

Course Descriptions, Spring Term 2014

American (Mostly) Musical Theater: Continued. This class will be a continuation of last fall's class: American musical theater. European sources, including the ballad opera, music hall, singspiel, vaudeville, and operetta as well as Afro-American jazz will be explored as contributors to the creation of the American musical. This term's class will pick up with Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* (1943) and continue to the present, including the British Invasion (Andrew Lloyd Webber!). Audio and video illustrations will be used in every session. Gerald Boardmans's *American Musical Theatre: A Chronicle* (Oxford University Press) is a useful reference. It is overpriced at Amazon but can be borrowed through Bibliomation and IConn.

Instructor/Organizer: Thomas Gruenewald. Mondays, 2-4 PM at Geer, April 14 – May 19 (6 sessions)

Continuing the Fall Term's World War II: A Documentary History. In 1974 the History Channel completed a video series entitled *World at War*, narrated by Sir Laurence Olivier. One reviewer of the series wrote: "This series ... is on a scale of value that stands far above any individual's presumption to criticizeThe passage of thirty years allows the telling to be backed up by an impressive and fascinating panoply of the very individuals involved, ranging from some of the highest military and political figures down to the field soldiers, civilians, and such survivors of the death camps as have remained to bear witness to the unimaginable inhumanities of which civilized humans are capableThe highest possible rating seems unworthy of being applied to this presentation. I think the value of this series is beyond counting." This term we will begin with the Allied war effort in Southeast Asia.

Instructor/Organizer: Larry Rand. Tuesdays, 10-Noon at Noble Horizons, April 15 – May 20 (6 sessions)

President James A. Garfield (November 19, 1831 – September 19, 1881)

For 40 plus years of teaching United States History to high school students, I considered James A. Garfield a brief footnote in our country's story. Candice Millard's book, *Destiny of the Republic*, peaked my interest and changed my mind. These four sessions will explore the life of a remarkable man, an important Civil War General, an influential Congressman, and a potentially great President. David Bayersdorfer

SESSION #1 Childhood, Education and Early Career The Making of a Person.

Session #2 Military and Congressional Careers. The Making of a Leader.
Session #3 Presidential election of 1880 and Presidency (Domestic and Foreign Policy). A compromise candidate who stood tall.
Session #4 Assassination and death of a President. What could have been and what was.

Instructor/Organizer: David Bayersdorfer. Wednesdays, 2-4 PM at Noble Horizon, April 16 – May 7 (4 sessions)

The Three Faces of Monotheism. This course offers a study of the monotheistic idea as presented in the Old and New Testaments and the Qur'an. Selections from these books will be read and discussed, showing how the idea of One God was transmitted and understood in Judaism, Christianity and Islam, in their formative periods. Enrolled class members should bring a Bible and a copy of the Qur'an with them. [The Qur'an is available in paperback for \$5.85 and higher; check Amazon.com.]

Instructor/Organizer: Alfred Ivry. Thursdays, 10-Noon at Geer, April 17 - May 29 (7 sessions)

Current Affairs. This course will focus on five topics in current affairs:

1. Leadership Qualities: Washington, Mandela and Lessons for leadership today.
2. Income Inequality: History, Analysis, and Possible Solutions.
3. Taxation in the US: In or Out of Balance?
4. Capitalism: History, Evolution, Present Challenges and Its Future.
5. Whither the US ? Beacon to the World or Heading to Mediocrity and Decline?

Instructor/Organizer: Bruce Montgomerie. Thursday 2-4 PM at Geer, April 24 – May 22 (5 sessions)

Midsomer Murders. Partly as a tonic for the cold and snowy weather, TLC is offering “a [British television](#) detective drama^[1] that has aired on [ITV](#) since 1997. The show is based on the books by [Caroline Graham](#), as originally adapted by [Anthony Horowitz](#). The current lead character is [DCI John Barnaby \(Neil Dudgeon\)](#), who works for Causton [CID](#). Dudgeon's character is the younger cousin of former lead character DCI [Tom Barnaby \(John Nettles\)](#). Dudgeon first appeared as randy gardener Daniel Bolt in the Series 4 Episode "Garden of Death". Dudgeon permanently joined the show in 2011 following Nettles' departure.

The stories revolve around the Barnabys' efforts to solve numerous murders that take place in the [fictional English county](#) of Midsomer. The Barnabys have worked with several different sergeants throughout the run of the show: Sgt Gavin Troy ([Daniel Casey](#)), Sgt Dan Scott ([John Hopkins](#)), Sgt Ben Jones ([Jason Hughes](#)), and currently Sgt Charlie Nelson ([Gwilym Lee](#)).” (from Wikipedia). The series was highly recommended by friends Carol and Larry Rand met on a recent trip to Peru and the Galapagos Islands.

Instructor/Organizer: N.A., Fridays, 10:00-Noon at Noble Horizons, April 18 – May 30 (7 sessions)



Registration Form for Spring Term 2014 Courses

Please use this form to register for TLC courses and submit by **April 1st, 2014**.

Name of 1st student in household: _____

Name of 2nd student in household: _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

E-mail address student 1: _____

E-mail address student 2: _____

Please check here if you would be willing to be a Course Manager or Co-Manager: ___

Student 1	Student 2	Course Title
_____	_____	American Musical Theater: Continued (Monday, 2-4PM, Geer, Apr-14-May 19)
_____	_____	WWI: A Documentary History: Continued (Tuesday, 10-Noon, Noble, Apr 15-May 20)
_____	_____	President James A. Garfield (Wednesday, 2-4PM, Noble, Apr 16-May 7)
_____	_____	The Three Faces of Monotheism (Thursday, 10-Noon, Geer, Apr 17-May 29)
_____	_____	Current Affairs (Thursday, 2-4PM, Geer, Apr 24-May 22)
_____	_____	Midsomer Murders (Friday, 10-Noon, Noble, Apr 18-May 30)

NOTE: This form may be folded and mailed using the return address on the reverse side.

Questions? Call 860-364-9363

Note: You can always register online by going to www.taconiclearningcenter.org

At this site, you can also verify your mailing address, email address, telephone number and membership status. And save a stamp!