

Humanities Institute for Lifelong Learning

"... the best education in upstate New York."
 –Warren Roberts, U. at Albany

The University In Our Town

Spring 2017

MONDAY A.M.

The Music of Richard Strauss

Starts: March 6

Time: 10:00-12:00 noon

Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: Josef Schmee, Kenneth B. Sharpe
 Professor, Emeritus, of Management, Union College

Richard Strauss was the scion of a famed horn player father and a Munich beer brewing mother. Influenced by Liszt and Wagner, he quickly established his own compositional language and style. His earlier major works are tone poems, such as Thus Spake Zarathustra and Heldenleben, composed before the turn of the century. He created exceptional operas, such as Salome and Rosenkavalier, in the early decades of the 20th century. The political turmoil of the Nazi era led to several important compositions of his late style, such as Metamorphosen for Strings and "Vier Letzte Lieder." His late style operas include Daphne, Capriccio, and The Love of Danae. Throughout his life, Strauss composed lieder, German songs based on texts by the great poets. We will sample

Registration Info:

Make check payable to Bethlehem Central School District. **Mail check and registration form to:** HILL Program, c/o Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054.

The registration deadline for HILL courses is February 24, 2017.

the major works from each category, relate them to the stages of Strauss' life and try to make sense of his complicated music and personality.

MONDAY P.M.

1917 in 2017: World War 1 & The Shaping of the Modern World

Starts: March 6

Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: Robert Fogarty, Associate Professor of History, SUNY, Albany

Americans entered the First World War, or the Great War as contemporaries knew it, exactly 100 years ago this spring. That entry, and the war in general, has profoundly shaped the modern world down to the present day. Without doubt, the legacy of this war will continue to shape our future. This course will explore how an understanding of the events of a century ago can help us to understand our present and future—how 1917 has led to 2017. Each of 6 sessions will examine one topic, either a region or nations such as Europe, the Middle East, Russia, the United States, etc., or a topic such as technology, religion, empire, the international order, or culture, and politics and explain how each was impacted by the war.

TUESDAY A.M.

Big Trials in American History

Starts: March 7

Time: 10:00-12 noon

Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: Richard Hamm, Professor of History & Collins Fellow, SUNY, Albany

From the colonial period through today, the American legal system has produced notable trials which tell us much about American society. This course will sweep through American history and will describe and analyze a number of different trials, some less well known than others, to help us understand major and contentious issues that have confronted Americans in the past. Trials to be covered include: the Salem witch trials, the child custody dispute over Frederick D'Hauteville, the trial of the Reverend Avery for the murder of a "mill girl," the trial of the slave Celia for the murder of her master, the trial of Harry Thaw for the murder of Stanford White, and the trial of Leo Frank for the killing of Mary Phagan.

HILL COMMITTEE

Cynthia Abele
 Bruce Bushart
 Tom Clash
 Maryanne Gridley
 Polly Hartman
 Barry Isenberg
 Allen Israel
 Wendy Jordan
 Henry Peyrebrune
 Dick Ramsey

Debra Renner
 Barbara Richter
 Martha Rosett
 Donna Sawyer
 Sandra Shapard



SPRING 2017 HILL COURSES

TUESDAY P.M.

French Art from Absolutism to Impressionism

Starts: March 7
Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: **Sarah Cohen**, Professor of Art History & Women's Studies, SUNY Albany

This course presents art of all mediums produced in France from the consolidation of the country under the Valois and Bourbon kings of the Renaissance and Baroque eras, through the origins of Modernism in the 19th century art and culture. The course will culminate with an examination of the French Impressionists and the many ways in which their radical new painting styles intersected with French social life and the central concerns of their era.

WEDNESDAY P.M.

Apocalypse Soon! Studies on Views, Claims, and Fears About the "End of the World As We Know It"

Starts: March 8
Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Place: Delmar Reformed Church

INSTRUCTOR: **Peter Bedford**, John & Jane Wold Professor of Religious Studies & Director of Program in Religious Studies, Union College

The band REM once sang "It's the end of the world as we know it...and I feel fine!" Most people who claim to know that the end of the world is coming don't want you to feel fine. They want you to follow their instructions and join their movement to prepare for the event. In this course we will examine cases where certain groups have warned of imminent catastrophe facing society and even the

earth itself. How do they know anything about the coming catastrophe? What has happened to precipitate our demise, and why such a negative assessment of humanity and its prospects? How is religion involved, if at all? What, if anything, can be done to forestall or change this fate? These are some of the questions we will address as we draw on examples from the ancient, medieval and modern periods, making use of historical and sociological perspectives to explore what gives rise to the view that "the end is nigh."

CLASS notes

- Each HILL class meets 6 times a semester.
- Starting dates and times differ for each course. See descriptions.
- HILL observes Bethlehem Central School District's full-day weather cancellations. Check local stations, the district website (www.bethlehemschools.org) or call for closing information.
- Messages with questions about HILL courses should be left on (518) 368-7029. Refer to <http://bethlehemschools.org/community/adult-education/> for information about classes and special events.

HILL Spring 2017 Registration Form

Fee for each course is \$35. Seating is limited. Please provide all information (including telephone #) requested on this form and enclose **ONE CHECK FOR ALL HILL COURSES AND ALL REGISTRANTS ON THIS FORM.**

**This form is for HILL
classes only.**

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

Email Address (optional): _____

I've enclosed course fees for the following courses:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music of Richard Strauss | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> World War 1 & Shaping of Modern World | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trials in American History | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Art | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apocalypse Soon | # registering _____ | Name(s): _____ |