

## Winter 2022 Coastal Senior College catalog

### Tuesday

#### **E.M. Forster (*Howard's End*) and Virginia Woolf (*Mrs. Dalloway*):**

##### **Bookends of the Early Modern Novel**

They were friends whose styles were radically different. Forster is quite traditional and Woolf experimental. Yet both focused on the individual and domestic life rather than the grand social themes of the later 19th century. They critiqued each other's work and helped shape the post-World War I literary scene in Britain. And they are still very readable, with Forster enjoying a new audience in films.

For the first class please read *Howard's End*, Chapters 1–9.

**Instructor Maryanne Ward** is retired after a 40-year career in small college education. She chaired Kenyon College (Gambier, Ohio) Humanities program and served as academic dean until moving to Centre College (Danville, Kentucky) as professor of English and chair of the Humanities program. Her area of special interest and scholarship is 19th-century British literature. Among other topics, her publications have examined the relationship between literature, landscape, and painting.

On Zoom

Dates: February 8 – March 15

Time: 9:30 – 11:15

#### **WITH PICK, AXE, AND TROWEL: The Folk Architecture of the Americas**

A visual exploration of the relationships between natural and cultural contexts and their influences on traditional or "folk" building forms in America: from Native American longhouses and pueblos, to settlers' cabins and farmsteads, from covered bridges and sugarhouses, to meetinghouses and Shaker villages. This course focuses on the small but fascinating traditional structures built using "architecture without architects." (This course is intended to be a separate but complementary course to "Folk Architecture of the World.")

**Instructor Arne Aho** has taught architecture and basic design for more than 40 years at North Carolina State University, Mississippi State University, and Norwich University, where he started the new Architecture Program and served as its first Director. He was educated at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied under the internationally recognized architect, Louis I. Kahn. Arne has many publications on materials and energies in design, vernacular (folk) architecture, and the relationships between natural and built environments. In addition to numerous design

awards, he has received distinguished teaching recognition, including the Burlington Northern Outstanding Teacher Award (MSU) and the Dana Distinguished Professor (NU).

On Zoom

Dates: February 8 – March 15

Time: 10:00 – 11:45

## **Understanding the Many Varieties of Consciousness**

We are aware that we experience consciousness in our everyday lives. However, we seldom consider the power of our minds to create and experience alterations in traditional consciousness. This course will present new research findings about how our minds are actually created. We will discuss theories of consciousness proposed by early writers, see how the 1960s changed our approach to understanding the conscious mind and discuss how treatments such as hypnosis can benefit us. We will ultimately explore the altered states of consciousness experienced in sleep and dreaming, praying and meditating, undergoing hypnosis, and ingesting various medications or drugs.

**Instructor Joel Shapiro**, Ed.D. retired as Chair and full professor of education at Green Mountain College, Poultney, VT. He was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Presov, Slovak Republic. He has written numerous articles for American and European professional journals and lectured at universities and conferences throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. He has won teaching awards at several colleges. Prior to beginning his academic career, Joel was a school psychologist working with children who have special needs. He received his Bachelor's degree from Colgate University, his Master's degree from Temple University and his doctorate from Nova Southeastern University.

On Zoom

Dates: February 8 – March 8

Time: 9:30 – 11:30

## **The Worst Are Still "Full of Passionate Intensity," Right?**

In the winter of 2020, we began this course, only to be interrupted shortly by Covid. Yeats's poems explore social, political, and artistic issues in such a way as to help us understand and survive the crises we face today. There is no better example of his relevance than the ubiquitous lines from "The Second Coming": "The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity." These lines often appear in editorials and cartoons, parodied, truncated, but useful still. Most importantly, throughout his poetic career Yeats sought and found ways to face down adversity and chaos, in disciplined and care-full poems. Frost, Yeats's contemporary, once said that poetry offered "a momentary stay against confusion." Yeats's legacy is far from momentary; it continues today to counteract the threat of chaos.

We will read selections, early and late, from *The Collected Poems of W. B. Yeats*, edited by Richard J. Finneran, in the Scribner Paperback Poetry series. Before the first class, I will email a list of poems to be read.

**Instructor John Ward** has been professor and chair of Kenyon College (Gambier, Ohio) English Department and has served as Dean of Centre College (Danville, Kentucky). He earned his B.A. from Amherst College and Ph.D. from the University of Virginia, and has taught courses in 18th- and 19th-century British literature and the history of the British novel. He has published on 18th- and 19th-century British works, as well as those of Vachel Lindsay and Robert Lowell.

