COURSES, LECTURES
AND CULTURE AT THE
PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE
FALL 2016
DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A STIMULATING FALL PROGRAM THIS YEAR. Here in the Catalog, you cannot fail to find courses to spark your curiosity, many of them to be taught by our own veteran instructors. Our former Director, Humphrey Tonkin, has put together a year-long course — ten classes over the fall and spring semesters, one on each decade of the 16th century — the roughly hundred years in which England went from an island to an empire. (What a perfect time to reflect on Britain’s historical place in the world!) Other very familiar faces at the lectern this fall are Kathleen McGrory (women of the Irish rebellion), Michael Walsh (Paris on film), Jilda Aliotta (the Supreme Court, Patrick McCaughey (John Singer Sargent and Frank Stella), Michele Troy (the Man Booker prize) and yours truly, (Anne Tyler’s novels).

There are new things as well. I am particularly excited about our Theaterworks course, featuring director Rob Ruggiero and playwright Mark St. Germain, on their world premiere production of “Relativity,” a play about the private life of Albert Einstein. I have to suppress a chuckle of joy when I think we have the Juilliard String Quartet with us to demonstrate and talk about the inter-personal dynamics required for four musicians to make great music. (All credit to Larry Allen Smith for recruiting them.) And Leslie Desmangles (Religion in the Caribbean) and David Simon (Medieval Monasteries) are newcomers to the PC, despite their decades-long success in the professoriate.

We also have some important upcoming events:

On Saturday, September 17th, we have the annual Presidents’ College Symposium, but with a twist. The leaders of the Hartford region’s premier arts organizations (Hartford Symphony, New Britain Museum, the Bushnell, Real Art Ways, Hill Stead Museum, and more) will gather to reflect on the future of the arts in the city, region, and state, and talk — not just about budget crises — but about the joy of inspiring the imaginations of their audiences, and training and encouraging our next generation of painters, sculptors, actors, dancers, singers, and so on. Come and meet the people who make Hartford and Connecticut’s arts scene a source of pride for us all.

On Tuesday, September 27th, Professor Matthew Warshauer, of the History Department at Central Connecticut State University, will deliver the third annual Thomas Hooker Lecture, on the role of Connecticut in the American Civil War. Come and learn how politics and racial policy were at the heart of our state’s involvement.

And finally, On Saturday, October 22nd, the PC will partner with the Charter Oak Chapter of the Military Officers’ Association to present a conference on areas of conflict around the globe: China’s territorial expansion, Russia’s annexation of Crimea, ISIS, and upheavals in the Arab World, to mention some of the topics now being planned. Look for a postcard in the mail toward summer’s end, and join us in getting behind the newspaper headlines at this truly informative session.

— Joe Voelker
Politics and the Arts

Saturday, September 17, 9:30am – 3:30pm

Cost: fellows $70; non fellows $80
Location: Wilde Auditorium and the 1877 Club
(includes buffet lunch at 1877 Club • parking in F lot)

On Saturday, September 17th, the annual Presidents’ College Symposium will address the subject of “Politics and the Arts.”

Local painters, actors, directors, and musicians, leaders of our premier arts organizations, and key figures in government and philanthropy will gather to address the critical issues that the artistic community faces across Hartford, the region, and the state.

Among the leaders of our arts organizations are Susan Ballek of Hill Stead Museum, Steve Collins of the Hartford Symphony, Betsy Cooper, (new) Dean of the Hartt School, David Fay of the Bushnell, Min Jung Kim of the New Britain Museum, Thomas Loughman of the Wadsworth Atheneum, Nancy Stuart, Dean of the Hartford Art School, Rob Ruggiero of Theaterworks, and Will Wilkins of RealArtWays. Among the artists are painter Cat Balco and saxophonist Javon Jackson. Senator Beth Bye and others will address issues of arts funding. University President Walter Harrison and former President Humphrey Tonkin will host the event.

Sessions through the day will address topics such as programming, audience development and philanthropy, educating future artists, technological change, budgetary challenges, and the role of art in achieving social justice. But in addition to serious reflection on our challenges, we will also celebrate the arts with several live performances.

The symposium will delight and illuminate an audience of people who love and support our theaters, galleries, museums, and concerts, and who would enjoy an opportunity to get behind the scenes to talk with our arts leaders and learn how they plan programming and think about the future.

Come and meet the people who make Hartford and Connecticut's arts scene a source of pride for us all, and who enrich our imaginations and our lives with art.

The Symposium will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be served in the 1877 club. A detailed program of the day’s sessions will be posted in early August.
PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE FALL COURSES 2016

FORGOTTEN HEROINES: IRISH WOMEN IN THE HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF REBELLION

KATHLEEN MCGRORY

From ancient Hibernia and its matriarchal society to the 20th century, the small island republic of Ireland has produced a disproportionate number of heroic women leaders. This course will trace the trajectory of a few of these extraordinary women, from Queen Maeve of Connaught and Grace O’Malley, the Irish pirate, to modern contemporaries such as ex-President Mary Robinson as they are depicted in selected readings from the earliest known Irish writings to the literature of the Irish Rebellion of 1916 and its aftermath. Whereas women leaders of 19th and 20th century Ireland were bound by the same gender restrictions that have affected women of most modern cultures, their elder predecessors often appear in roles that are larger than life, as they ignored or overcame their own generations’ “Thou shalt nots.”

Tuesdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27; 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Location: KF Room, Cost: $90; Fellows $75

KATHLEEN MCGRORY, holds a PhD from Columbia University in comparative literature. She was professor of English and founder of the Irish Studies graduate program at Western Connecticut State University, dean of arts and sciences and academic vice president at Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU), president of Hartford College for Women, NEH fellow at Stanford University, and senior fellow at the University of Virginia’s Commonwealth Center for Literary and Cultural Change. She currently teaches part-time at ECSU.

