



# Worcester Institute for Senior Education

## *Fall 2023 Course Catalog*

### *BE WISE AND JOIN*

Become a member of WISE and you become a member of a community of lifelong learners. WISE members enjoy a variety of interesting courses together with a schedule of engaging educational and social events.

## About WISE

### The WISE Mission

To promote lifelong learning opportunities by offering courses in a variety of topics, special interest groups for in-depth discussions, and activities to foster social engagement and a sense of community.



The Worcester Institute for Senior Education was founded in 1993 and is an affiliate organization of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Assumption University in Worcester, MA. Members can enjoy performances and sports events on campus at no cost. Discounts are available when visiting the University's recreation center, snack bar and dining hall.

### The WISE Classroom

Membership allows access to all courses and events. Classes can be enjoyed online with Zoom recordings made available for each class. And now, in-person classes are back and on campus!

### Teach at WISE

Do you have a special interest or hobby? WISE is always interested in welcoming new instructors and new topics. In addition to becoming a student, consider being a WISE instructor.



## Join Our Community

Register now before Fall classes begin in September. Become a full or half-year member by registering online at [assumptionwise.org](http://assumptionwise.org).

## What's in this catalog?

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## Membership Fees

- Half-Year \$175
- Full-Year \$340

## Important Dates

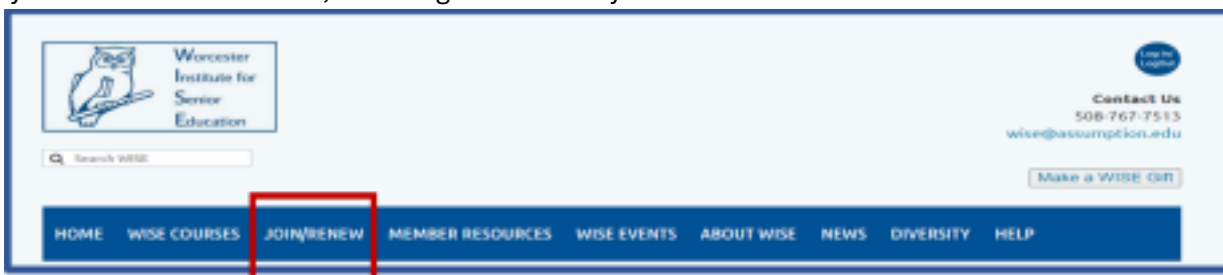
Fall Registration for Sessions A and B Begins	August 21
Session A Begins	September 11
Session B Begins	October 23

WISE offers choices for online and in-person instruction.

Interested in becoming a member? Register online at [assumptionwise.org](https://assumptionwise.org) or contact [wise@assumption.edu](mailto:wise@assumption.edu). Questions? Give us a call at (508) 767-7513.

## How to Register

You can register online to become a member and to sign up for fall classes. Once you have registered, WISE will send you a confirmation email, featuring the courses you have selected.



## Registration Assistance

Following the registration instructions for membership will eventually bring you to a screen inviting you to pay online with PayPal. For assistance logging into [assumptionwise.org](https://assumptionwise.org), setting up a WISE profile, and/or registering, contact the WISE Office at [wise@assumption.edu](mailto:wise@assumption.edu) or give us a call at (508) 767-7513. We would be happy to help.

## Unlimited Course Selection

A WISE membership provides adult learners with unlimited access to a compelling selection of courses. Most fall and spring courses consist of five 90-minute classes offered on Zoom or in person at Assumption University. Courses do not overlap, allowing members to take as many courses as they would like during each session. A few classes are held at other sites in Worcester County.






## Stop by for a Visit




The WISE Office is located on campus in Room 206 in La Maison Française. Our office hours are posted on our website.

## The WISE Zoom Office Hour


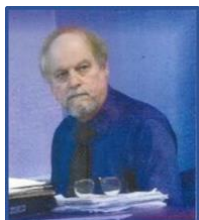
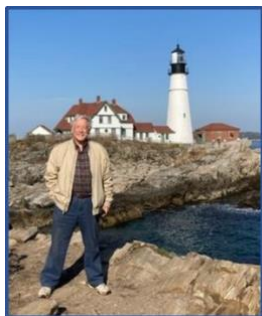
Every Monday at 1:30 p.m. the WISE Office conducts a meeting on Zoom to discuss the program, invite new ideas, and answer any questions members may have.




