

Fall 2018 Course Descriptions

V-7B, 8/28/2018

- Courses **begin the week of September 24** and last for 10 weeks *unless otherwise indicated*.
- **Contact the Course Coordinator** for classes requiring **pre-enrollment** or **with a size limit**.
- **Some courses** may have a **Waiting List**; contact the Course Coordinator if you have enrollment questions.
- Check the PLATO web site (www.platomadison.org) for schedule changes or updates.

MONDAY CLASSES	
<p>Monday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Experiencing Great English Literature</p> <p>Each semester we discuss a novel, selected poetry, and a drama. This fall the novel will be Virginia Woolf's <i>To the Lighthouse</i>, an early modernist novel highlighting themes of loss, subjectivity, the nature of art, and the problem of perception, a novel consistently listed as one of the top 10 in the English language. Poetry will be taken from <i>The Seashell Anthology</i>, Christopher Burns, Ed. The drama will be Shakespeare's <i>Measure for Measure</i>, an APT choice for summer 2018, which deals with themes of justice, mortality, mercy, and the dichotomy between corruption and purity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Phil Paulson philplsn@gmail.com 318-1567 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Monday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Oakwood Village – University Woods</p>	<p>Pathways to a Sustainable Planet</p> <p>This discussion group focuses on the challenges we face as we adapt to a sustainable society. We examine the consequences of our current path; acidification of the oceans, rising sea levels, migration, increasing temperature, etc. And explore how these consequences of climate change could be mitigated by using carbon-free energy sources. We'll learn about opportunities afforded by nuclear and other carbon-free forms of energy and their effects on electrical distribution. [Class will not meet Oct. 29, Class ends Dec. 3]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Richard Steeves rsteeves@wisc.edu 833-5586 & Anthony Praza 203-5768 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.
<p>Monday</p> <p>10:00 am to 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes, Grand Hall</p>	<p>Sensing the World Around Us</p> <p>Through interactive presentations and demonstrations, this course will provide an introduction to neuroscience: how neurons work, how the brain is organized, and how we hear, see, taste, smell, touch and balance. No background in science or preparation required. If you have an interest in the brain, our senses, and asking questions, join us to learn how we perceive the world around us, how much we distort that world, and how the brain creates each individual's reality. Programs will include a brief review of how senses change with age, common myths about the brain, plus questions and answers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Linn Roth rothlinn@sbcglobal.net 238-2297 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required, but an e-mail to Linn Roth would be appreciated. ▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.

<p>Monday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p>Refighting the Civil War</p> <p>We will continue exploring the major battles of the Civil War from Smithsonian's <i>Great Battles of the Civil War</i> series. After each presentation there will be a period for discussion and questions, continuing the format we have been using.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Daryl Sherman snippetswi@gmail.com 238-5106 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Monday</p> <p>10:00 am – 12 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 in recent years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Bill Molis wmolis2@yahoo.com 249-7713 ▪ Class size limit 10. ▪ 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>Monday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Oakwood Village, University Woods</p>	<p>The Joy of Poetry</p> <p>“Reading poetry is an adventure in renewal, a creative act, a perpetual beginning, a rebirth of Wonder” (E. Hirsch). We will read and analyze a wide range of poems through lectures and discussions. Our text is <i>Poets Choice</i> by Edward Hirsch, Pub. Harcourt Books, 2006 (\$17). Supplement with: <i>The Essential Poet's Glossary</i>, Pub. Houghton-Mifflin, 2017- (\$16). For the first class read: the <i>Introduction, Preface</i>, (pp.3-5 poems by Vallejo, Hikmet and Amichai) <i>Nightingales</i> (pp. 7-9, poem by Borges), <i>Sappho</i> (pp. 22-24, poem by Sappho), <i>M. Wrybek</i> (pp. 329-331 poem by Wrybek), <i>Peter Everwine</i> (pp. 335-336 poem by Everwine. [No class Oct. 8 & Oct. 15, Class ends Dec. Dec.10]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Stan Goldfarb farbgold@gmail.com 229-6555 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations.
<p>Monday & Wednesday</p> <p>10:00 to 11:30 am</p> <p>Monona Library</p>	<p>Russia: Using the Past to Understand the Present</p> <p>This course will help participants to better understand what is happening in Russia and the role Russia sees for herself in the world. The course will begin by looking at what is currently happening in Russia under Vladimir Putin, and the events that led to his rise to power soon after the collapse of the Soviet Union. We will next look at the physical geography of the region and identify the continuing problems and/or characteristics that have been present throughout Russia’s long history. These continuing problems and/or characteristics will be stressed and reexamined throughout the course. Then -- like a Russian Matryoshka Doll -- we will delve back into Russia’s earliest history and then chronologically study her rich and fascinating history. The course will conclude by coming full circle as we look at the events that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of Vladimir Putin. Course meets both Monday and Wednesday each week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Bruce Fischer fischer12@charter.net 838-6116 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ To check on enrollment status, please email the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.