WRITING MEMOIR

BETH RICHARDS

This six-week workshop is for those who would like to write short memoir essays. Feedback will be provided by the instructor as well as in small student-led groups using a structured feedback method. Each week, participants will complete brief reading assignments on the craft of writing nonfiction and 3-4 page drafts. Participants will also have the opportunity to outline the structure of a larger work, if they wish to expand or combine their short essays into a longer format. This workshop is limited to 12 participants.

6 weeks (meets once a week for 2 hours)

Thursdays Sept. 8, 15, 22, Oct. 6, 13, 20; 9:00 am - 11:00 am
KF Room, Cost: $120; Fellows $100
BETH RICHARD’S master’s research explored rhetorical devices used to develop increasingly complex characterization in Daniel Defoe novels about women on the margins of society. Twenty years’ experience as a technical writer, working primarily with small to midsize engineering firms (polymer processing, respiratory monitoring and lung function technology, audio and video processing). At the University of Hartford she collaborates with engineering professors in first-year writing and engineering courses and is involved in a partnership between the University of Hartford and Herat University in Afghanistan.

SYMMETRY AND GROUP THEORY

LAURA PENCE

Symmetry appeals to our aesthetic sense, making a snowflake or a diamond beautiful, and it may also be used to describe molecules or crystals. In conjunction with the mathematical framework of group theory, it can be used to predict certain behaviors of molecules, such as their ability to interact with infrared light. In this course, we will explore the symmetry of three-dimensional objects, discuss the fundamentals of group theory, and apply group theory to predict the behavior of simple molecules. The course requires basic (non-calculus) math skills. No background in chemistry is required.

Fridays Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Location: KF Room, Cost: $75; Fellows $55

LAURA PENCE, professor of chemistry, recently spent a year on Capitol Hill as a Congressional Science Policy Fellow in the office of U.S. Senator Michael Bennet of Colorado. Her portfolio included energy, environment, natural resources, and cyber-security. A winner of the University’s Roy E. Larsen Award for Outstanding Teaching, she teaches courses ranging from introductory chemistry to advanced environmental chemistry and chemical synthesis.

FIND OUT WHAT’S HAPPENING AT THE COLLEGE ON TV!

Each month Bob Gruskay and Joe Voelker catch up on what’s new at the Presidents’ College and discuss the latest courses and lectures. Stay tuned and get to know upcoming instructors, explore their personal stories and learn what they are passionate about!

Tune into Comcast channel 5, 95, 96; www.whctv.org, or:

http://library.hartford.edu/presidentscollege/activities/conversations/
PARIS SEEN

MICHAEL WALSH

Screening and discussion of short films set in the French capital. René Clair’s Paris Qui Dort (1925, a scientist freezes all of Paris except for a few people on the Eiffel Tower), François Truffaut’s Antoine et Colette (1962, love at twenty in Clichy), Chris Marker’s La Jetée (1963, after the apocalypse in the catacombs under Chaillot), and sequences from Agnes Varda’s Daguerréotypes (1976, a documentary on the shopkeepers of the Rue Daguerre in Montparnasse).

Mondays Sept. 12, 19, 26; 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm
Location: KF Room, Cost: $75; Fellows $55

MICHAEL WALSH was born in London, was educated at Sussex and Buffalo, and has chaired Cinema departments at Binghamton and Hartford, where he has taught film for many years. His recent articles are on sound in experimental film and video (in the Oxford Handbook of New Audiovisual Aesthetics), and on 1960s’ durational films (in Slow Cinema, Edinburgh University Press).

THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK: FROM SCROLL TO SCREEN

JONATHAN ELUKIN

We will explore the many different forms the book has taken in human history: clay tablet, papyrus scroll, parchment codex, printed page, and now the e-book. After an introductory lecture in the first session, we will spend the next two sessions at the splendid Watkinson Library, the rare book library at Trinity College. We will study the evolution of the form of the book by examining medieval manuscripts, early printed books, and artists books. We will also consider the world of rare book collecting, the nature of reading, and the survival of traditional forms of the book in the digital age.

Fridays, Sept. 16, 23, 30  10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Location: KF Room, Cost: $85; Fellows $65

JONATHAN ELUKIN, associate professor at Trinity College, teaches courses in medieval history, Jewish studies, historiography, and the history of the book. He is author of, among other studies, Living Together, Living Apart: Rethinking Jewish-Christian Relations in the Middle Ages (Princeton, 2007)
THE WRITING LIFE OF ANNE TYLER

JOSEPH VOELKER

Anne Tyler’s writing life now constitutes 21 novels and spans 5 decades. Reading a sampling of six of the most imaginatively satisfying of her books, the class will pursue several connected questions. How did she change - thematically and stylistically? Is there a describable arc to her career? Whether a choice or not, she has written about family and its mutual effects on the individual, and not about history. How do we think about that? And finally, what valuable knowledge does she provide her attentive reader? Among the novels we will read will be A Spool of Blue Thread, Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant, The Accidental Tourist, Earthy Possessions, and Vinegar Girl.

Wednesdays Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5, 19, 26; Nov. 2; 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
KF Room, Cost: $90; Fellows $70

JOSEPH VOELKER is professor of English and former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. His publications include numerous articles on James Joyce and Irish literature and a book on American novelist Anne Tyler. A frequent instructor in the Presidents’ College, in January 2016 he assumed the directorship of the College as successor to Humphrey Tonkin.

PAGE TO STAGE AT THEATERWORKS “RELATIVITY”

AUTHOR, MARK ST. GERMAIN AND DIRECTOR, ROB RUGGIERO

A three Session course offering based on the world premier of RELATIVITY by Mark St. Germain.

In 1902 Albert and Mileva Einstein had a baby daughter. After 1904 she was never seen again. When a young reporter confronts Einstein years later in Princeton, Einstein must face his greatest challenge: his past. RELATIVITY explores the bonds of family and the cost of genius. To be a great man, does one first need to be a good man? From the playwright that brought you FREUD’S LAST SESSION, DANCING LESSONS, AND BECOMING DR. RUTH.

