

## SPRING 2023 Adventures In Learning Zoom Virtual classes

Is winter finally over? Yeah. It's now a glorious spring in Greensboro! The full 6-week series of our famous Adventures In Learning semester will begin in May. We invite you to join our classes from wherever you live or vacation.



With many instructors and participants sharing spring days with friends and family, and many traveling but still interested in lifelong learning, we will hold all great classes in our virtual Zoom classrooms. Your Spring semester has a great variety of topics with returning and new instructors. You can sign up for 1, 3, or more topics based on your schedule and interests; all for a one-time fee. But you must register!

**Step 1:** Click on the [link on page 4](#) of this document to get online to choose your classes and then to pay the semester fee of \$55.00. You will **pay online**, through the secure website, using PayPal or your credit card. Be sure to enter your preferred email address as that is the only way we can send you the connection links for your Zoom classes. \*\*

**Step 2:** After you pay the fee, you will get a confirmation email. Then, we will email you a document that has the full Zoom online registration so you will get your individual codes for each class you choose. Decide how the dates fit your schedule, which topics or instructors you prefer, and **then you must register into Zoom for each topic** you plan to attend.

\*Live links to the classes cannot be shared, so **send this invitation to your friends** if you'd like them to attend

**Ready to expand your mind and BLOOM with us?**

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\*\* *IF you cannot register/make payment online, you must call Vickie at 336.501.8849 to let her know you are mailing a check to our post office box (SCG, P.O. Box 4063, Greensboro NC 27404).*

*Sandy & Vickie & your AIL Volunteer Team*

**Tuesdays, beginning 5/2/2023**

### **Deception and Death: The NC "Black Widow" Barbara Terry Stager**

Instructor: **Tom Brawner**

By all appearances, Barbara Stager was a devoted and loving Christian mother and wife. Behind the scenes, however, her dual obsessions with sex and spending fueled multiple infidelities and financial frauds. When Barbara's second husband, Russ Stager, died in an "accidental" shooting death in 1988, authorities reexamined the 1978 death of her first husband, and Barbara's facade began to peel away. This course will examine the people, places, and events associated with Barbara Terry Stager, her crimes, and her victims.

*Tom is a retired attorney who loves researching murder mysteries and bringing them to SCG.*

Dates: **Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and June 6**

Time: **9:30 am**

## **When Borders Change**

Instructor: **Lynn Zimmerman, PhD**

This 6-week course will focus on 6 countries whose borders have changed, sometimes multiple times, and will provide an overview of some of the historical, political, social, and cultural issues that have influenced these changes. The countries are Romania, Moldova, Albania, Poland, Belarus, and Ukraine.

*Lynn is Professor Emerita of Education at Purdue University.*

Dates: **Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and June 6**

Time: **11:30 am**

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## **In The News**

Instructor: **John Spurrier, PhD**

Emeritus Professor John Spurrier leads a discussion of current news stories appearing in major newspapers around the country. Emphasis is placed on considering the stories from different viewpoints. Links to the stories will be emailed a few days before each class. Listeners and talkers are equally welcome.

*Dr. Spurrier is a retired Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Statistics at the USC.*

Dates: **Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23 and June 6**

Time: **2:00 pm**

***Wednesdays, beginning 5/3/2023***

## **How Paint Became Truth: The Age of Rembrandt**

Instructor: **Jim Langer, MFA, BFA**

We will look at and discuss Dutch Golden Age painting; foremost will be Rembrandt and Vermeer, with strong appearances by Frans Hals, the Utrecht Caravaggisti, numerous great landscapes and still life artists. We'll discover how the Tulip Boom and other early successes and failures in capitalism opened new markets and created new problems for painters. The arcane iconographic meanings will be parsed, but more attention will be given to the effects of light and texture, composition, and emotion.

*Jim is Director of Galleries and Professor of Art at Greensboro College...*

Dates: **Wednesdays, May 3,10,17, 24, 31 and June 7**

Time: **9:30 am**

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## **Preservation Greensboro**

Instructor: **Benjamin Briggs, CEO**

In this class we will discuss the following: The Architectural History of Guilford County; Historic Preservation 101; Greensboro Place Stories; Greensboro Architecture; and Preservation at Home.

*Benjamin is the Executive Director of Preservation Greensboro Incorporation.*

Dates: **Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31**

Time: **11:30 am**

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## **Baseball's Genesis: Exploring the Roots and Formative Years of the "National Pastime"**

Instructor: **Dick Swanson, PhD**

The course will look at the ancestry of the game and its gradual evolution into a highly organized recreational and professional sport industry by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*Dick is a retired professor and Academic Dean from UNCG and Past President of the SCG Board of Directors.*

Dates: **Wednesdays, May 3,10,17, 24, 31 and June 7**

Time: **2:00 pm**

## **Thursdays, beginning 5/4/23**

### **Greensboro Jewish Federation**

Marilyn Forman Chandler, CEO, MSW

We are still waiting for class details from our new instructor. If she is able to teach virtually, we will add you to her class and send a confirmation to you.