## Meet Our Instructors:




	<p><b>Paul Buono</b> is a member of the music faculty at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Clark University, and Assumption University where he is the director of the jazz ensemble. Paul holds a bachelor's and master's degree in jazz performance as well as a law degree. He has toured internationally as a pianist and musical director for various ensembles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A1. Jazz History 1</li> <li>● B1. Jazz History 2</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Thomas Brennan</b> graduated from The Catholic University of America with a degree in Physics. He taught physics and mathematics in secondary schools. After he attained graduate degrees in Education from Fordham University and Computer Science from Pace University, he taught at Mercy College, St. Thomas Aquinas College, and the City University of New York. He was a book editor for a computer science journal, has published fiction and poetry, compiled a research book on writing and has written a memoir.</p> <p>He lives in Holden, Massachusetts.</p>	<p>A7. Robert Moses - An Urban Planner: Hero or Villain?</p>
	<p><b>Virginia and Kevin Byrne</b> taught for many years at WISE before Covid stopped the world. Now we are back to share our lifetimes of acting, directing, teaching and appreciating theater (as well as practicing law).</p>	<p>A3. The Play's the Thing</p>
	<p><b>Deb Cary</b>, Community Engagement and Advocacy Manager at Mass Audubon, has a background in urban planning and is a long-time advocate for green spaces and public access to them. Deb has been walking in Worcester her entire life and has a deep understanding of the region and its community.</p>	<p>A12. Walking Worcester's Green Spaces</p>

	<p><b>Martha Chiarchiaro</b> has brought art history to life for more than 30 years. She received her master's degree in the history of art from Williams College and has taught a variety of classes at the Worcester Art Museum, Worcester State University, WISE, and other cultural organizations.</p>	<p>A4. The Art Museums of New England B8. Impressionism – A Chronological Exploration</p>
	<p><b>Joe Corn</b> spent most of his professional career as an engineer. He has taught in the NYC school system, Springfield Technical Community College and Penn State University, and worked as a technical instructor for Moore Products Co. Since joining WISE in 2010, Joe has presented both music and technical courses and is also a past President of WISE.</p>	<p>B4. Great Female Artists and their Music</p>
	<p><b>Lillian Corti</b> obtained her doctorate from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and went on to teach Italian, French, World Literature, Comparative Drama and Women's Literature at various institutions including the Foreign Language Institute in New York, Tulsa University, the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and the Athens Center in Greece.</p>	<p>A2. The Rustic Novels of George Sand B2. George Sand's Third Rustic Novel</p>
	<p><b>Kathleen Fisher</b> has studied, written, and taught about early Irish history and religion for over 20 years. She first discovered the Celtic imagination while studying Irish monasticism in graduate school. She recently retired from Assumption University where she taught Theology and WISE courses. Now living in Chapel Hill, NC, she is researching the work of her mentor, Herbert W. Mason, who fostered her love of Irish history.</p>	<p>A13. Celtic Spirituality, Then and Now</p>
	<p><b>Dr. Martha Gach</b> is Education Manager and Conservation Coordinator at Mass Audubon, leads classes on birds, insects, climate change, landscape history, and many other topics, and helps restore and protect urban greenspaces including the pollinator and wildlife landscapes of Broad Meadow Brook.</p>	<p>A12. Walking Worcester's Green Spaces</p>



	<p><b>Sharon Hart</b> is Director of Conservatory Operations at the Hanover Theatre and a teacher in the Conservatory. Sharon will introduce participants to the passion behind The Hanover Theatre Conservatory. In addition, Sharon does amazing work with Worcester's young people as the director of the <a href="#">WYSH Project</a>, which stands for Worcester Youth Speak Honestly.</p>	A5. Behind the Scenes at the Hanover Theatre
	<p><b>Karl Hakkarainen</b> is a retired IT professional and longtime WISE instructor. He has taught courses on technology, history, music, law, digital humanities and other subjects. He is a graduate of Amherst College and Mount Wachusett Community College. His grandchildren still seek and sometimes heed his advice on computers, smartphones and related gadgets.</p>	B10. Legend of Ned Ludd
	<p><b>Paul Macek</b> has a bachelor's and master's degree in both history and English. He has taught U.S. History and American Literature for over twenty-five years. He has also worked as a proofreader, copyeditor, indexer, translator, writer, and publisher for over thirty years. He is the author of seven books: one on education, two on literature (one of which was a translation), and four on American history.</p>	A15. Top 24 Democracies in the World, and Why
	<p><b>Pete Murphy</b> retired from teaching Management in the Business Studies Department at Assumption College in August of 2011. He came to Assumption after a long career in the international energy industry managing a variety of business and technical organizations.</p>	B11. Asia, China, and Global Trade - What went wrong?
	<p><b>David Nevard</b> grew up in suburban Boston and has always been fascinated by history – especially the postwar era. He attended UMass Amherst and worked as an IT professional for over 30 years. Since retirement, David has been an instructor at WISE and other area lifelong learning programs.</p>	A10. Operation Paperclip: How German Scientists Were Brought to the US after World War II
	<p><b>John Northgraves</b> is currently an adjunct faculty member (History) at Mass Bay Community College, where he has taught since 2013. Before teaching at MBCC, he conducted study groups at Tufts Univ. and Regis College during 2010 to 2013. John is a 1967 graduate of Tufts (Political Science major) and has focused on U.S. History for his Study Groups. After service in the Navy, John's career was in the technology field.</p>	A14. Cold War– Containment, Confrontation, Competition, and ..... Collapse