Students will read the play in preparation for our first session – a discussion of the script led by Mark St. Germain and Rob Ruggiero. The second session will be an opportunity to attend an “Uncorked” evening at TheaterWorks, featuring a light supper with wine and beer, and then a “tech” rehearsal of the show. The third session is attendance at a performance on a Talkback Tuesday, which provide opportunity for the audience to interact with the actors.
Wednesday, Sept. 21, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., KF Room
Wednesday, Oct. 5, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Theaterworks
Tuesday, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., Theaterworks
Cost: $75; Fellows $65

ROB RUGGIERO (Producing Artistic Director) has been a part of TheaterWorks artistic leadership for 23 years. He has directed over 50 shows, including this season’s Sex with Strangers, Buyer & Cellar and Third. Rob’s Broadway credits include Looped (starring Valerie Harper in a Tony-nominated performance) and High (starring Kathleen Turner). Off Broadway, he conceived and directed the original musical revue entitled Make Me a Song: The Music of William Finn (Nominated for the Drama Desk and the Outer Critics Circle Awards). Rob conceived and directed the world premiere musical portrait of Ella Fitzgerald entitled Ella, which was seen on more than 24 regional theater stages from 2005-2010 before beginning a National Tour. His work has received multiple awards and recognition here in Connecticut, as well as in other cities around the United States.

MARK ST. GERMAIN (Playwright) has written a number of plays produced at Theaterworks. Becoming Dr. Ruth, Freud’s Last Session and Dancing Lessons. At Barrington Stage Company (BSC): The world premieres of Scott & Hem in the Garden of Allah, Dr. Ruth, All The Way, The Best of Enemies, Freud’s Last Session, The God Committee, Ears on a Beatle, and Ciao! as well as the 2006 production of The Collyer Brothers at Home & Period Piece. He has also written the plays Camping with Henry and Tom and Forging Typhoid Mary. Mark wrote the musical comedy, The Fabulous Lipitones, with John Markus. With Randy Courts he wrote the musicals The Gifts of the Magi, Johnny Pye and Jack’s Holiday. His musical Stand by Your Man was written for Nashville’s Ryman Theater.

16TH CENTURY ENGLAND
THE EMERGENCE OF ENGLAND I:
POLITICS, RELIGION, AND THE ARTS 1500-1550
HUMPHREY TONKIN

England became a unified political entity in the century after Caxton set up his printing press in Westminster in 1476. In 1485 Henry Tudor seized control of the English throne and pacified the country. Under Henry VII and his successors – including Henry VIII, Mary Tudor and Elizabeth – literacy expanded rapidly, the machinery of local government and tax collection was created, universities doubled and tripled in size, and the uneasy establishment of the Church of England separated England and Rome. The English language
was stabilized, and literary and artistic production flourished. By century’s end, not only were England and Englishness realities in the imagination of the people, but England was turning into Britain as James I came down from Scotland to claim the English throne.

Each week we will look at one decade, focusing particularly on some architectural or literary artifact of that decade and its implications. This, the first of two courses, will take the story up to 1550. This period of Thomas Wolsey, Thomas Cromwell, and the royal divorce was also the time of the Henry VII Chapel at Westminster Abbey, Thomas More’s *Utopia*, Wolsey’s founding of Cardinal College at Oxford, and Henry VIII’s great palace at Nonsuch. A second course, in the spring, will carry the journey through to 1600.

**Tuesdays Sept. 27, Oct. 11, 18, 25, Nov. 1; Noon - 1:30 pm**
Wilde Auditorium, Cost: $90; Fellows $70

**HUMPHREY TONKIN’S** second book on Spenser, *The Faerie Queene*, was reissued last year. He has recently retired as University Professor of Humanities and as director of the Presidents’ College, which he was instrumental in founding when he was President of the University of Hartford in the 1990s and for which he has led numbers of trips to England over the years.

### HOT SPOTS AND BURNING ISSUES: THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUP

**CHRISTOPHER DOYLE, MODERATOR**

This class will feature sessions on education, technology, violence, and the democratic process. In September, we’ll assess U.S. public schooling K-12 and the rising costs of college. In October, we’ll explore the downsides of emerging technologies. Our go-to source on this subject will be Wendell Wallach’s book, *A Dangerous Master: How to Keep Technology from Slipping Beyond Our Control*. In November, we’ll examine myths and realities about violence in America and the world. In December, we’ll take a look at the state of democracy in the United States and abroad.

*This program is jointly sponsored by the Presidents’ College and the World Affairs Council.*

**Wednesdays Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 30, Dec. 14; 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm**
KF Room, Cost: $85; Fellows and World Affairs Council Members $50

**CHRIS DOYLE** directs Global Studies at Watkinson School. He holds a doctorate in history and has taught extensively at the high school and college
levels. His writings about history, education, and contemporary adolescence have appeared in The Los Angeles Times, Journal of Southern History, Education Week, Hartford Courant, and elsewhere. An award-winning teacher, Chris’s classroom work has been showcased in a story in The New York Times. He has also been a guest panelist on NPR-syndicated radio shows devoted to history and teaching.

WEST HARTFORD BUSINESS: A MODEL FOR SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

JENNIFER DICOLA MATOS AND VISITING LECTURERS

The course is based on an exhibit created by the Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society. The exhibit highlights a collection of photographs taken in 1966 by the Town of West Hartford to document business sign violations. Fifty years later, these images provide insight into everyday life in West Hartford in 1966, and ask why certain businesses have flourished, failed or adapted over time. The first course session will be led by the museum’s Executive Director, Jennifer Matos. She will lead the group through the exhibit and provide an overview of West Hartford’s business history. Architectural Historian Mary Donohue will conduct the second session on the architecture of the center. The third session, led by Town Historian Tracey Wilson, will look at West Hartford’s industrial history and how it contributed to the social and economic history of the town. Attendees will embark upon a walking/bus tour of West Hartford for the fourth and last session of the course, viewing business districts and sites covered throughout the course.

Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
(3 Lectures & 1 walking/bus tour)

The course will meet at the Noah Webster House, 227 South Main Street, West Hartford, Cost: $90; Fellows and members of the Noah Webster House $75

JENNIFER DICOLA MATOS is the Executive Director of the Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society, located in the restored birthplace and childhood home of Noah Webster. She has a BA in History and Art History from the University of Saint Joseph and a MA in American Civilization from Brown University.

MARY M. DONOHUE has more than 30 years’ experience as an award-winning historic preservationist, architectural historian and author. She is the president of Grant House Heritage Services and is the Assistant Publisher of Connecticut Explored, the state’s history magazine.
DR. TRACEY WILSON is West Hartford’s Town Historian. She taught Local History in the West Hartford Public Schools for many years and enjoys making connections to the past, which help define our community today. Dr. Wilson has a BA in Intercultural Studies and a MA in History, both from Trinity College, as well as a PhD in history from Brown University. Dr. Wilson has worked with Noah Webster House on exhibits, research and educational programs for over 30 years.

THE MEDIEVAL MONASTERIES: ART AND CULTURE

DAVID L. SIMON

The institution of the monastery began early in the history of Christianity as a way for holy men to remove themselves from the temptations of earthly existence and to dedicate their lives to spiritual development. Either as individuals or gathering together in small communities, they devoted their lives to prayer and communal work (ora et labora). From these rather humble beginnings many monasteries became sufficiently successful that they were able to grow to impressive scale and to form international networks. We will learn how monasteries and convents contributed to the development of European culture in a number of ways. We shall examine Christian medieval monasteries in terms of their built forms and architecture, for example, Cluny, Montecassino, Fontenay and Fountains, as well as the books and manuscripts produced in these monasteries, such as the Book of Kells.

Thursdays, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
KF Room, Cost: $80; Fellows $60

DAVID L. SIMON was, until his recent retirement, Ellerton M. Jette professor of art at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. With degrees from Boston University and the University of London, he is a specialist on Spanish art of the Middle Ages. He has published widely on Romanesque art and architecture, and on the history of art in general, and is joint author of Janson’s History of Art.

A ROUND-UP OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT’S 2016 TERM

JILDA ALIOTTA

Immigration, presidential power, affirmative action, contraception and religious freedom — there is no shortage of controversial issues in the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2015 term. With the 2015 session complete, what are the implications (political and legal) of the decisions handed down, what do they say about the political and legal evolution of the Roberts court, and what does the future hold?
Mondays Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31; 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
KF Room, Cost: $90; Fellows $70

JILDA ALIOTTA, a popular professor in the Politics and Government Department and well known among Presidents’ College participants for her thought-provoking commentaries on the U.S. Supreme Court, teaches classes in law, American politics, and women in politics.

(MORE) PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY

JACK POWELL

In this course, religion and spirituality will be the object of psychological analysis. This class will expand upon an earlier Presidents’ College class and will examine topics not previously covered. Specifically, psychological theories and methods will be employed to bring perspective and understanding to such questions as:

- How do religious beliefs and values develop and change throughout the lifespan?
- Can religion aid in counseling and/or coping with adversity?
- How can we explain religious fundamentalism and cults?
- What is the relationship between religion and morality?

All participants are welcome; attendance at Dr. Powell’s previous class is not required to participate.

Tuesdays Oct. 18, 25, Nov. 1; 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
KF Room, Cost: $70; Fellows $50

JACK POWELL is professor and chair of the Department of Psychology. A winner of the University of Hartford’s Roy E. Larsen Award for Excellence in Teaching, he teaches courses ranging from introductory psychology for first-year students to the psychology of religion and spirituality for students in the Honors Program and to social psychology for doctoral students in clinical psychology.

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www.hartford.edu/presidentscollege
RELIGION IN THE CARIBBEAN

LESLEY DESMANGLES

The Caribbean is one of the ethnically and culturally diverse regions of the world. Its history is unique because of the immigration of diverse peoples from all parts of the world, some as early as the 16th century. Each of these people has contributed its own religious beliefs and practices to the cultures of the region. This course examines some of these prominent religions in the Caribbean. These include: Vodou (Voodoo), Santeria, Rastafari and Sephardic Judaism. Special attention will be given to their contributions to the cultural and socio-economic aspects of the region and their current influences on the United States.

Wednesdays Oct. 19, 26; Nov. 2; 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm
KF Room, Cost: $70; Fellows $50


THE COMPLEX FATE: AMERICAN PAINTING FROM JOHN SINGER SARGENT TO FRANK STELLA

PATRICK MCCAUGHEY

“It’s a complex fate, being an American and one of the responsibilities it entails is fighting against a superstitious valuation of Europe...” so Henry James wrote to Charles Eliot Norton at Harvard in February 1872. A series of four lectures will examine how four or five major American painters have wrestled with the “complex fate”. Sargent, the most Jamesian of artists, the American perfectly at home abroad, nonetheless retained a strong sense of his Americaness as an artist. It separated him from his European contemporaries and gave him an acute, independent vision of person and place.

Edward Hopper provides one of the more startling responses to ‘the complex fate’. He found his major themes in the bleakness of American cities and its deserted landscapes. Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning in the next
generation had no desire to paint the American scene. Convinced modernists, they had to wrestle with the daemons of modernity – Picasso and Cubism, Miro and Surrealism — and try to find a way through these formidable influences and authorities to their own major styles and subjects. Frank Stella is arguably the only major American painter who has been almost entirely shaped by American sources and influences. His tough-minded abstraction of the 1960s, “What you see is what you see” – seemed to embody American values. Stella embodies “the complex fate” of what a major American artist looks like in the 21st century.

