Renaissance Academy at Chicago NFP

Located At

Saint Xavier University
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www.sxu.edu/renaissance-academy/index.asp

COME LEARN WITH US IN A COMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE WITH FRIENDLY PEOPLE!
Winter 2020 Registration

Registration will be online on the Renaissance web page from December 30 – January 10.

Register at:  www.sxu.edu/renaissance-academy/registration.asp

Membership Committee and Information Systems representatives will be available for registration assistance in the Renaissance Office, Room L214 on Tuesday January 7th from 12:30 till 2:30pm.

The final date for enrollment is January 10, 2020. (Note: Classes are filled on a first come, first served basis. Register Early!)

Select up to three classes and indicate your choices in this booklet for reference.

Winter 2020 Session  Jan.21 to Feb. 27

CLASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday 2:15-3:15

Class

Tuesday 3:30 -4:30
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**CLASS SCHEDULE**

Thursday 2:15-3:15
9. Explorers                       Maryanne Burke
10. Movies                         G. Bisch/D. Moulton
11. How to Improve Your Vocabulary Linda Kozloski
12. Real History of Secret Societies Dan Byrne

**Thursday 3:30-4:30**

13. Movies                         G. Bisch/D. Moulton
14. Why Birds Matter               Mike Hastings
15. The Celebrations that Bind Us  Cleo Lampos
   Together
16. Beginners Yoga                 Donna Wilkinson
   Shannon Center
1. Law for the Layman

Jay Garmathy

This course will cover a variety of topics such as the origins of law and substantive topics like probate, wills, contracts, domestic and criminal law.

Procedural law will be addressed by looking at the factors a lawyer analyses before representing a client and exploring the anatomy of a lawsuit.

Warning! The course is not a substitute for getting legal counsel for a specific legal issue but will be helpful in understanding legal jargon and how a legal matter is resolved.
2. Wonders of Our State Parks

Phyllis Sheahan

Moving on from our tour of the nation’s National Parks we will begin to visit a few of our more than 8000 State Parks. Starting with the northeastern part of the country and the beauty of our oldest park: Niagara Falls, we'll head to New Hampshire, the Adirondacks and along the East before venturing South. Our tour will be narrated by Great Course's travel writer, Joe Yogerst. What we don't visit this term, we'll visit next.
3. Irish Short Stories
M. Connolly/ P. Walsh

44 Irish Short Stories

An Anthology of Irish Short Stories from Yeats to Frank O’Connor

Edited by Devin A. Garrity

The Irish have always had a way with words. Long ago they took on a language not their own and learned to re-word it into pure magic. Nowhere is this magic more in evidence than in their short stories---stories that combine lyricism, humor, and tragedy with rare imagination set in simple backgrounds, largely without prompts.

In this anthology there are gathered, for the first time in America, some of the more representative examples of Irish short fiction. Only 21 of the 44 short stories have been published in this country.

We will continue to use the book 44 Irish Short Stories for the winter session. This book (used copies) can be purchased on Amazon at a low cost. There are some copies available at your local library. For our first class please read Duet for Organ and Strings by Donagh MacDonagh and Myself and a Rabbit by Michael MacGrian.
4. How Conversation Works: Six Lessons for Better communication

Pat Clair

Have you been frustrated at times when trying to communicate with others? Have you been stymied by the electronic divide? If so, perhaps reviewing the importance of good communication, conversation and face to face encounters would help to give you a more confident approach when meeting others.

Professor Anne Curzan, from the University of Michigan, will help us to face these conversational problems and make us more confident and comfortable communicators.
5. Healing the Family Tree: Part 2

Catherine Reardon

This will be a continuation of the Fall session. If you did not attend the previous session, please bring a list of your maternal and paternal ancestors. There will be short homework assignments in order to catch up.

This is a Jesus centered class and we will approach it with Jesus as Healer. The purpose is to know ourselves in relation to our family tree. It is expected that each person will experience less anxiety about the family and receive more peace by the end of the eight weeks. This requires looking at our ancestors and learning how to accept the past so as to move forward. Healing is possible for ourselves and family if we are willing to ask God for help and accept whatever the answer may be.

Each session will build upon the previous one. We will discuss the importance of nationality, family patterns, and environment. We will focus on the gifts of each family member because they are sometimes forgotten when friction occurs in the family.
Please bring a loose-leaf binder or journal because we will have writings during each class. These are only for your personal use. Missing classes will make it difficult to keep up.

Class limited to 25.

6. Great Short Stories

Carol Conway / Dorothy Kijek

Love to read quality works, but don’t have time for novels? In this session, we will read and discuss some of the world’s best short stories.

Please purchase the Bantam Classic *50 Great Short Stories*, edited by Milton Crane, 2005. Amazon has it for $6.81.

For the first session, please read *The Garden Party* by Katherine Mansfield and *The Three Day Blow* by Ernest Hemmingway.

7. The Sky above the Clouds

Mike Hastings

This course invites everyone to become a stargazer. Even city dwellers!!! If you have ever wondered about life beyond the
clouds, then this class will help you explore your extraterrestrial interests. We will discuss our solar system, our galaxy and beyond. Binoculars and telescopes are not necessary. “This section of the course will focus on Winter constellations.

“Rapport of Sun, Moon, Earth and the constellations, What are the messages by you from distant stars to us?” Walt Whitman

8. NEWS, REAL NEWS, FAKE NEWS, AND A BIT OF FUN.

Jim Condon, Mary Hendry, Bern Stiemann, and, Mike Yeager

“Today is a day filled with Events that Alter and Illuminate Our Times ______ AND You Are There”.