	<p><b>Clare O'Connor</b> is a cell biologist who received her Ph.D. from Purdue and did postdoctoral research at UCLA and Caltech. She moved to Shrewsbury in 1984 and led a lab at the former Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology before joining the Biology Department at Boston College in 1995. She taught both introductory and advanced courses in genetics and molecular cell biology before retiring from BC in 2017.</p>	<p>B3. Understanding the Human Immune System</p>
	<p><b>Sheryl Pereira</b> is a Birding Instructor, coordinates Visitor Services, and helps the myriad education programs run smoothly at Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Worcester. She is a longtime naturalist and keeps the sanctuary bird feeders well-stocked. When not birding or working with the public, Sheryl can usually be found teaching her granddaughter about the out-of-doors. Sheryl's favorite bird is the cardinal, and she has an unusual affinity for horseshoe crabs.</p>	<p>B9. New England Bird Behaviors in Fall</p>
	<p><b>John S. Ross, III (Jack)</b> holds degrees from Yale University and the University of Virginia School of Law. He served as Adjunct Professor of Law at Washington &amp; Lee University and has taught numerous courses in the WISE program with a focus on constitutional law and the Supreme Court. Jack also facilitates the WISE Special Interest Group focused on discussing Supreme Court case decisions.</p>	<p>B12. Freedom of Speech and the First Amendment: The Current Battlegrounds</p>
	<p><b>Rev. Dr. Gary Shahinian</b> is the Intentional Interim Pastor of the Federated Church of Charlton (United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalist Association). He recently completed 20 years as the Senior Pastor of Park Congregational Church in Worcester. He earned a Ph.D. degree in Philosophy from the Free University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. He wrote his doctoral dissertation on the problem of evil in the thought of Alfred North Whitehead, the father of Process Philosophy. He taught philosophy and theology courses at Redeemer College in Ontario, Dordt College in Iowa, and Worcester State University.</p>	<p>B14. Jesus Through the Centuries</p>
	<p><b>Bill Shelley and Virginia (Ginny) Powell-Brasier</b> Bill Shelley is a retired software engineer with a lifelong love of art and history. Since becoming a docent at the Worcester Art Museum, he has enjoyed sharing these interests with others on museum tours and classes.</p>	<p>B7. How to Read Art</p>

	<p>Virginia (Ginny) Powell-Brasier was a high school teacher of English and German for 32 years. A big fan of the German Expressionists, she is currently a docent at the Worcester Art Museum.</p>	
	<p><b>Jean Sifleet</b> is a retired attorney and CPA. During her business career of over 40 years, she worked in corporate management, consulting, and private practice. She has taught several courses for WISE and enjoys learning from the subject matter of the courses and the participants' experiences.</p>	B5. Curious About Crypto?
	<p><b>Dr. Sylvia Solomon</b> is a retired educator who worked in schools, universities, and the Ontario Ministry of Education. Since her retirement, she has presented the Great Trial series at the University of Toronto, Toronto Metropolitan University, the Toronto Reference Library, the 92nd St. Y, the OLLI program (California) and the Instituto d'Allende in Mexico.</p>	A6. Great Trials that Changed the Course of History: SOCIAL JUSTICE & TURMOIL
	<p><b>Marcia Tannenbaum</b> is a longtime WISE instructor with a broad range of interests in literature. She holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in English Language and Literature from Simmons University and a Juris Doctor from The University of Connecticut School of Law.</p>	A8. We Read Banned Books
	<p><b>Virginia Mason Vaughn</b> is Professor Emerita and Research Professor of English at Clark University, where she taught for thirty-seven years. She has published widely on Shakespeare's works, including co-editing <i>The Tempest</i> for the Arden Shakespeare. Since her retirement she has taught several courses at WISE, and especially enjoys co-teaching with Helen Whall.</p>	A11. How to Read Shakespeare
	<p><b>Helen Whall</b> - After finishing her Ph.D. at Yale University, Helen joined the faculty at The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. There she taught Shakespeare and the Renaissance as well as modern drama, frequently writing on both subjects. Since retiring in 2017, Helen has offered several courses for WISE.</p>	A11. How to Read Shakespeare



# Fall 2023 Session A

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	9/11, 9/18, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16	9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10	9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11	9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12	<b>Celtic</b> 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, and 10/13. <b>Cold War and Democracies</b> 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, and 10/20
10:00	<b>A1. Jazz History 1</b> Zoom	<b>A4. New England Art Museums</b> Zoom	<b>A7. Robert Moses, Urban Planner</b> In person- Briarwood	<b>A10. Operation Paperclip</b> Zoom	<b>A13. Celtic Spirituality</b> Zoom
1:00	<b>A2. Rustic Novels of George Sand</b> Kennedy 119	<b>A5. Hanover Theatre</b> On Site	<b>A8. Banned Books</b> Kennedy 119	<b>A11. How to Read Shakespeare</b> In person-The Willows	<b>A14. Cold War Containment</b> Kennedy 119
3:00	<b>A3. The Play's the Thing</b> Kennedy 119	<b>A6. Great Trials</b> Zoom		<b>A12. Walking Worcester</b>	<b>A15. Top 24 Democracies</b> Zoom

# Session A: Course Descriptions

## A1. Jazz History 1

Instructor: Paul Buono

- Mondays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 9/11, 9/18, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16
- Zoom Only