Fri, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 11; 11:30 am - 1:00 pm; Note: Nov. 4, 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Wilde Auditorium, Cost: $120; Fellows $90

PATRICK MCCAUKEY, art historian and writer, is former director of the National Gallery of Victoria (Australia), the Wadsworth Atheneum, and the Yale Center for British Art. He writes frequently for publications in Britain, the United States, and Australia, and is known as an accomplished lecturer on all aspects of art.
NATIONAL DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY SEMINAR

Jointly sponsored by the Charter Oak Chapter of the Military Officers Association and the Presidents’ College Members of the Military Officers Association, the Reserve officers Association, active military units, the Presidents’ College, and the general public are invited to attend.

Saturday, October 22, 2016
Wilde Auditorium and 1877 Club
9:00 am — 3:00 pm • Cost: $40

Program
9:00 am  Registration
9:30    Welcome
Walter Harrison, president, University of Hartford, Joseph Voelker, director, Presidents’ College, Capt. Robert Magyar, president, Connecticut Council of MOA chapters, Col. Robert Hill, moderator
10:00 am  David R Stone: “Putin’s Foreign Policy and Russian Expansion”
10:45 am  Coffee
11:00 am  John R. Deni: “NATO and Russia After the 2016 Warsaw Summit”
11:45 am  Lunch in the 1877 Club
12:45 pm  Col. Robert Cassidy: “The Evolution of Islamic Militancy”
1:30 pm   Lisa Curtis: “A Global Approach to Combatting ISIS”
2:15 pm   James Holmes: “Red Star over the Pacific”
3:00 pm   Questions and Answers

Speakers
David R. Stone, PhD, professor of strategy and policy at the Navy War College.
John R. Deni, PhD, research professor of joint interagency, intergovernmental and multinational security issues at the U.S. Army War College.
Colonel Robert Cassidy, strategy and policy military professor at the U.S. Navy War College.
Lisa Curtis, senior research fellow on South Asia in the Asian Studies Center of the Heritage Foundation.
James B. Holmes, PhD, professor of strategy at the Navy War College and senior fellow at the University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs.
UNDERSTANDING ISLAM

SAMI AZIZ

Questions on Islam abound: Are you curious about the difference between Islam and Muslims? Or the difference between ISIS and Islam? Or want to know why Muslim women wear the headscarf (hijab)? Why are Muslims so prominently displayed in the news committing acts of violence? Islam is a religion of 1.7 billion people across 196 countries with 50 of them being Muslim majority countries. Approximately 1 in 4 people on the earth is a Muslim. Islam comes from the world Salaam which means peace. A Muslim is someone who submits to God through the religion of Islam and thus attains peace. This submission frees the human from worshiping anything but God. God is the English word for Allah.

Come learn about Islam from Imam Sami Abdul Aziz (Sammy Aziz), The Imam for Bloomfield Muslim Community Center, Muslim Chaplain at Wesleyan University. Imam Aziz has been on a campaign since May 2015 to educate the public on Islam and dispel myths about his faith.

November 7 - Islam 101: Fundamentals of the Faith
November 14 - Women in Islam: Headscarf, Role of Women, Famous Female Figures
November 28 - ISIS: Origins, Goals, How to defeat them?
December 5 - Islamophobia: Players, Goals, Organizations, Books, Articles, Videos

Mondays, 9:00 am – 10:30 pm
KF Room, Cost: $90; Fellows $75

IMAM AZIZ has over 10 years of experience in Muslim-American public service. He has spoken at Islamic centers, universities, churches, high schools and public libraries. He was the first Muslim Chaplain at Bilalian Boy Scouts Troop 8 in Hartford, CT. Bilalian Boy Scouts is the first Muslim Boy Scouts Troop in the state of Connecticut. He has served as Muslim Chaplain at Choate Rosemary Hall and UConn Medical Center.

WHY HAMILTON IS THE MOST IMPORTANT MUSICAL OF THIS GENERATION

FRANK RIZZO

What's all the fuss over Hamilton, which is being hailed as a landmark musical? We take an in-depth examination of the musical, looking at its place...
in Broadway history and the development of the American musical and explore why this show, which won 11 Tony awards this past spring, is a game-changer on so many levels. We’ll look at the Wesleyan-educated creative team (star, composer and librettist Lin-Manuel Miranda and director Thomas Kail), their influences (Stephen Sondheim plays a big part) and how their first collaboration in the Tony Award-winning *In the Heights* set the groundwork for *Hamilton*. We also look at how historic subjects have been adapted successfully (and not) into musicals — and why Miranda’s work “based on Ron Chernow’s Hamilton biography” is a masterpiece of adaptation.

**Tuesdays Nov. 8, 15, 22; 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**
**KF Room, Cost: $90; Fellows $70**

**FRANK RIZZO** is a writer/critic for Variety and contributes to The New York Times, American Theatre magazine, Theatre Development Fund’s Stages website, the Tribune newspapers (Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, Baltimore Sun), the Connecticut Hearst papers (Greenwich Times, Stamford Advocate, Connecticut Post, Danbury Times), Fox/CT, among other media outlets. For nearly 34 years he was staff arts writer and theater critic for The Hartford Courant. He graduated from the University of Arizona with a BA in journalism and was a Shubert Fellow in playwriting in graduate school, also at the U of A. He lives in New Haven and New York. His theater blog is www.showriz.com and you can follow him on Twitter@ShowRiz.

**INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGE: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

**THEODORE SUSSMANN**

The challenge of upgrading American Infrastructure is only outweighed by the economic threat of allowing it to decay. In this 3 part course, the technical challenges posed by the infrastructure problem will be discussed along with the changes over the last 50 years that make infrastructure renewal more of a challenge than the original construction.

