



Circle of Scholars



Online June Catalog – 2021

Salve Regina University's Circle of Scholars is a lifelong learning program for adults of all inclinations and avocations. We enlighten, challenge, and entertain. The student-instructor relationship is one of mutual respect and offers vibrant discussion on even the most controversial of global and national issues. We learn from each other with thoughtful, receptive minds. 360 degrees. Welcome to Salve Regina and enjoy the June 2021 seminars.

Online registration begins on

Monday, May 24, 2021 at noon www.salve.edu/circleofscholars

Seminars are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register online using your six-digit Circle of Scholars identification number (COSID). As in the past, you will receive confirmation of your credit card payment when you complete the registration process. For each seminar you register for, you will receive a Zoom email invitation to join the seminar 1-3 days before the start date.

If you need assistance or have questions, please contact our office at (401) 341-2120 or email sheila.powell@salve.edu.

Important Program Information for June 2021

- Online seminars will be 1.5 hour sessions.
- Class fees begin at \$15 for one session and range to \$85 for eight sessions.
- Zoom is our online platform. If you do not have a Zoom account already, please visit the Zoom website to establish a free account at <https://zoom.us>. Zoom is easy to use, once you are familiar with it.
- After you register for a seminar, you will receive a Zoom email invitation 1-3 days before it begins. Use the link provided in the email to join your scheduled seminar sessions. The same link works for all sessions.
- Please call the office at (401) 341-2120 if you need additional Zoom training or support.
- Registration is the same online process we have used in the past and will be available on our webpage May 24, 2021 at noon. www.salve.edu/circleofscholars
- Instructors will receive your contact information on a class roster. They may send materials to you via email in advance of your class sessions. Be sure to monitor your email inbox regularly.

Online June Seminars

African Security Issues in the Biden Era

With Richard Lobban, Ph.D.

Date: June 10

One Session: Thursday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

This lecture of opportunity offers a survey of the on-going security issues in Africa that will be faced by the new President Joseph Biden administration. This Zoom talk is guided by American national security-foreign policy interests and the Maslow hierarchy of African human security needs. It will highlight a status report of Novel Covid-19 and other disease vectors in Africa and move on to kinetic and counter-insurgency issues of ISIS, *Al-Qa'eda* and others in the Horn of Africa, Central African and the African Sahel. Issues of governance, human rights and democracy will be described as well as multiple concerns of piracy and trafficking: human, drugs, minerals (gold, diamonds, coltan), arms, ivory and animals. This will be placed in the context of Russians and Chinese interests and activities in Africa and what the African Combatant Command (AFRICOM) may be able to do.

Richard A. Lobban has a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and African Studies at Rhode Island College and Adjunct Professor of African Studies, Naval War College. He serves as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) and Expert Witness in asylum cases. He also works as an archeologist in the eastern Sudan; is an active beekeeper and collector of historical maps of Africa. His many books include a three-volume history of Sudan, books on Libya, Sudan Security, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Informal Economy and African Insurgencies. He has been teaching a variety of courses on Africa at the NWC since 2005.

Are All Democracies (Including Ours) Fated to Self-Destruct?

With Luigi Bradizza, Ph.D.

Date: June 17

One Session: Thursday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

American democracy takes inspiration from the democracies of Ancient Greece. Yet those older democracies self-destructed. Are we destined to suffer the same fate? We will explore this vital question by drawing on the best of ancient and modern thinkers. We will focus special attention on the particular weaknesses of democracies, the bulwarks that American democracy uses to compensate for those weaknesses, and the ongoing erosion of those bulwarks. The participant will come away with a renewed appreciation of the possibilities and challenges of self-government.

Luigi Bradizza holds a Ph.D. in Politics from the University of Dallas. He is an associate professor of political science at Salve Regina University, and the chair of the Department of Political Science and International Relations. He has published a number of scholarly articles and book chapters on American political thought and political philosophy. He is also the author of "Richard T. Ely's Critique of Capitalism" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).