Jazz history is American history – the study of culture, politics, and economics of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Its characters are the geniuses, virtuosos, outcasts, pioneers, eccentrics, and revolutionaries of American history. Post-Civil War America presented tremendous division within the country, but this landscape gave rise to a form of music often referred to as America's only true art form. Using lecture, PowerPoint, video and audio examples, and live at-the-piano demonstrations, this course will examine the jazz composition styles of some of the most well-known jazz

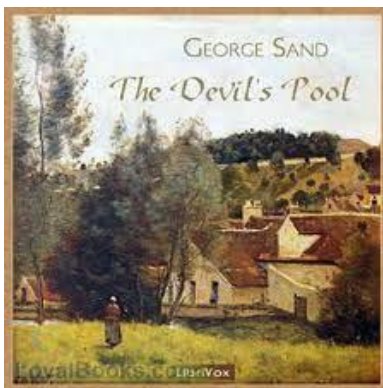
composers, as well as the music of two of the most influential musicians of all-time.

**Recommended Reading:** *Jazz: Essential Listening* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition), Scott Deveau, Gary Giddins

## A2. The Rustic Novels of George Sand

Instructor: Lillian Corti

- Mondays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 9/11, 9/18, 10/2, 10/09, 10/16
- In Person (Kennedy 119)



Celebrated as the writer who paved the way for French feminists such as Colette and Simone de Beauvoir, Amantine Aurore Lucille Dupin (1804-1876) adopted the nom de plume, George Sand, to facilitate her career at a time when publishing was a male enterprise. Despite considerable popular success, she was sometimes dismissed as an all-too prolific writer whose affairs with famous men were more remarkable than her written work. Eventually, however, she earned critical praise for inventing a special genre in French fiction, the “rustic novel.” Focusing on the life and culture of peasants in the province of Berry where she grew up, Sand wrote the first of these works in the politically volatile years immediately preceding the Revolution of 1848. Though they may seem to be simple romantic stories, their social significance

is noteworthy.

**Required Text:** George Sand, *The Devil's Pool* and *François the Waif*, Everyman's Library, ed. Ernest Rhys, Great Britain: Hassell Street Press, 1923.

**Recommended:** George Sand, *The Story of My Life: The Autobiography of George Sand*, A Group Translation Edited by Thelma Jurgrau, Albany: State University of New York Press, 1991.

### A3. The Play's the Thing

Instructor: Virginia and Kevin Byrne

- Mondays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
- 9/11, 9/18, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16
- In Person - Kennedy 119



This course will approach many and varied types of plays from the perspective of the audience. You will learn how to appreciate not only the acting but the script, as well as the directing and the technical, in order to get the most out of your experience. Each class will conclude with a mini performance of a selected play.

### A4. The Art Museums of New England

Instructor: Martha Chiarchiaro

- Tuesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10
- Zoom Only



New England is home to a variety of spectacular art museums. We'll explore the history and collections of large and small art museums in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Rhode Island, including the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Wadsworth Atheneum in Connecticut, the Portland Museum of Art in Maine, the Currier Museum of Art in New Hampshire, the Shelburne Museum in Vermont, and the RISD Museum in Rhode Island. We'll also

share in the delights of smaller art museums such as the Hill-Stead Museum, the home of a wealthy collector of Manets, Monets, and Whistlers. This course will enhance your opportunity for enriching art adventures in New England.

**Optional Reading:** *The Art Museums of New England*, S. Lane Faison, Jr., 3 Volumes, 1982, David R. Godine Publisher

### A5. Behind the Scenes at the Hanover Theatre

- Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/03, 10/10
- In Person only – Hannover Theatre, **2 Southbridge, Worcester, MA** Meet in Lobby

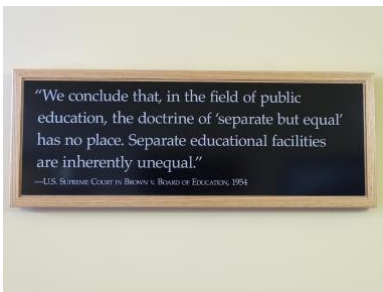


Historic Tour Theme: Architecture - Theatre Rebirth. We will tour various parts of the theatre each week and will facilitate a class on the art of improv. Improvisation is a unique way to flex your creative muscles and activate your imagination. Using improv games and activities, participants will be invigorated and inspired by learning the art of improv while having a great time! This course is limited to 30 participants.

### A6. Great Trials that Changed the Course of History: SOCIAL JUSTICE & TURMOIL

Instructor: Dr. Sylvia Solomon

- Tuesdays 3:15 – 4:45 p.m.
- 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/03, 10/10
- Zoom only



Human Rights remains on our minds these days as more and more of the world seems to be in the process of diminishing these rights. The notion of Social Justice percolates through so much of our thinking. Five trials – in Europe, the U.S. and Canada – spanning nearly 1400 years – will be presented. All of them in some way pushed us forward as human societies. President Barack Obama said: *"If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you make progress."* Let's look at these trials and see if we think he is right.

