

Humanities Institute for Lifelong Learning

The University In Our Town

HILL 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

CLASS NOTES

- Each HILL course meets 6 times a semester at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054.
- Starting dates and times differ for each course. See descriptions.
- **REGISTER EARLY.** Courses can be closed based on class size. It is strongly suggested that you submit your Registration Form before February 26, 2018.
- **REGISTRATIONS ARE NOT CONFIRMED.** You will only be notified if course registration is closed (registration checks are not cashed until after the semester begins.)
- HILL observes Bethlehem Central School District's full-day weather cancellations. Check local stations or the district website, www.bethlehemschools.org.
- Messages with questions about HILL courses should be left at (518) 368-7029. For more information, visit the BCSD Adult & Continuing Education page at www.bethlehemschools.org/community/adult-education.

MONDAY A.M.

The Cuban Revolution

Starts: March 5

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 noon

INSTRUCTOR: Teresa Meade, Florence B. Sherwood Professor of History & Culture; Director of the Latin American & Caribbean Studies Program, Union College

This course will survey the history of Cuba from the 1959 triumph of the revolution, led by Fidel Castro, and the 26th of July Movement, through the several decades-long period in which Cuba struggled to build an independent communist nation aligned with the Soviet Union. We will finish with an examination of how Cuba has weathered "The Time of Peace", a Cuban term describing the challenging period resulting from the demise of the Soviet bloc in the 1990s. We will also briefly examine the recent U.S. decision to officially recognize Cuba.

Specifically, the course will explore the history of political and economic changes in Cuba's revolutionary ideology during both the Cold War era and the years following the Soviet Union's demise. We will trace the revolutionary government's attempts to introduce measures to eliminate social inequality, and we will evaluate the reasons behind both successful and unsuccessful policies. We will also examine the history of gender and race relations from the early 1960s to the present. In addition to considering the economic and political ties with the U.S., dating from the late 19th century, we will also examine Cuban foreign policy with other Latin American and Caribbean countries, and with the rest of the world.

HILL COMMITTEE

Bruce Bushart
Tom Clash
Maryanne Gridley
Polly Hartman

Barry Isenberg
Allen Israel
Wendy Jordan
Henry Peyrebrune

MONDAY P.M.

Sound Ideas: Art & Society in Music Since 1900

Starts: March 5

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

INSTRUCTOR: Nancy Newman, Musicologist; Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Music, UAlbany

Music of the past century is a rich tapestry reflecting social change, aesthetic experimentation, cultural exchange and technological upheaval. This course will consider major musical works from early 20th century modernism to recent minimalism as sonic expressions of contemporary developments. We will explore landmark compositions such as Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* and *Symphony of Psalms*; Schoenberg's *Verklarte Nacht* and *Erwartung*; Berg's *Wozzeck*; Weill's *Three Penny Opera*; Milhaud's *La Creation du Monde*; Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*; Copland's *Appalachian Spring*; Bartok's *Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta*; Babbitt's *Philomel*; Reich's *Different Trains*; and Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer*.

Through the lens of compositional technique and stylistic innovation, we will see how musicians wrestled with issues such as nationalism, gender politics and the culture industry.

Recommended reading: Alex Ross, *The Rest is Noise: Listening to the Twentieth Century*



Dick Ramsey
Debra Renner
Barbara Richer
Martha Rozett

Donna Sawyer
Sandra Shapard

TUESDAY A.M.

Russia and the Post-Soviet States

Starts: March 6
Time: 10:00-12 noon

INSTRUCTOR: *Ausra Park, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Siena College*

President Vladimir Putin has described the collapse of the Soviet Union as the “greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 20th Century.” Unquestionably, the forfeiture of a great power status was both traumatic and painful for Russia. The country lost not only its significance and voice in international politics in the 1990s but it also experienced a major economic and demographic decline, which undermined the country’s geopolitical ambitions. With the dawn of the new millennium, Russia, under the new and current leadership of President-Prime Minister-President (again!) Putin, largely regained economic and, more importantly, political standing in world affairs. This newly resurgent Russia has successfully redefined its relations with the “near abroad” countries (so-called former Soviet Republics) as it launched various innovative, covert and overt foreign policy initiatives.

The course will focus primarily on the post-Cold War period and will examine the transformation of relations between Russia and the former 15 Soviet Republics, including the impact that major political and international events of the 21st century had on the post-Soviet region.

TUESDAY P.M.

New American Cinema: Films of the 1960s & 70s

Starts: March 6
Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR: *Rob Edelman, Lecturer, Department of Art & Art History, UAlbany*

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, great social changes were occurring in the United States. These changes were sparked by the emerging youth culture, the progression of the Civil Rights Movement, opposition to the war in Vietnam, and the advent of the modern-era feminist movement. This course will explore the manner in which these changes impacted American cinema, with film content reflecting youth alienation, the drug culture, and alternative lifestyles and politics. Some of the film clips we will consider are from: *The Graduate, Bonnie and Clyde, Five Easy Pieces, Taxi Driver, Kramer vs. Kramer, The Candidate, Nashville, Easy Rider, Midnight Cowboy, Shaft, Born on the Fourth of July*, and *M*A*S*H*.

Suggested reading: Peter Biskind, *Easy Riders, Raging Bulls: How the Sex-Drugs-and-Rock 'N Roll Generation Saved Hollywood*

WEDNESDAY P.M.

What Can We Learn from Shakespeare’s Kings?

Starts: March 7
Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR: *Martha Rozett, Professor Emerita, Department of English, UAlbany*

This course will begin with two British monarchs: Queen Elizabeth I, whose long reign extended from before Shakespeare’s birth until 1603, and her cousin King James I, who succeeded her and remained on the throne during the years in which Shakespeare wrote most of the tragedies, the Roman plays and the late romances. The two monarchs differed in many respects, but Shakespeare’s audiences at the Globe surely thought about how the kings on the stage compared with them as they watched the plays. The five subsequent sessions will each be devoted to a play and a king: Richard III, Richard II, Macbeth, Claudius in Hamlet, and King Lear. Our focus will be on the political situations in which the kings find themselves, the choices they make and the tragic consequences of those choices.

The discussions will include some details about the sources Shakespeare was working from and how his use of those sources reveals the issues he set out to explore. While we will not be able to discuss the plays as fully as we might like, each session will devote some attention to key scenes and to the main themes of the plays.

Attendees are encouraged to use any edition of the plays, preferably one with line numbers for easy reference.

Spring 2018 HILL Registration Form

This form is for HILL classes only.

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.**

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

I've enclosed course fees for the following courses:

- The Cuban Revolution # registering ____ Name(s): _____
- Sound Ideas # registering ____ Name(s): _____
- Russia and the Post-Soviet States # registering ____ Name(s): _____
- New American Cinema # registering ____ Name(s): _____
- Shakespeare’s Kings # registering ____ Name(s): _____