Online June Seminars

Clay Bricks and the Brickyards That Built the United States

With Murray C. Norcross, Jr., M.D., MPH

Date: June 21

One Session: Monday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

Did you ever wonder why so many buildings are made of brick in the United States? Did you know that during the Industrial Revolution of the 19th Century, over 200 million bricks would be needed to construct a three-story textile mill in Fall River, New Bedford, or Providence? Over 400 individual brickyards were once in operation in the American 19th Century to meet the demand for bricks. What are bricks made from? Why do clay bricks last so long, especially those made over 130 years ago? These and many more questions will be answered in this fascinating presentation about the gritty pieces of American history that built our nation. The fascinating stories of several brick makers will be told along with their lasting impact on our region and our lives. From baseball parks like Fenway, to the old State House in Newport's Washington Square, clay fired bricks are the sinews within our nation's infrastructure. In the words of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, "(It) starts when you carefully put two bricks together. There it begins."

Murray Norcross, MD, MPH is a 30-year career U.S. Navy medical officer and family physician who has served in the Cold War, Operation Desert Storm, and the Global War on Terror. An eyewitness to many historic events of the past 30 years, Dr. Norcross served two staff tours in Washington, D.C., deployed in support of several Joint Task Forces, and was stationed overseas for six years, split between Bahrain and Japan. An avid photographer, writer, and artist, Dr. Norcross holds master's degrees in international relations, public health and health care administration. He has a deep interest in the medical history of our past U.S. presidents.

The Debate Over the Minimum Wage

With Dennis Sheehan, Ph.D.

Date: June 18

One Session: Friday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

Should the government increase the minimum wage? There is an ongoing debate over the wisdom of raising the minimum wage. Several cities and states have increased their minimums, and there is a proposal in Congress to increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Both proponents and opponents of raising the minimum wage claim that the evidence supports their views. How is this possible? Can't economists agree on anything? We will discuss the evidence for and against the minimum wage, examining (briefly!) both studies that find negative effects of increasing the minimum wage and those that do not.

Dennis Sheehan, Ph.D. recently retired from the Penn State Smeal College of Business faculty, where he was the Virginia and Louis Benzak Professor of Finance. He previously taught at Purdue University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Rochester. He has also taught in Europe at the École des Ponts Paris Tech and the Universität Bern. Professor Sheehan is a graduate of Georgetown University and received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley. He grew up in Newport and has moved back home to be closer to family.

Online June Seminars

Everyman's Endeavoring: Analyzing Contemporary Moral Politics through 15th-Century Literature

With Teresa M. Testa

Dates: June 15, 22, 29

Three Sessions: Tuesdays, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$35

This is an introductory course that examines the spiritual, political, and psychological aspects of contemporary American culture through the consideration of the 15th-Century morality play, *The Summoning of Everyman*. The short reading exemplifies the existential reconciling inherent within every human conscience. The objective is to provide insight and appreciation for one's own quest to live with grace and to be understood by fellow human beings, particularly at a cultural time when self and shared understanding is not necessarily thought possible. How do we contend with such a predicament? This is the work of the course. Session time is dedicated primarily to lecture-style instruction. Students courteously are asked to use the lessons of moral philosophy to guide the respect for fair treatment of partisan religious and political positions. The reading will be emailed to students prior to the first session.

Teresa M. Testa is a Ph.D. candidate at Salve Regina University where her dissertation research explores twentieth-century cultural approaches to moral theory within the philosophy of technology and theology. Graduating from Brown University with a concentration in English and American Literature, Teresa earned the M.Sc. in Organizational Management from Salve Regina University with emphasis on modern business ethical standards. Her life is immersed in the teaching of original coursework, editing manuscripts, and promoting a philanthropic scholarship program. Her academic interests are extensive and connect multiple disciplines within the humanities.

Flash Mobs of the Performing Arts

With Anthony Agostinelli

Date: June 14

One Session: Monday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

"Flash mobs" are large public gatherings at which people perform an unusual or seemingly random act and then disperse; they are typically organized by means of the Internet or social media. Flash Mobs are known to delight an unsuspecting audience in a mundane environment like a mall or an airport. This course will provide the enrollees with spirit-lifting flash mob cultural performances of Broadway musicals, dance, opera, jazz, orchestral/classical and swing music.