## A7. Robert Moses - An Urban Planner: Hero or Villain?

Instructor: Tom Brennan

- Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/04, 10/11
- Briarwood (65 Briarwood Cir, Worcester, MA)



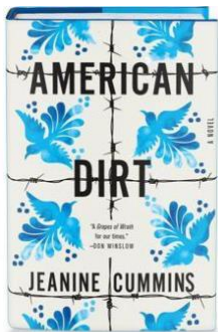
Participants will study and evaluate the work of Robert Moses (1888 – 1981) who dominated urban planning in New York City and State from the 1920s until the late 1960s. He built Jones Beach State Park and the facilities at Lincoln Center and multiple roadways and bridges. In a span of forty-five years as an unelected official, he transformed the infrastructure of the New York and revolutionized the philosophies of how cities are designed and structured. Tom Brennan was born and raised in New York City during the time of Robert Moses. He will approach these persons and events from the viewpoint of a person who lived, worked and experienced firsthand the transformation of the city.

**Optional Reading:** *Straight Line Crazy*, David Hare, Faber and Faber, 2022. ISBN: 978-0-571-36304-9

## A8. We Read Banned Books

Instructor: Marcia Tannenbaum

- Wednesdays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/04, 10/11
- In Person - Kennedy 119



Who has the right to ban a book? In schools – in libraries – in the public domain? We will start the course with a TED talk delivered by Jonathan Friedman, Ph.D., the Director of free expression and education programs at PEN America [and the husband of Marcia's goddaughter.] We will also learn from materials provided by the American Library Association and their Office of Intellectual Freedom.

### Required Reading:

- *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury, 978-1-4516-7331-9 Simon and Schuster 60th Anniversary Edition
- *American Dirt*, Jeanine Cummins, 978-1-250-20978-8 Holt PB 2



## A10. Operation Paperclip: How German Scientists Were Brought to the US after World War II

Instructor: David Nevard

- Thursdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/05, 10/12
- Zoom only



Operation Paperclip was a secret United States intelligence program in which more than 1,600 German scientists, engineers and technicians were taken from the former Nazi Germany to the U.S. between 1945 and 1959 for government employment after the end of World War II in Europe. US agents would attach a paperclip to the folders of those German rocket experts whom they wished

to employ in the United States. Many of these personnel were former members and some were former leaders of the Nazi Party. The course will feature PowerPoint slides and video clips and will especially focus on the career of rocket scientist Wernher von Braun. We will discuss the legal, ethical and moral principles involved in the hiring of former Nazis.

### Optional reading:

1. *Secret Agenda: The United States Government, Nazi Scientists, and Project Paperclip, 1945 to 1990*, by Linda Hunt. No longer in print. A pdf file of the book is available at [archive.com](https://archive.org)  
Operation Paperclip: The Secret Intelligence Program that Brought Nazi Scientists to America, by Annie Jacobsen, ISBN-10 : 0316221031 - ISBN-13 : 978-0316221030

## A11. How to Read Shakespeare

Instructors: Helen Whall & Virginia Vaughan

- Thursdays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/05, 10/12
- In person @The Willows - 101 Barry Road Worcester, MA



Curious about Shakespeare but uncomfortable reading his famous plays? Or are you a “Shakespeare Natural” who reads those plays with ease? This class is designed for those who want to learn how to read Shakespeare *and* those who already read him comfortably but want to know more: the what, rather than how of his writing. We will explore Shakespeare's language, his sentence structure, his mastery of poetic form and dramatic technique and place his words within the times for which he wrote. Along the way, we will read together *Romeo and Juliet*. Our goal? For all students to feel empowered to read more Shakespeare!

**Required Reading:** *Romeo and Juliet*, Folger edition

## A12. Walking Worcester's Green Spaces

Instructor: Dr. Martha Gach and Deb Cary

- Thursdays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
- 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/15, 10/12
- In Person - See course description



Walking in nature is beneficial for many reasons. It can improve physical health by reducing stress, lowering blood pressure, and strengthening the immune system. It can enhance mental well-being by boosting mood, creativity, and memory. Third, it can foster your social connections by providing opportunities to interact with others who share your interests and values. Walking in nature can also help you appreciate the beauty and diversity of the natural world. Explore some of Worcester's beautiful trails with longtime Mass Audubon environmental advocates and educators Martha

Gach and Deb Cary. As we walk, learn the history and special features of each area. Expect flat to moderate inclines and typical unimproved trail surfaces with occasional roots and rocks.

Week 1: Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook

Week 2: EITHER Boynton Park / Cascades from the top OR Kinneywoods

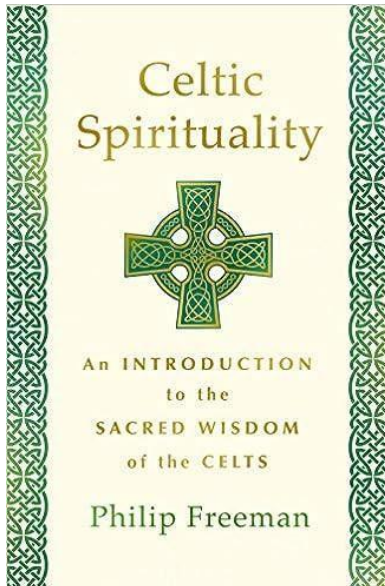
Week 3: East-Side Trail: Lake Quinsigamond (new Coal Mine Brook Park) to Green Hill Park

Week 4: Crow Hill

Week 5: God's Acre (Deed Rock) – meeting place tbd

Students should be prepared to move over unimproved ground at a modest pace. This course is limited to 20 participants.

