping others learn English as an ESL tutor.

December 7

Rockin' Through the Years

Joy Harrison Rust

We will go down memory lane as we sit in our "rocking chairs" and relive rock and roll hits. How do these songs reflect the history of the time? How is the social and business climate of the time demonstrated? What do we remember about these hit songs?

We will travel through the decades, looking at some of the hits and performers and examining pop music's evolution during the 20th century. We will explore songs that reflect the history of the decades, especially the 1960's and 1970's, pondering lyrics and listening to videos and recordings. (We may even sing along with the recordings!) Some elements of "YouTube for Dummies" will be included, as it is a powerful musical online resource. We will conclude by examining some of the music to which your grandchildren are listening, contemplating whether their music will stand the test of time as our music has.

Joy Harrison Rust grew up on a farm in northwestern Ohio, where, as a 6th grader, she began playing the organ and piano for Sunday services at her Methodist church. A piano and music education major at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, she served as the accompanist for the Men's Glee Club for four years. Ms. Rust also holds an MA in Curriculum and Instruction, a license for gifted education, as well as certification in Early and Middle Childhood Music.

After 40 successful years of K-12 music teaching in Ohio, Florida, Illinois and North Carolina, including 18 years in the Alamance Burlington school system, Ms. Rust retired in 2018. Her church music experience includes work at churches in four states with duties ranging from organist, pianist, children and adult choir director, and handbell director as well as director of music. She is currently the organist/pianist at Elon Community Church.

Presenters and topics for the weekly classes are subject to change.
Classes cancelled for any reason will not be made up and no refund will be given.