Anthony J. (Tony) Agostinelli is a retired university professor, a former professional musician, novelist, a TV and radio personality; he is also a jazz, opera and Broadway historian. Tony lives on Aquidneck Island.

Online June Seminars

Mystery Solved: Discovery of the Nile

With Richard Lobban, Ph.D.

Date: June 24

One Session: Thursday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

While the Egyptian Nile was well known for millennia, the Upper Nile and the Source of the (White) Nile remained unknown to the West until the late 19th century. This illustrated talk describes the ancient cartographic search for the mysterious sources of the Nile and especially how Greek geometry calculated the size and shape of the earth almost 2,000 years before Columbus. And how a "murder?" mystery in the Royal Geographical Society almost solved the questions and finally how a thermometer brought the matter to a conclusion.

Richard A. Lobban has a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and African Studies at Rhode Island College and Adjunct Professor of African Studies, Naval War College. He serves as a Subject Matter Expert (SME) and Expert Witness in asylum cases. He also works as an archeologist in the eastern Sudan; is an active beekeeper and collector of historical maps of Africa. His many books include a three-volume history of Sudan, books on Libya, Sudan Security, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Informal Economy and African Insurgencies. He has been teaching a variety of courses on Africa at the NWC since 2005.

The Pandemic Will Not Be Over Until 2024, So Plan Accordingly!

With Murray C. Norcross, Jr., M.D., MPH

Date: June 9

One Session: Wednesday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$15

As a physician, I am asked constantly by my patients, when will this nightmare called COVID-19 be over finally. With tact and diplomacy, I tell them that "it won't be over until it's over which will probably be 2024." My patients are bewildered and wonder why 2024, after receiving vaccinations, wearing masks and continuing to social distance. This and many more questions will be answered.

You will be presented with the latest up-to-date World Health Organization forecast on the Pandemic. COVID-19 is not just affecting the United States. The Pandemic is still out of control in many parts of the world, and it will take a coordinated global effort with significant leadership by the United States to reign it in. I will discuss the latest update on all the FDA emergency approved vaccines and the way ahead. I will discuss what the likelihood will be for the requirement of a COVID-19 booster vaccination this fall of 2021 and if we will need an annual COVID-19 vaccine much like the annual flu shot. Remember, it took years for the Pandemics of 1918, 1954, and 1968 to come under control, mutate, and/or burn out. A question-and-answer session will follow the presentation.

Online June Seminars

Murray Norcross, MD, MPH is a 30-year career U.S. Navy medical officer and family physician who has served in the Cold War, Operation Desert Storm, and the Global War on Terror. An eyewitness to many historic events of the past 30 years, Dr. Norcross served two staff tours in Washington, D.C., deployed in support of several Joint Task Forces, and was stationed overseas for six years, split between Bahrain and Japan. An avid photographer, writer, and artist, Dr. Norcross holds master's degrees in international relations, public health and health care administration. He has a deep interest in the medical history of our past United States presidents.

Shakespeare for Fun: Othello

With Jack Galvin

Dates: June 16, 23, 30

Three Sessions: Wednesdays, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$35

NOTE: This class was originally scheduled in May and it was then postponed until the above dates in June. Students who registered for the May class are already registered. There are several remaining spots available for new students.

Read any Shakespeare lately? Or any Shakespeare not connected to a grade or course credit? Here's a chance to read "Othello" just for fun, discussing one of the great classics of English drama with peers experienced enough in life and learning to "get" Shakespeare. Jack Galvin had the challenge of "teaching" Shakespeare to high school kids for many years. He now enjoys the interaction with Circle of Scholar members, discussing the themes of love, jealousy, manipulation, and, of course, tragedy. Beautiful poetry. A great way to spend three spring mornings.

Please read Act 1 of "Othello" before the first class.

Jack Galvin has enjoyed the experience of WriteLife courses for many years. He also leads Shakespeare discussion groups as well as a fiction-writing workshop. Jack taught high school English in winter and tennis in summer.