## A13. Celtic Spirituality, Then and Now



Instructor: Kathleen Fisher

- Fridays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/06, 10/13
- Zoom only

Ireland's ancient religious practices, often called "Celtic spirituality," continue to attract people of all faiths and none. The Celtic culture's mythical imagination, reverence for the natural world, communal identity, and politically powerful women are especially compelling for many today who seek new approaches to the urgent problems of environmental destruction and social division. Through art, mythology, poetry, and religious literature, we'll explore the qualities of Irish Celtic culture that became an enduring set of spiritual practices and beliefs.

**Required reading:** *Celtic Spirituality: An Introduction to the Sacred Wisdom of the Celts*, by Philip Freeman, Essentials (2021) 978-1250780201 (Available in several formats from Amazon)

## A14. Cold War– Containment, Confrontation, Competition, and ..... Collapse

Instructor: John Northgraves

- Fridays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20
- In Person (Kennedy 119)

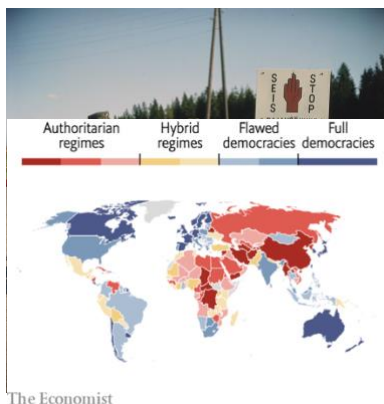
Following the defeat of Germany in 1945, it took a very short time, measured in months, for the United States and the Soviet Union to move from allies to adversaries in a bipolar world. This lecture series traces the 46-year duration of the “Cold War”, from the summit meetings in 1945 to the fall of the “Iron Curtain” and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989-1991. Among the “highlights” are the Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1962, as well as the “proxy wars” in Korea, Viet Nam, and Afghanistan. We will see several events that would bring the US and the USSR to the “brink of War”. In the end, it would be the personal relationship between two men, Reagan, and Gorbachev, that would bring this period to a close by the end of 1991.

### Recommended reading:

1. *America, Russia and the Cold War*, Walter LaFerber, ISBN: 978-0-0728-4903-7
2. *Reagan and Gorbachev - How the Cold War Ended*, Jack F. Matlock, ISBN: 978-0-8129-7489-8

## A15. Top 24 Democracies in the World, and Why

Instructor: Paul Macek




- Fridays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
- 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20
- Zoom Only

This course attempts to answer why democracy is better than any other form of government by exploring the following top 24 democracies in the world according to the Democracy Index: Norway, New Zealand, Iceland, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Switzerland, Ireland, Netherlands, Taiwan, Uruguay, Canada, Luxembourg, Germany, Australia, Japan, Costa Rica, United Kingdom, Chile, Austria, Mauritius, France, Spain, and South Korea. From geography to climate (with tips on travel), to demographics, to history to politics and government, to economy and culture (cuisine

too), each country will be analyzed according to a variety of indexes on what makes a top democracy in the world.

# Fall 2023 Session B

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20	<b>Female Artists</b> 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, and 11/21  <b>Crypto</b> 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28 and 12/5	10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/29	10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30	10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 12/1
10:00	B. Jazz History 2 Zoom	B4. Great Female Artists and their Music Zoom	B7. How to Read Art. Worcester Art Museum	B10. Luddites Zoom	
1:00	B2. George Sand's 3rd Rustic Novel Kennedy 119	B5. Curious About Crypto? Kennedy 119	B8. Impressionism Zoom	B11. Asia, China, and Global Trade Kennedy 119	B14. Jesus Through the Centuries Kennedy 119
3:00	B3. Understanding the Human Immune System Kennedy 119		B9. New England Bird Behaviors in Fall Zoom	B12. Freedom of Speech Kennedy 119	

# Session B: Course Descriptions

## B1. Jazz History 2

Instructor: Paul Buono



- Mondays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20
- Zoom Only

Jazz history is American history told through the cultural perspective of music and musicians. The course begins where the Jazz History 1 course concludes, approximately in the late 1920s. We will examine the people, their stories and idiosyncrasies, the socio-political and cultural events, and of course, many

listening and video examples as well as live demonstrations.



## B2. George Sand's Third Rustic Novel

Instructor: Lillian Corti

- Mondays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20
- In Person (Kennedy 119)

After the great success of *The Devil's Pool* (1846), George Sand wrote *The Country Waif*, and by the time that one had been published (1848), she had already begun writing the third in her series of rustic novels, *Little Fadette*, which would be published the following year. These three works, with their idealized

peasants, sensitive dialogues and poetic vision, were praised by Gustave Lanson as masterpieces of the idyllic genre in France. Though Sand's emphasis on themes of class and gender was controversial in the middle of the nineteenth century, the importance of such concerns to twenty-first-century readers suggests that she was clearly ahead of her time. Discussion of the novel may include references to the author's brilliant autobiography.