We attempt to address current topics, from national, state, county, city perspectives.
9. Explorers

Maryanne Burke

Come join us as we go Up and Away or sometimes on a lovely boat ride.

Where are we going? We’re never really sure. Sometimes we get to where we’re going and sometimes not but we always have an adventure. We will travel with fascinating new people during our Winter excursion!

10. Movies – Geri Bisch/Doris Moulton
Dramatic, comedic and musical films that convey a variety of emotion and reaction will be shown during this class.

This is a two-period class that will last until 4:30.

11. How to Improve Your Vocabulary

Linda Kozloski

A look at some interesting new words, a review of ones we already know and perhaps some strategies to recall the ones we used to know but can’t remember at the moment.

12. The Real History of Secret Societies

Dan Byrne

Secret societies have been around for a long time. Despite the label, they really aren’t all that secret.

This course, led by Professor Richard B. Spence, PhD, will explore the history, doctrines, and meanings of secret societies. He will
discuss the founder of these societies as well as how they have influenced history.

Join us as we learn about such societies as the Knights Templar, the Masons, Bolsheviks, and Adolph Hitler the Thule Society.

13. Movies – Geri Bisch/Doris Moulton

Continuation of Class 10

Dramatic, comedic and musical films that convey a variety of emotion and reaction will be shown during this class.

This is a two-period class that will last until 4:30.
14. Why Birds Matter - Mike Hastings

Join me and National Geographic in exploring "Why Birds Matter."

Birds have long held a special fascination for humanity. From the ancient Egyptians to Wright brothers, birds have been a source of wonder and inspiration. Today the fascination continues in the modern activity of birding. Birding once derided as an activity for “odd ducks” is now becoming the fastest growing sport in the world. This section of the class will focus on Winter birds.

This course focuses both on the importance of birds and how to go about observing and enjoying birds in their many habitats. Binoculars not required! National Geographic’s Guide to Birding in North America will supplement the lessons.
15.  The Celebrations that Bind Us Together

Cleo Lampos

This six-week offering will highlight the memorials and celebrations of a year. Each session will cover two months of holidays from everyone’s calendar, delving into the historical significance and today’s relevance. Of course, the creativity of quilters who want to visually express these seasons of remembrance will be acknowledged. From St. Patrick’s Day to Doughnut Day, from the Tuskegee Airmen to Women’s Month, a year of quilts and the stories that make them comforters will be explored. Expect some surprises. Bring a quilt with a past and share its history.

16.  Beginners Yoga - Donna Wilkinson
Yoga postures, stretches and breathing done seated on a chair. Balances and lunges are done standing with the aid of a chair. We will also use Yoga breathing to strengthen lungs and increase energy; deep relaxation for peace and tranquility which can lead to meditation. Wear loose clothing you can move easily in and be prepared to remove shoes and socks. Class is held in the Shannon Center.
Betsy Means is a professional actress who has performed at many venues including Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Shakespeare on the Green and Chicago Children’s Theatre. Her purpose is to inspire through language of the past. Means will contribute to that purpose through her portrayal of Jane Adams.

Jane Adams devoted her life to caring for the underprivileged and fighting for the rights of workers, women and children. After going to Europe in 1887 and observing the social experimentation of Toynbee Hall in London, she returned to Chicago and founded Hull House where she could put her principles into action. In her own words “The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.” Hull House became the most famous settlement House in America. In 1931 Jane Adams was the winner of the Noble Peace Prize.

Light refreshments will be served after the presentation.

The Farrell Forum is a speakers’ series established in honor of the late John Farrell, a CIA analyst in the 1970’s and Renaissance Academy facilitator in the early 1990’s. There is one program in each of the three terms. The program is free and open to the public.

Book Club –February 4, 2020
Before We Were Yours is about children taken from their parents through kidnapping or subterfuge and then placed for adoption at a price. The novel is based on actual events of Georgia Tann’s legacy as head of the Tennessee Children’s Home until it was closed in 1950. It is a heartwarming story of love, betrayal and staying true to your heart. The subject matter is disturbing and unforgettable, but compelling because it is historically accurate. The discussion of the book will be heart wrenching and should include thoughts about today’s battles with foster care and human trafficking. Lisa Wingate is a former journalist, and award winning author who speaks for the disenfranchised.
Dates to Remember Winter 2020

Jan. 14 – 11:30 AM   Board Mtg.
Jan. 21            Winter Term begins
Jan. 30 - 12:30 PM   Facilitator Mtg.
Feb. 4 – 12:00 PM    Book Club- Oak Lawn Library
Feb. 11 - 11:30 AM   Board Mtg.
Feb. 13 - 11:30 AM   Farrell Forum – Butler Room
Feb. 27            Fall Term Ends
OFFICERS, COMMITTEE & BOARD MEMBERS  
2019-2020

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Secretary: Maureen Fleming
Treasurer: Mary P. Cavanaugh
Information Systems: Jim Condon
Past President: Mary Lou Lovell
Consultant: Donatta Yates
SXU Liaison: Julie Davis

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   Cleo Lampos Peg Walsh

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   Mary Anne Gaynor Sheila O’Sullivan*

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   Sandra Stephens Kathleen Fassl

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   Marge Gierstikas Joanne Gruca
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