<p>Monday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center Crafts Room</p>	<p>Exploring Creativity</p> <p>No experience needed! We meet together to learn techniques for creative expression, sharing knowledge and ideas. I will demonstrate some techniques. I will be available for helping you to create art, offering insight into color theory, composition, and other aspects of art making. I encourage people to discover and develop personal art-making goals, and exchange knowledge and offer (always gentle) feedback. Above all, we gather just to enjoy a gathering of folks to play with art materials. A donation of \$10 is requested to help pay for art supplies provided, as I do bring project materials for some classes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Diane Hughes rubyslipper1949@hotmail.com 205-2667 ▪ New participants should contact course coordinator in advance to talk about how the class operates. ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Monday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Managing Your Money</p> <p>We address current and personal money management topics of interest and importance to class members. We learn by class participation on subjects such as stock and mutual fund selection, asset allocation, and investing in the current economic climate. We also learn from the viewpoints, questions, experiences, and support of each other. While we may have experienced and knowledgeable outside speakers on economics, insurance, banking, legal, accounting, etc., the main thrust of the class remains participatory learning. We will have an exciting 10 sessions of financial discussions, presentations, questions and comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Arden Trine ardjeatrine@aol.com 277-7623 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Monday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Fitchburg Senior Center</p>	<p>Novels Old and New</p> <p>For Fall 2018 we will read the following novels in order: <i>The Sun also Rises</i> by Ernest Hemingway, <i>News of the World</i> by Paulette Jiles, <i>Saturday</i> by Ian McEwan, <i>Kindred</i> by Octavia Butler, <i>The Hamlet</i> by William Faulkner, <i>Norwegian by Night</i> by Derek B. Miller, and <i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i> by Kurt Vonnegut. Please read the first novel for the first meeting on Sept. 24, 2018. Join us for lively discussion and coffee, tea and treats at break time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Eve Wilkie madisoneve@sbcglobal.net 347-0473 and Kate Dike 509-5204 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Monday</p> <p>1:30 - 3:30 pm</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>Readers' Theater</p> <p>This class is the 2nd session of a PLATO class which has been popular now for 11 years. Each semester we read aloud and discuss four plays using an integrated approach which allows everyone to participate. A brief background of each play and playwright is presented by a volunteer from the group. There is some small shared cost for materials, although most of our scripts are already owned by PLATO. We will be reading <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> by Lorraine Hansbury, <i>An Enemy of the People</i> by Henrik Ibsen, and <i>A Comedy of Errors</i> by Shakespeare, along with a 4th play to be determined by the class.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Andy Bissonnette bissonnetteandrew@yahoo.com 318-0800 & Peggy Anderson pppowers38@gmail.com 838-7255 ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.

<p>Monday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Women’s Journeys Toward Self-Discovery: A Writing Workshop</p> <p>Writing journals and memoirs helps you shape your life story while also clarifying what it has meant to you. This class will use prompts to help you enter into your writing as a stepping-stone toward deeper self-awareness. These prompts are meant to be suggestive, and class members are free to modify them as they choose. The class will continue to build a sense of community, based on discussion in an open non-judgmental atmosphere. Discussions are based on class members’ writings, and all sharing is of course voluntary and respectful of each person’s privacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Grethe Brix-J Leer grethebrix42@gmail.com 236-0158 ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ To check on enrollment status, please email the Course Coordinator. This is a popular course and often has a Waiting List. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
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TUESDAY CLASSES	
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Christian Community</p>	<p>Biographies – West</p> <p>We are biography readers who enjoy sharing their experiences. Presentations are participants’ responsibility. We discover fresh facts about notable men and women from backgrounds as varied as politics, literature, art, film, theater, music, science and sports. Not all are of heroic proportions. Some of the best life stories are about people who have fallen into oblivion, but lived interesting lives. Controversial personalities add particular spice to discussions. [Class will not meet Nov. 20, Class ends Dec. 4]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Mary Becker scrabblenutmj@gmail.com 271-3466 & Chuck Pils cmpils@sbcglobal.net 238-3089 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>The Gardens, Independent Living</p>	<p>Short Stories and Essays</p> <p>For those who love reading and discussion, this is the perfect entertainment. One hour each is devoted to a short story and an essay. There is always a lively, opinionated, and friendly atmosphere with a welcome for all participants. Come join us as we delve into the ever-fascinating world of short stories and essays created by some of the best writers who have put pen to paper. These books will be used for both the fall and spring semesters: <i>The Best American Short Stories</i>, 2016, ed Junot Diaz and <i>The Best American Essays</i>, 2016, ed Jonathan Franzen. [Class ends Nov. 20]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Irv Klibaner irwinklibaner@gmail.com 274-4089 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>10–11:30 am</p> <p>Capitol Lakes, Auditorium 2</p>	<p>Alexander Technique: The Intelligent Use of Movement In Search of Self</p> <p>This eight-week course is designed to acquaint participants with the tension-reducing strategies of Alexander Technique, gaining an experiential understanding of their own anatomy, and skill in receiving and using the many subtle signals that the body sends to the brain. Curiosity and enjoyment of body movement will be encouraged and an understanding of the beautiful complexity of our bodies will be developed through simple strategies. [8 sessions, Class ends Nov. 13]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Debby Thomas dbythom@gmail.com 241-5664 ▪ Class size limit 14. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular participation/discussion expected.
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Oakwood Village University Woods - Auditorium</p>	<p>Whither the State: Demands of Citizenship in a Time of Crisis</p> <p>Will there be a “blue wave”? Will Wisconsin have a new governor? We will discuss the 2018 mid-term elections. In addition, we will put the Trump presidency into perspective by relating it to other challenges and disruptions experienced by our society and polity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Dennis Dresang dresang@lafollette.wisc.edu 203-5643 & Terry Shelton terrykshelton@outlook.com ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Regular participation/discussion expected.