The discussion will focus on 2 specific works: *Horatio’s Drive* by Dayton Duncan and Ken Burns and The History Channel’s *The Men Who Built America*. We will investigate the grand visions for America developed by early infrastructure pioneers contrasted against the challenges of the mid-20th century, including the Eisenhower Interstate system, air travel, and energy infrastructure. This class will highlight the changes in the perception of infrastructure as well as the high expectations for availability as demonstrated by the reliability requirements for telephone communications as compared to cell phones. The course will conclude with a discussion of “smart”
infrastructure and its possible public benefits. We will then contrast the grand visions of the early pioneers against the infrastructure advances of the 21st century focusing on Tesla Motors. After discussing a possible grand vision for 21st century, infrastructure, we will finish by developing a contrasting list of the most needed infrastructure improvements in Connecticut.

**Wednesdays, Nov. 9, 16, 30; 12:00 - 2:00 pm**  
KF Room, Cost: $70; Fellows $50

TED SUSSMANN is a civil engineer with a focus on geotechnical infrastructure engineering. He received his BSCE, MSCE, and PhD from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His research has focused on inspection technologies to characterize materials and evaluate their influence on safety, life-cycle cost, and maintenance requirements to help improve infrastructure sustainability.

**MAKING MUSIC AS AN ENSEMBLE: A CONVERSATION WITH THE JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET**

**HOST: LARRY ALAN SMITH**

Known throughout the world, the Juilliard String Quartet was founded in 1946. Larry Alan Smith will host a combined panel discussion, musical demonstration, and conversation with the audience to demonstrate the mechanics of playing in a string quartet. Members of the quartet will perform several movements to provide increased understanding of the interplay that lies beneath a great performance.

**Thursday, November 10, 10:00 am - 11:30 am**  
Millard Auditorium, Cost: $35; Fellows $25

This course is sponsored by the Presidents’ college in Partnership with the Richard P. Garmany Chamber Music Series.

LARRY ALAN SMITH is a professor of composition and the former dean of the Hartt School of the University of Hartford. He is curator of the Richard P. Garmany Chamber Music Series.
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“AND THE WINNER IS...” READING THE 2016 BOOKER PRIZE WINNING NOVEL

MICHELE TROY

September 2015 saw the first rousing meeting of the Booker Prize Book Club: a four-week endeavor to read the six books nominated to the short list for this auspicious literary award. Professor Michele Troy will be on sabbatical for the 2016-17 academic year, but does not want to miss out on the chance for at least a little Booker Prize debate. The Booker Prize will be announced this year on 25 October, so on 15 November, she invites you to join her for a spirited discussion of this year’s winner. Please note: Professor Troy is planning on staying to lunch at the 1877 Club after the course, and would welcome company! Participants may therefore choose the course option with or without lunch, depending on their preference. The price of lunch is not included in the course registration fee.

Tuesday, Nov. 15th, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
KF Room, Mortensen Library, Cost: $35; Fellows $25

MICHELE TROY, associate professor of English in Hillyer College, holds a PhD from Loyola University of Chicago. Her book on the Albatross Press and English-language publishing under the Nazis has recently been accepted for publication by Yale University Press.

FELLOWS LECTURES

ACTING CLASS: A WINDOW ON CONTEMPORARY PRACTICE

DIANA MOLLER-MARINO

Acting is playing the character’s want, or objective. The playwright gives us the words, but we chose how those words are presented. Two of our BFA students will demonstrate the various ways words can come alive through differing choices about how the character is going about achieving their objective. After the demonstration, audience participation will be welcomed!

Thursday, Sept. 22nd, 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
KF Room, No Charge

DIANA MOLLER-MARINO is associate professor of Theatre at Hartt. She teaches acting with a movement emphasis to the actor training and music theatre students. In addition, Diana directs productions at Hartt. Diana is also resident
teaching artist at Royalty Free Theater in NYC. Additionally, Diana is a guest artist at Wesleyan University and has taught at Princeton, Trinity College and University of Utah, among others.

COMETS/ASTEROIDS: PROPHETS OF DOOM OR GIVERS OF LIFE?
FRED STRIEFLER

The ancient Greeks believed in an Earth-centered (geocentric) universe. We will begin with an examination of the reasons behind this belief, to help understand the ancients’ views on comets and their origins. We will look at the history of interpretation of comets as both evil and beneficent.

We will also examine comets as possible sources of water on the earth. There is divergence of opinion as to whether comets/asteroids supplied most of earth’s water shortly after the formation of the planet, or whether water was already present when the Earth first formed.

We will also examine the question of a comet or asteroid’s role in the extinction of the dinosaurs leading to the subsequent rise of mammals 65 million years ago.

Finally, we will look at the fascinating theory of Panspermia. Did life originate in space? Do comets/asteroids carry the building blocks of life throughout the universe? Is there any experimental evidence? Is the idea gaining credence in the scientific community?

Thursday, Oct. 20th, 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm
KF Room, No Charge

FRED STRIEFLER, PhD, University of Nebraska and Professor Emeritus of Physics, taught physics, computer science, and astronomy at the University of Hartford from 1976 to 2015. His numerous publications and presentations are in the area of condensed matter physics.

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS: HOW TO TALK TO THE MORAL ABSOLUTISTS IN THE ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT
DONALD ELLIS

The lecture will focus on the communication strategies associated with
managing or improving relations between ethno-politically divided societies. More specifically, we will see how groups in contentious relationships and trapped in intractable conflicts — where ethnicity and religion are highly implicated — can use communication methods and processes to deal with rigid opinions and immovable values. Problem solving in this conflict involves dealing with sacred issues, conceptions of God, mythologized group histories, psychological and communicative distortions, along with the usual package of stereotypes, discriminations, and emotional intensity.

Thursday, Nov. 17th, 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
KF Room, No Charge

DONALD G. ELLIS is a professor in the School of Communication at the University of Hartford. His research interests are in the area of ethno-political conflict with particular emphasis on communication practices between ethnic groups in conflict. Professor Ellis is the past editor of the journal Communication Theory and the author of numerous books and journal articles. Professor Ellis is the recipient of the James Bent Award for scholarship and has been selected as a Fellow in the International Communication Association, as well as summer fellowships at the Ash Center, NYU, and the Schusterman Center at Brandeis University.

SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE: EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN

JAMES E. FULLER

Buildings consume nearly 50% of the total energy used in the United States, double that of industry and 70% more than transportation. Prior to the 1970’s energy was cheap and abundant. In the 45 years since then we have seen cycles of the rise and fall of the direct cost of energy corresponding with the surplus and glut of energy on the market. Since the establishment of the LEED certification process in 1993, the attention to designing energy efficient buildings has exploded. The vernacular process is one in which energy consumption, designing with nature, and having buildings respond to the social, cultural, spiritual and psychological needs of the users lead directly to the final solution. It is sustainable in all aspects, not just in energy. Come enjoy a walk through the vernacular process and how it can, should and does influence the works of architects today.

Thursday, Dec. 15th, 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
KF Room, No Charge
JAMES E. FULLER AIA NCARB, is the chair of the Department of Architecture, director of the Undergraduate Program and an associate professor of Architecture. He has been a faculty member at the University of Hartford for 21 years and teaches Second Year and Third Year design studio, Senior Design Thesis as well as Materials & Methods of Construction, Building Environmental Systems and Construction Documents. His research is on the relationship of vernacular architecture to environmental, social, psychological and cultural influences in contemporary design.

WOMEN, WISDOM, AND WRINKLES

MALA MATACIN

There is a paradox for American women in regard to body image issues and aging. On the one hand, people are generally viewed as becoming wiser with the aging process. On the other hand, growing old is problematic for women in that they are not supposed to “show their age.” Using research and various cultural messages (e.g., magazines, films, and poetry), Dr. Matacin will examine this paradox, and suggest ways in which we may be able to challenge how we think, view, and treat wise women.

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 4:45pm – 6:15 pm
Duncaster Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge

MALA MATACIN has a PhD in social psychology from the University of Cincinnati and a post-doc in behavioral and preventive medicine from Brown University School of Medicine. She is an associate professor of psychology at the University of Hartford. She is the founder and faculty sponsor of Women for Change, a campus-based organization whose mission is dedicated to issues of women’s body image and sexuality. She teaches two popular courses: a first-year seminar Beauty, Body Image, and Feminism, and a university honors seminar Women, Weight, and Worry. She has won a University Outstanding Teaching Award and an Excellence in Service to Students Award from the National Society of Leadership and Success.

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TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

ROY COLLINS

Co-lecturers Roy Collins, III and USAF Maj. (Ret) Morgan Lankford will first discuss life experiences that motivate and inform their participation in this lecture. Collins will then generally describe the Tuskegee Airmen’s historical background, supported by Morgan’s description and interpretation of memories that his father, Joshua J. Lankford, shared of his experiences as a Tuskegee Airman during the World War II era. Collins will then elaborate further regarding the Airmen’s major campaigns, aircraft, and unique intercultural experiences within the U.S. military and various stationing points. Lankford will conclude with a “nuts and bolts” description of what his father and other Airmen experienced in the WWII theater both militarily and interpersonally. Questions and answers will follow.

Tuesday, Nov. 1, 4:45 pm – 6:15 pm
Duncaster Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge

ROY COLLINS is a native of Galveston, Texas, and a father of three young adults. In 2010, he joined The University of Hartford in its legal department after serving as an in-house attorney at two other universities and at Chrysler Corporation. Collins is a frequent speaker on the subjects of intellectual property, technology transfer, electronic commerce, communications law, negotiation and contracts, including presentations to professional audiences in as many as 12 states.

MORGAN LANKFORD attended air force pilot training at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas, and served as a USAF instructor pilot from 1979–1982. He flew transport aircraft in support of military actions in Grenada 1983 and Desert Storm 1991. He served 20 years combined active and reserve duty retiring in 1994 at the rank of Major. In 1986, Morgan began work as a commercial airline pilot for the former US Airways and is currently a Boeing 757 captain with American Airlines. During his 37-year flying career, Morgan has flown over 21,000 hours in 17 different types of aircraft.

ANN LANKFORD graduated from the University of Hartford with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She has enjoyed 32 years employed at the University of Hartford, beginning with positions in Public Safety, Barney School of Business, Ward College of Technology, and now the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture. Ann has been an instructor for first year courses, including
Introduction to Engineering Technology and Engineering Freshman Dialogue. Her role during most of her career focuses on student services, administrative support and raising the profile of the college through internet, newsletter, and social media.

THE INTERNET OF THINGS
LOUIS MANZIONE

The Internet of Things (IoT) is an emerging technology that takes advantage of the very low cost of computer processing, wireless connections, data storage and sensors. With IoT, many appliances, structures, and wearable devices will be connected to the internet by very low cost sensors and radio transmitters. Data will be constantly streaming from these devices into the “cloud” where it will be logged and then mined for important trends. This data processing is sometimes known by the terms of “Big Data” or data analytics. There are a wide variety of wearable and health monitoring technologies that will help people develop healthy practices and warn their health care providers if any alarming conditions are detected. Corporations are quickly adapting their products to stream back information and provide continuing revenue streams. The IoT is one of the most important technology trends in a generation.

Tuesday, Dec. 6th, 4:45 pm – 6:15 pm
Duncaster Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge

LOU MANZIONE is the dean of the College of Engineering, Technology, and Architecture at the University of Hartford. He has a B.E. degree in Chemical Engineering from the Cooper Union, and a PhD in Chemical Engineering from Princeton University. He has 17 US Patents, and a number of these have been commercialized into millions of AT&T and Alcatel-Lucent products. He is the Chair of the Connecticut Engineering Deans Council, and he is Past-President of the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering.
PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE FALL LECTURES 2016

McAULEY LECTURES

TREASURE AND TREACHERY IN THE NUTMEG STATES

WICK GRISWOLD

Pirates! Centuries after their last voyages they still conjure elemental excitement in our collective imagination. We thrill to images of sleek sloops silhouetted against full moons. The legends and lore of long buried treasures evoke fancies of gold, diamonds and silver. Connecticut’s waters hosted some A-list buccaneers. David Marteens, Blackbeard and Captain William Kidd all sailed along Long Island Sound. This talk will unravel some of their stories from the fantastical to the factual. These well-dressed bad boys make for lively conversation. Tales of corsairs and their treasures in the Nutmeg State will be the theme — pirate attire optional.