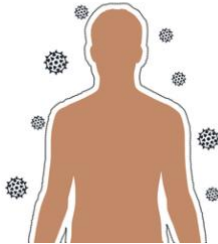
**Required Text:** *Little Fadette*, trans. J. M. Lancaster, (Hawthorne Classics, 2020).



### B3. Understanding the Human Immune System

Instructor: Clare O'Connor

- Mondays 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM
- 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20
- Kennedy 119 on the Assumption campus



This course will provide a very basic introduction to the human immune system. Our immune system provide protection against a wide range of foreign substances. We'll discuss the cells and tissues involved in the immune responses, antibodies, and vaccinations. Proper functioning of the immune system is a delicate balance, however, and malfunction can contribute to allergies and autoimmune conditions.

### B4. Great Female Artists and their Music

Instructor: Joseph Corn



- Tuesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21
- Zoom only.

Women have made great strides in recent years. While there is still ways to go, we now have a female Vice President, and women are gaining more and more acceptance as “equals” in many other endeavors. In noting their progress, it seems appropriate to recognize them for their great contributions to popular music. This course will highlight many of the great women songwriters and performers working today or in the recent past. I have chosen a very eclectic mix of musical styles, as these

talented women can be successful in many different genres. Performers will include Barbra Streisand, Billie Holiday, Aretha Franklin, Natalie Merchant, Sarah McLachlan, Dusty Springfield, Bonnie Tyler, Carole King, Melanie, Dolly Parton, Celine Dion, Taylor Swift, and many others. Videos of their best performances will be shown.

## B5. Curious About Crypto?

Instructor: Jean Sifleet

- Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28 and 12/5
- In person - Kennedy 119



There's lots of hype and news about crypto. Some say that crypto (digital currency) is to its underlying technology (blockchain) what email was to the internet, just the first of many new applications. Crypto was endorsed by celebrities, attracted big named investors, and then collapsed. In this class, we'll explore the upsides and downsides of this groundbreaking technology, in a non-technical way. We'll discuss the issues, the people, and the legal, political and future implications.

## B7. How to Read Art

Instructors: Bill Shelley and Virginia (Ginny) Powell-Brasier

- Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/29
- In Person - Worcester Art Museum



Much fine art is the art of storytelling. In this in-person class, we will view objects in the Worcester Art Museum's galleries and learn how to read visual stories narrated by artists across the last 5,000 years. Enter these storied worlds and deepen your appreciation of them. We will examine examples from various ancient cultures as well as European and American art from the Middle Ages through the 20th Century. This course may revisit some objects discussed in previous sessions. (Class has a limit of 20.)

## B8. Impressionism – A Chronological Exploration

Instructor: Martha Chiarchiaro



- Wednesdays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/29
- Zoom Only

The avant-garde French artists of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, known as Impressionists, created changes in style, subject matter, and even the marketing of works of art. We'll explore the eight Impressionist exhibitions, as well as the stylistic development and differences amongst the Impressionists, such as Monet, Renoir, Degas, Pissarro, Morisot, and Cassatt, during the last four decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The impact of the Impressionists on American artists will be illustrated in the paintings of artists such as Robinson, Hassam, and Benson

## B9. New England Bird Behaviors in Fall



Instructor: Sheryl Pereira

- Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
- 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/29
- Zoom only

Shrinking daylight and cooler temperatures signal an active time of preparation for birds of all species, as nature moves from summer into winter. This course will examine bird behaviors typical of the season, celebrating but not dwelling on bird identification. We will explore a variety of behaviors that can be observed in the fall, as some birds prepare to survive our cold New England winter and others prepare to travel to warmer climates. We will focus on birds found in New England including raptors (hawks, eagles, falcons, owls), waterfowl and wading birds (ducks, geese, herons) and shorebirds (plovers, sandpipers etc). We'll look at how birds find food, maintain their plumage, socialize, vocalize, and migrate. Hint - not everyone goes to the tropics!

## B10. LEGEND OF NED LUDD

Instructor: Karl Hakkarainen

- Thursdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30
- Zoom Only



Seven centuries after the legend of Robin Hood took hold, a new band of Nottinghamshire warriors struck against the oppressors of the poor. Luddites, they were called, their name coming from their mythical leader, General Ned Ludd.

Little is certain about Ludd's life, even his very existence. No matter. From the factories in the English Midlands in the early 19th Century and continuing for the next two centuries, Luddites battled machines and the capitalists who owned them. They now fight against computers and robots and that amorphous foe, Artificial Intelligence. Luddites do so, in his name, whatever his name was.