On Zoom

Dates: February 8 – March 15

Time: 2:00 – 3:30

## **Wednesday**

### **Creating the Perfect Palette in Watercolor**

Knowing what color paints to use can be the key to a successful watercolor painting. We will look at the basic colors of an artist's palette and how they can be mixed in various ways to create a variety of different tones and hues. Expanding the basic watercolor palette will be a focus of this course.

Zoom invitations will include an attachment of a subject to be printed out for class each week. For the first class we will be using a palette, pad of watercolor paper, pencil and eraser, a few round brushes between number 2 and 10 and a flat brush any size, a watercolor pan set of about 10 colors or tubes of the primary colors, a jar of water and paper towels.

**Instructor Cynthia Dias** is a watercolor artist who has taught art and historically based classes for a number of years. In addition to her artwork that features scenes of Maine and England, she creates handwoven textiles at her home in Newcastle. Cynthia has worked as a curator and director of various museums and is the illustrator of a museum cookbook.

On Zoom

Dates: February 9 – March 2

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

### **Coming From Away: A History of Visitors and Vacations in Maine**

Who came to Maine? Why did they come? How did they get here? Where did they stay? Who did they meet? What were they seeking? Where did they find it? How did they change Maine? How did Maine change them? What infrastructure was necessary to serve them? What remains today of past tourist accommodations? What has been the outlook and interaction of local folks with visitors? How have tastes and needs and

interests changed over time? These are some of the questions we will explore together this winter.

Week 1: What's the Attraction? Maine in the Imagination; The Idea of Maine

Week 2: The Rusticators

Week 3: The Wilderness Experience

Week 4: Literary Pilgrims, Art Colonies, and Other Gatherings

Week 5: From Trains and Steamers to the Automobile

Week 6: Tourism in Midcoast Maine, Then and Now

**Instructor Jayne Gordon** is VP of Coastal Senior College, and a member of the Curriculum and Activities Committees. She has taught courses on Thoreau and Antislavery, Fact and Fiction in Little Women, and Transcendentalism and Education Reform. She has also taught courses on Maine in 1820, and two different courses on Maine Landscape and Literature. Jayne coordinated the special state bicentennial programs for CSC in 2019/2020, and now coordinates the Brown Bag lunchtime series.

Jayne lived in Concord, MA for close to a half century before moving to Damariscotta four years ago. She retired as Director of Education and Public Programs of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and before that was Director of the Thoreau Society and of Alcotts' Orchard House, and Director of Education at the Concord Museum. Since 2010, she has led 10 weeklong National Endowment for the Humanities workshops for teachers from across the country on both the American Revolution and the world of Henry Thoreau.

Her focus — in her career as a museum educator, administrator, and consultant, and now teaching courses in Maine — has consistently been the intersection of landscape, literature, and local history.

On Zoom

Dates: February 9 – March 16

Time: 10:00 – 11:30

## **The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins**

This course explores in five classes the legacy of Frances Perkins: Her Maine Roots and Early Career; The Woman Behind the New Deal; Perkins in the Eyes of Charles E. Wyzanski, Jr., her Solicitor at the Department of Labor; Jobs, Infrastructure and Art in the New Deal; The Frances Perkins Homestead National Historic Landmark, Newcastle, Maine; and a conversation with her grandson, Tomlin Perkins Coggeshall, which includes an overview of the Frances Perkins Homestead National Historic Landmark. Suggested reading: Kirstin Downey, *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The life and Legacy of Frances Perkins—Social Security, Unemployment Insurance and the Minimum Wage*.

**Instructor Michael Chaney** is the Executive Director of the Frances Perkins Center, a position he has held since 2014. Guest lecturers include Dr. Christopher Breiseth (FPC board member); Charles M. Wyzanski (FPC board member); Sarah Peskin (FPC Chair); and Tomlin Perkins Coggeshall, grandson of Frances Perkins.

On Zoom

Dates: February 9 – March 9

Time: 9:30 – 11:30

## **Thursday**

### **Rethinking American Grand Strategy**

This course is based on the eponymous book edited by Andrew Preston, Elizabeth Borgwardt, and Christopher Nichols (Oxford University Press, 2021). In its pages, leading scholars from 20 U.S. and three foreign universities expand the scope of American diplomatic and military history by placing grand strategies involving public health, race, gender, culture, and the law into a framework usually dominated by experts in weaponry and geopolitics. Among the many articles providing ample food for thought are: "The Blob and the Mob" by Beverly Gage, whose recent resignation as Director of the grand strategy program at Yale received national attention; "The Unbearable Whiteness of Grand Strategy" by Adriane Lentz-Smith of Duke University; and "Reproductive Politics and Grand Strategy" by Laura Briggs of U Mass, Amherst.