Dates: **May 4, 11, 18, 25 and June 1, 8**

Time: **9:30 or 11:30**

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### **Putin, Ukraine and the West**

Guest Instructor: **Thomas Porter, PhD**

Putin's attempt to seize Ukraine is part of a long-standing Russian Imperial tradition that sees the West as a threat to its own unique culture. Russian have long debated whether culturally they are a "Western" people or an Asian one and Putin has answered that question.

Date: **Thursday, May 4**

Time: **2:00 pm**

### **Genocide and International Law**

The United Nations Genocide Convention used the example of the Holocaust as its model, which was not what the originator of the concept, Raphael Lemkin, meant when he coined the word "Genocide." We will discuss why this International Law is so ineffectual in preventing and punishing the crime of genocide.

Date: **Thursday, May 11**

Time: **2:00 pm**

*Thomas is Professor of Russian, Modern European and Genocide Studies at North Carolina A&T State University.*

## **Fridays, beginning 5/5/2023**

### **Down The Great Unknown: Famous Rivers & Intrepid Explorers**

Instructor: **Tom Kuhn, PhD**

Did you ever want to take a river cruise? Well then, grab an oar or paddle and step aboard a small boat to join some of the greatest explorers and expeditions in history. Travel some of the world's most famous rivers with adventurers such as Von Humboldt, Mackenzie, Sir Richard Burton, Stanley, Powell, and Teddy Roosevelt. Our journeys will span three continents as we plunge into the famous rivers of the world and meet the intrepid explorers and hear the dramatic stories of some of history's most exciting and dangerous expeditions as we get our feet wet in the action and quench our thirst for adventure in the comfort of our own homes.

*Tom is a retired anthropologist and archeologist and is a guest speaker from Shepherd's Center of St. Andrews, Columbia, SC*

Dates: **Fridays, May 5,12, 19, 26, and June 2, 9**

Time: **9:30 am**

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### **The Missed Period and Other Grammar Scares!**

Instructor: **Carol McGinnis Kay, PhD**

Starting with the origins of the English language, we'll explore why English is so darned frustrating to speak and to spell! We'll consider how punctuation evolved from its beginnings in ancient Greek texts, through the 19th-century's developments of the 'rules' of grammar and punctuation, to our own electronic texts with their utter disdain for punctuation. Along the way we will consider several pivotal moments in American history when popular reaction to

the works of William Shakespeare, the greatest writer in the English language, revealed our own cultural divides (based on James Shapiro's book, *Shakespeare in a Divided America*). \*\*Rewatching *Shakespeare in Love* will be recommended before we get to this portion. We'll end with a look at everyone's pet peeves in grammar and punctuation. Bring your curiosity and your questions!

*Dr. Kay is a retired Distinguished Professor of English Emerita at USC, and a regular guest speaker from Shepherd's Center St. Andrews.*

Dates: **Fridays, May 5,12, 19, 26, and June 2, 9**

Time: **11:30 am**

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## **Health News Update**

Instructor: **Janne Cannon, PhD**

We're bombarded every day with health news and advice in the media and in ads, but it's hard to know what information is trustworthy. In this class, we'll consider the facts about some recent developments in medical science, including new cholesterol medications; new obesity/weight loss drugs; progress on helping people who have had strokes; controversies over treatments for Alzheimer's Disease; new blood tests for cancer. We'll distinguish the facts from the hype, to help you become more informed consumers of information about today's health topics. (If there are topics you would like to see covered in the class, send an email to Dr. Cannon at [jgc@med.unc.edu](mailto:jgc@med.unc.edu))

*Dr. Janne Cannon is Professor Emerita of Microbiology and Immunology at UNC School of Medicine in Chapel Hill and is an Adjunct Professor at UNCG.*

Dates: **Fridays, May 5,12, 26, and June 2, 9**

Time: **2:00 pm**

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**Are you excited? Sign up quickly for a great semester?**

Click here for the website to pay for the classes:

**<https://shepnet.wufoo.com/forms/q1iubdk6109f32k/>**

**Or, you can copy and paste that link into your browser**

(If you have never paid online, or need help, please call Sandy 10:00-4:00 at number noted.)

**\*\*\* Remember to watch your email for the Step 2 links to get you into those Zoom Classes. You will need to put yourself into the Zoom roster **before 4/29** to get the links to the classes. \*\*\***

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Thank you for your interest and we'll see you in these May - June classes!

*Vickie Williamson*, Program Manager

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*Sandy Doyle-Jones*, Executive Director

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**Shepherd's Center of Greensboro** is on a mission *to help older adults pursue independent and active lives of purpose.*

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