## B11. Asia, China, and Global Trade - What went wrong?

Instructor: Pete Murphy

- Thursdays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30
- In Person - Kennedy 119



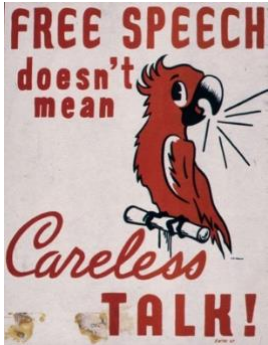
International trade began with the Silk Road and Marco Polo and developed into imperial competition and control in Asia. The end of WWII brought both a new trade and political structure, promoting free and open markets leading to the WTO and a new world trading system. Asian economies emerged as dominant participants in the new global supply chain, the "Asian Miracle". China then emerged from years of isolation to become the dominant Asian economy. Investment soared and global

trade was transformed. But China retained old ideas and institutions and has turned away. Trade and political conflict have emerged. What happened? How could so much hope go so wrong?

## B12. Freedom of Speech and the First Amendment: The Current Battlegrounds

Instructor: John S. Ross, III (Jack)

- Thursdays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
- 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30
- In Person - Kennedy 119

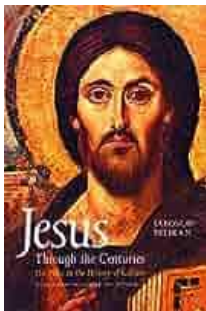


We often hear people invoke their “First Amendment” rights to free speech. But not all speech is protected by the First Amendment, and court decisions in a myriad of contexts have established murky lines. This course will examine recent developments in the perennial battleground over freedom of expression. We will look at (among other issues) the treatment of hate speech as protected speech; restrictions on speech on campuses; the regulation of social media platforms; the increasing reliance on the free speech clause in protecting religious interests; freedom of the press and the legacy of *New York Times v. Sullivan*, which established a high bar for suing media entities for defamation; restrictions of speech of government officials; and restrictions of speech related to the cultural/political divide in the country.

## B14. Jesus Through the Centuries

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Gary Shahinian

- Fridays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
- 10/27, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30
- In Person - Kennedy 119



Noted Yale University professor Jaroslav Pelikan (1923-2006) wrote a book titled *Jesus Through the Centuries: His Place in the History of Culture* in 1985 in which he set forth the many images of Jesus of Nazareth throughout history, such as “The Rabbi,” “The Light of the Gentiles,” “The Universal Man,” “The Teacher of Common Sense,” and “The Liberator.” Pelikan masterfully shows how each image of Jesus reflects the particular temper and values of that period. Eighteen images from the first through the twentieth century reveal a different side of the person that *Time* magazine has called the most significant figure in history. This course will analyze and discuss each image of Jesus and evaluate its relevance for us today.



# Fall 2023 Overview

Fall classes this year are offered in person and on Zoom. Classes are highlighted below, followed by those offered on Zoom.









## ***Offered in person; join us in class:***

- A2. Rustic Novels of George Sands
- A3. The Play's the Thing
- A5. Hanover Theatre tour (at Hanover Theatre)
- A7. Robert Moses, NY Urban Planner (at Briarwood)
- A8. Banned Books
- A11. How to Read Shakespeare (at The Willows)
- A12. Walking Worcester's Green Spaces (B2. various Worcester parks)
- A14. Cold War-Containment
- B2. George Sand's Third Rustic Novel
- B3. Understanding the Human Immune System
- B5. Curious About Crypto?
- B7. How to Read Art (at the Worcester Art Museum)
- B11. Asia, China, and Global Trade
- B12. Freedom of Speech
- B14. Jesus Through the Centuries

## ***Offered on Zoom Only; join us online:***

- A1. Jazz History 1
- A4. New England Art Museums
- A6. Great Trials that Changed the Course of History: SOCIAL JUSTICE & TURMOIL
- A10. Operation Paperclip
- A13. Celtic Spirituality
- A15. 24 Democracies
- B1. Jazz History 2
- B4. Great Female Artists and their Music
- B8. Impressionism – A Chronological Exploration
- B9. Fall Bird Behaviors
- B10. Legend of Ned Ludd

## Classes by Categories:

	<b>ART</b>	A4. New England Art Museums B7. How to Read Art B8. Impressionism – A Chronological Exploration B14. Jesus Through the Centuries
	<b>CULTURE</b>	A3. The Play's the Thing A5. Behind the Scenes at the Hanover Theatre A11. How to Read Shakespeare A13. Celtic Spirituality B5. Curious About Crypto? B10. Legend of Ned Ludd B14. Jesus Through the Centuries
	<b>HEALTH</b>	B3. Understanding the Human Immune System
	<b>HISTORY</b>	A7. Robert Moses, an Urban Planner: Hero or Villain? A10. Operation Paperclip A14. Cold War – Containment, Confrontation, Competition...and Collapse A15. Top 24 Democracies in the World – and Why B10. Legend of Ned Ludd B11. Asia, China and Global Trade-What Went Wrong B14. Jesus Through the Centuries
	<b>LITERATURE</b>	A8. We Read Banned Books A11. How to Read Shakespeare B2. George Sand's Third Rustic Novel B14. Jesus Through the Centuries
	<b>MUSIC</b>	A1. Jazz History 1 B1. Jazz History 2 B4. Great Female Artists and their Music
	<b>NATURE</b>	A12. Walking Worcester's Green Spaces B9. Fall Bird Behaviors
	<b>SCIENCE</b>	B3. Understanding the Human Immune System

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