Because of the wide range of subjects covered, class members will be encouraged to indicate particular areas of interest in advance to facilitate course planning. They will be expected to have read at least those sections of the book most relevant to their particular interests.

**Instructor Bob Rackmales** is a former Fulbright grantee whose 32-year career in the U.S. Foreign Service included tours in Nigeria, Somalia, Croatia, Italy, and Serbia. In 1992 he received the State Department's highest award for management of an overseas mission. He has been teaching at Maine Senior Colleges since 2006.

On Zoom

Dates: February 10 – March 3

Time: 9:30 – 12:00

### **Why Moon? Why Mars? Why Asteroids?**

What is the fundamental reason why we explore space? What does the average taxpayer expect to get from the associated funding investment? Why are commercial companies now beginning to show an interest in getting into space? Should the U.S. be going back to the Moon, and if so, why? What can China and India anticipate in return for those countries' increased activity in space? Is it just about science and geopolitical one-upmanship, or is there something more fundamental behind these activities? Be

prepared for a change of reference, and of timescales, as we together explore the future of humankind in our astronomical home.

**Instructor Derek Webber** is the author of four non-fiction books concerned with the space business and space exploration. He is currently Co-Chair of a Working Group of a Vienna-based NGOs investigating international regulatory implications of possible commercial markets on the Moon. He is a former space engineer, commercial space executive, proponent of space tourism business initiatives, and acted as the Vice-Chair of the Judging Panel for the Google Lunar XPRIZE, which offered \$40 M in prizes for landing a non-governmental spacecraft on the Moon.

Location: Quaker Meeting House

Dates: February 10 – March 10

Times: 10:00 – 12:00

## Friday

### The Dark Side of the Universe

Over the last half-century, astronomers have come to a profoundly disturbing conclusion: the vast majority of our universe is composed of mysterious stuff that is not part of our world. The familiar atoms and elements comprise just a thin frosting on an unseen obscure cake of dark matter and dark energy. We will survey the compelling observational evidence that has upset our worldview, meet some of the people involved in the intellectual revolution, and explore the current efforts to understand more deeply our surprising universe. This mystery is a work in progress, with the concluding chapters not yet written — come along on a voyage into the dark side of the cosmos!

**Instructor Theodore (Ted) Williams** is Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy at Rutgers University and former Director of the South African Astronomical Observatory. He has a physics B.S. degree from Purdue University and astronomy Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology. Ted spent most of his career at Rutgers, where he pursued observational studies of galaxies and developed astronomical instrumentation, while teaching a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in physics and astronomy. He has spent innumerable nights at telescopes around the world, including observatories in California, Arizona, Texas, and Hawaii, as well as Chile, China, and South Africa, and an orbiting facility on the Space Shuttle (Ted stayed firmly on the ground). He has taught a number of astronomy courses for Coastal Senior College.

On Zoom

Dates: February 11 – March 11

Time: 10:00 – 11:30

## **America The Beautiful**

**GOOD NEWS.** Our nation teems with angry divisiveness. BUT, so also, does it teem with wholesome goodness, especially on the local level. This course asks: 1) Of what, in individual lives and communities, does this goodness consist? 2) How might building upon and nourishing the niceness diminish the nastiness? Real life cases — this will be the name of our game. We will draw upon the materials in the Fallows and Fallows volume (below), and our own experiences, which we will be invited to share. Some lecture, more discussion.

SUGGESTED READING: James Fallows and Deborah Fallows, *Our Towns: A 100,000-Mile Journey Into the Heart of America*, Pantheon Press, 2018.

**Instructor Steven Piker** is an anthropologist by career, 44 years at Swarthmore College, including work with the college's foreign study program, field research in Thailand and with religious conversion in the U.S. Over the past 10 years Steve has offered courses in three of Maine's senior colleges, and looks forward to this introduction to Coastal Senior College. Steve now lives in Yarmouth, ME, two blocks from two of his three grandchildren, and heats his home mainly with a wood stove.

**Instructor Paul Doherty** studied piano at the New England Conservatory of Music (Boston), where he earned a Bachelor of Music in Education. He is now retired from careers in music education, radio broadcasting, and ministry. Paul currently enjoys volunteer work and lifelong learning and teaching in various Maine senior colleges.

On Zoom

Dates: February 11 – March 18

Time: 10: – 11:30