Friday Sept. 9th, 2:00 pm
McAuley Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge


CHOREOGRAPHY: THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF DANCE MAKING

KATHLEEN STEVINSON-NOLLETT

This course will share the creative process and artistic development of dance composition from the fundamental building blocks to sophisticated craftwork that Professor Stevinson-Nollet has developed over her 30+ years of teaching and dance making. She will share excerpts of her work, as well as the work of several of her students from the Hartt Dance Division, delving into the act of discovery and the creative process.

Friday, Oct. 7th, 2:00 pm
McAuley Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge

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KATIE STEVINSON-NOLLET served as artistic director for Full Force Dance Theatre for over twenty years where she created over 60 original dance works, presenting the company locally, nationally, and internationally. She has taught in the Hartt School Dance Division for 16 years, teaching Contemporary Dance Forms, Composition, Repertory, and serves as Director and Administrator for the Senior Dance Composition concerts. In addition to her responsibilities at the Hartt School, Katie also focuses her creative energy on commissioned projects, guest teaching, solo work and Dance for Camera projects.

LITERARY PROTESTS IN RUSSIAN AND SOVIET HISTORY
KENNETH POPPE

‘Sooner or later a man encounters such a glaring injustice or falsehood that he can no longer remain silent.’

- Vladimir Bukovsky in TO BUILD A CASTLE, 1979

Reactions to authoritarian regimes in Russian and Soviet History have included peasant rebellions, urban riots, assassinations, even revolutions, as well as works of fiction and non-fiction. Writers attempted to persuade the government to change policies or, if need be, to replace the government leadership. This lecture will focus on selected writers who have tried to overcome censorship by showcasing the repressive times before and since Stalin.

Solshenitzyn, Voinovich, Aksyonov, Dovlatov, Amarlik, Ginzburg Vladimov, and Shalamov in the 20th century, and Chernyshevky in the 19th century, exemplified these brave and decent people. They were often imprisoned or exiled when they sought to express their outrage at some of the more significant events and people that have impacted Russia.

Friday, Nov. 4th, 2:00 pm
McAuley Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge
KEN POPPE has many years of experience teaching history at high schools in Westport, Farmington, West Hartford and Simsbury. He traveled to the Soviet Union in the 1980s, studied the Russian language at CCSU, and was able to read many of these dissident writers with a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. He spent a year on sabbatical at Trinity College enrolled in a variety of Russian/Soviet history courses. He is a past president of the Connecticut Council for the Social Studies.

DIET, EXERCISE AND AGING
MATTHEW COSTELLO
This lecture will discuss how older adults can improve their mental life by altering their diet and increasing their exercise levels. We will focus on the scientific basis for such improvements and the expected outcomes for middle-aged and older adults.

Friday, Dec. 2nd, 2:00 pm
McAuley Retirement Community, Cost: $15; Fellows no charge

MATTHEW COSTELLO is an Assistant Professor of Psychology who specializes in gerontological studies. He received his undergraduate degree from St. Joseph’s University (Philadelphia, PA), an MA in Liberal Arts from St. John’s College (Annapolis, MD), and his PhD in Developmental Psychology from Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, PA). At the University of Hartford, Dr. Costello teaches both undergraduate and graduate classes, with a focus on research methods and developmental psychology.

Looking for a place to eat lunch before or after your Presidents’ College course?

Dine at the 1877 Club Restaurant located next to Mortensen Library.

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EAST COAST PREMIERE

In 1902 Albert and Mileva Einstein had a baby daughter. After 1904 she was never seen again. When a young reporter confronts Einstein years later in Princeton, Einstein must face his greatest challenge: his past. RELATIVITY explores the bonds of family and the cost of genius. To be a great man, does one first need to be a good man? From the playwright that brought you FREUD’S LAST SESSION, DANCING LESSONS, and BECOMING DR. RUTH.

by Mark St. Germain

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A long day’s journey into the dark past: artists-survivors facing their Holocaust memories

A lecture by Dr. Pnina Rosenberg
September 21st, 7:00 pm
KF room of Mortensen Library

Co-sponsored by the Maurice Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies, UConn Office for Global Affairs and Voices of Hope

From late 1945 on artists-survivors who recorded their Holocaust experiences were motivated both by an urgent need to reveal the Nazi atrocities and to come to terms with their haunted past. This can be seen in paintings and drawings done by artists such as David Olère, Ella Liebermann-Shiber and Max Bueno de Mesquita who sought to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive and at the same time to confront their past by re-creating it through their artistic talent. The importance of this testimonial-therapeutic artistic activity was attested by Liebermann-Shiber who wrote: “I felt that each painting not only brought back my terrible past but also eased in a certain way the burden of my thoughts. I felt belief in mankind came back slowly to me, in spite of the horrible and cruel past suffered by my people and myself.” (On the Edge of the Abyss, 1997).
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THE COMEDY OF ERRORS
JANUARY 12 – FEBRUARY 12, 2017
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
DIRECTED BY DARKO TRESNJAK

CLOUD 9
FEBRUARY 23 – MARCH 19, 2017
BY CARYL CHURCHILL
DIRECTED BY ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON

THE ABSOLUTE BRIGHTNESS OF LEONARD PELKEY
MARCH 30 – APRIL 23, 2017
WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY JAMES LECESNE
DIRECTED BY TONY SPECIALE
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY DUNCAN SHEIK

SAINT JOAN
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BY GEORGE BERNARD SHAW
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