

Winter 2018 Interim Course Descriptions

V-2, 12/14/2017

- Be sure to check BEGIN and END dates for each course.
- Contact the Course Coordinator for classes with a size limit or those requiring pre-enrollment.
- Some courses may have a *Waiting List*; contact the Course Coordinator if you have enrollment questions.

<p>Monday</p> <p>10 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Northside Town Center – Goodwill</p>	<p>Hot Topics – Current Events East</p> <p>This group selects individual topics of interest from past or present media or personal experience for discussion. One member handles the presentation followed by group discussion each week. The topic is not intended to be a lecture. World migration, stem cells, and the economy of Wisconsin were some of the topics discussed last year.</p> <p>BEGINS: January 22, 2018 ENDS: February 12, 2018 (4 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Bill Molis wmolis2@yahoo.com 249-7713 ▪ Class size limit is 15-18. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the course coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>9:30 – 11:30 am</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>My Drugs: Finding and Understanding Reliable Information on Medications</p> <p>The course examines sources of readily available and reliable information on prescription drugs and biopharmaceuticals. Participants will be encouraged to locate and examine information—use, risks, benefits and adverse reactions—on marketed drugs. A session format is 1 hour lecture plus 1 hour participation-discussion. Full benefit is derived by use of your laptop/tablet with WiFi capability in class. Access to the internet for practice searches outside of class is recommended. Coordinator is not a health care provider; hence course will NOT give specific drug or medical information directly to participants. Instead, participants will gain skills they need to find meaningful information.</p> <p>Additional information: Please bring your laptop or tablet (or smartphone), WiFi-capable and with any web browser, to class; there are no loaner computers. WiFi connection is available at the site but is not fully secure. There is adequate parking adjacent to the church and Madison Metro bus services this area.</p> <p>BEGINS: January 9, 2018 ENDS: January 23, 2018 (3 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Mike Roy michaelroy@wisc.edu 443-9563 ▪ Class size limit 12. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the course coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion & In-class participation by finding & examining drug information on the web.

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>9:30 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Fictional Detectives, Police and Private</p> <p>We'll investigate some of the literary world's greatest detectives in 5 weeks: Inspector Alan Banks (Peter Robinson), Inspector Thomas Lynley (Elizabeth George), Inspector Tom Barnaby (Caroline Graham), Inspector George Gently (Alan Hunter) and Inspector William "Jack" Frost (R.D. Wingfield). Read Peter Robinson's <i>"Playing with Fire"</i> or any of the authors' Alan Banks detective stories prior to the first class. We'll watch a movie based on the suggested story in class followed by a discussion of the investigator(s), the facts of the case and the method(s) of investigation. We'll follow a similar format with each of the other detectives.</p> <p>BEGINS: January 17, 2018 ENDS: February 14, 2018 (5 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Maurice Better mauricebette@yahoo.com 255-3912 ▪ No class size limit. ▪ No need to pre-enroll since there is no class size limit; just come to the first class session. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1:30 - 3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Explorations in Roots Music</p> <p>If you like folk songs, jazz and or world music, this interim January course is for you. "Roots music" refers to any music that starts as the collective expression of a culture. It includes folk music, but also jazz and the written songs of Woody Guthrie or the Carter Family. This January we'll look at how the interest in authentic "old time" music became part of the folk revival. We'll begin with a film of two revival groups, The New Lost City Ramblers and The Greenbriar Boys. We'll then listen to some of the old time performers who were brought to New York City, primarily by Izzy Young of the Folklore Center in Greenwich Village. Some of the materials will highlight the difficulties of using the term "folk music," and show why "roots music" may be more accurate.</p> <p>BEGINS: January 10, 2018 ENDS: January 24, 2018 (3 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Norman Leer normanleer@att.net 236-0158 ▪ No need to pre-enroll since there is no class size limit; just come to the first class session. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1:30 - 3:00 pm</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>How You Can Save the Wisconsin Idea from Being Reorganized to Its Death</p> <p>UW-System President Ray Cross said "The Wisconsin Idea is embedded in our DNA," ... "It is so much more than words on a page. It is the reason the UW System exists. It defines us..." This class uses <i>Wisconsin Idea</i> video lectures of academics and public leaders followed by discussion. We build an understanding of the Wisconsin Idea which emerged over a century ago as an idealization of the University of Wisconsin's connection to citizens. We use that understanding to reflect on the mid-October proposal of UW-President Ray Cross to reorganize UW-Extension and UW-Colleges which have operated at the immediate connection between the UW and the people of Wisconsin. We will also discuss how each of us might influence the decisions of our UW-System President, our UW-System Board of Regents and specific UW-Institutions in their articulating and encouraging the Wisconsin Idea.</p> <p>BEGINS: January 10, 2018 ENDS: February 14, 2018 (6 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Gerald Campbell grcampbe@gmail.com 235-5132 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the course coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Participation includes active listening to lectures and active participation in discussion.

<p>Friday</p> <p>10 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes Grand Hall</p>	<p>Civilizations of the Ancient Near East</p> <p>This course will focus on creation stories, deities and religion, social structures, peoples, places and critical events across the ancient Near East (ca. 3500 BCE-100 CE). Concentration will be on four ancient societies: Note: This is a repeat of last winter's class.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mesopotamia – The Land between the Rivers • Egypt – From Cheops to Cleopatra • Anatolia – Was there a Trojan War? • Syria/Palestine – Archaeology and the Bible <p>BEGINS: January 12, 2018 ENDS: February 9, 2018 (5 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Don Snyder delliffs@aol.com 285-5092 ▪ Class size limit 45. ▪ Pre-registration required; contact Don Snyder at delliffs@aol.com or 285-5092. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.
<p>Friday</p> <p>10 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Oakwood West Arts Center/ Auditorium</p>	<p>Sharia and Islamic Law: Their Doctrinal Diversity and Status in the U.S. Legal System</p> <p>Public discourse about Sharia and Islamic law includes warnings that they present a growing danger to the U.S. legal system. To examine the grounds for these concerns, this course first will focus on the evolution of diverse doctrinal authority in Islamic law, which consists of interpretation of the divine texts that comprise Sharia. The course then will address the status of Islamic law in the United States, including its application in the courts and in religious arbitration. Examples of specific legal questions will be presented, but the course will not cover the full range of topics in Islamic law.</p> <p>BEGINS: January 12, 2018 ENDS: February 16, 2018 (6 Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Peter Krug pkrug@ou.edu 298-7233 ▪ No class size limit. ▪ No need to pre-enroll since there is no class size limit; just come to the first class session. ▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.



✦ COURSE LOCATIONS ✦	
Capitol Lakes: 333 W. Main St.	Northside Town Center – Goodwill: 1865 Northport Dr.
Christ Presbyterian Church: 944 E. Gorham St.	Oakwood Village –Univ. Woods (West): 6201 Mineral Pt. Rd.
Madison Senior Center: 330 W. Mifflin St.	

Save the date.....

PLATO Spring 2018 Open House

Talk with Course Coordinators, Committee Members, & meet PLATO colleagues!

Wednesday, February 21, between 1:30 – 3:00 pm, Madison Senior Center 330 W. Mifflin St.

PLATO IS A COMMUNITY OF INTELLECTUALLY CURIOUS ADULTS, TYPICALLY 50 & OVER, WHICH EXPLORES SUBJECTS OF INTEREST THROUGH MEMBER-LED DISCUSSION GROUPS, LECTURES, TRAVEL, & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.