<p>Tuesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>State Bar of Wisconsin</p>	<p>Celebrating the Poetic Voice in Your Life</p> <p>Participants will have a chance to share the poetry/song lyrics of a favorite artist or style of their choice. The presenters will introduce and read their selections, share printed copies of the works and discuss them with the class. Each person will have a turn to be the presenter with an anticipated time slot of about 45 minutes to allow two presenters per class session. Format and etiquette of the class will be established at the first meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Debbie Bissonnette mamadoodled@yahoo.com 318-0800 & Barbara Carson barb.a.carson@gmail.com ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinators about enrollment status. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected, and, ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants who choose to present.
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p>Contemporary Economic Issues</p> <p>Economics profoundly affects our everyday lives. We seek a better understanding but without a background in economics, many of us are left confused or misunderstand how and why many issues play out as they do. This class will study 12 basic economic principles and then each week apply them to a current real world situation for a greater understanding. Our weekly discussion topics will be the hot issues of the day as determined by the class. A full schedule of the weekly topics will be published after the first class. We will also make a quick review of the week’s major economic headlines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Chuck Karabin ckarabin@aol.com 834-9410 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. <p>Regular reading/discussion expected.</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Oakwood Village – University Woods</p>	<p>Jazz</p> <p>We are a congenial group of people who share an interest in and enjoyment of music called jazz. We have presenters from within the group as well as outside experts who share with us music ranging from early New Orleans to contemporary jazz. No musical skills are necessary – only an interest in learning about this truly American music genre. Class members learn about upcoming jazz events, a group outing is organized if there is enough class interest. [Course will meet in the Arts Center/Auditorium on all dates EXCEPT Oct. 2 and Oct. 23 when it will meet in the Nakoma/Westmoreland Rooms.]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Toni Jakovec tjakovec@yahoo.com (650) 948-5831 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Ashman Public Library</p>	<p>Film Generation, Film History: The Late ‘80s</p> <p>The Film Generation: A focus on vivid individuals - winners and losers - with larger issues in the background, even though stuff was happening. Scotland, France, and Sweden represented. [8 Sessions: will not meet Nov. 6, Class ends Nov. 20]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Jim O’Brien jimrobr@gmail.com 271-2808 ▪ Class size limit 25. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.

<p>Tuesday</p> <p>1:30 to 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>Basic Understanding of Artificial Intelligence</p> <p>This course will help in the basic understanding the vast field of A.I. And the current concepts as we know them today of deep learning, and data mining, technology advancements, and algorithms behind the concept of Artificial Intelligence. Will explore the possible future of A.I., and potential developments and conflicts in basic terms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Steven Robertson wi.steve1@gmail.com 999-1314 ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>WEDNESDAY CLASSES</p>	
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>Debating the Wisconsin Idea, What Should the University of Wisconsin do?</p> <p>The University Wisconsin is experiencing dramatic changes. The ongoing reorganization of UW Colleges and the dismantling of UW- Extension are in the headlines. This course explores the history and present dimensions of the Wisconsin Idea that a public university should serve the state beyond the borders of its campus. The course will illustrate how citizens did and can influence what their university does for their children, for them and for their neighbors. The course will use many sources for learning, which will allow students to take their learning to the extent they desire. [No class Nov. 21, Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: 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. ▪ Active listening to lectures and active participation in discussion.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Continuing Philosophy</p> <p>The class will be reading and discussing “The Moral Landscape” [First Free Press trade <u>paperback</u> version published September, 2011!!] by Sam Harris, a neuroscientist. Mr. Harris reviews the age-old questions of right and wrong, good and evil, bringing a fresh perspective to the discussion. He proposes we already know enough about the brain and its relationship to events in the world that there are right and wrong answers to the most pressing questions of human life – answers that neither moral relativism nor religion can satisfactorily provide. [No class Nov. 21, Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Jim Halloran jp.hallo@tds.net 238-7201 & Ed Cothroll cothroll@tds.net 831-4493 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p>Global Affairs and the Media</p> <p>We focus on international events and concerns, addressing United States issues only as they relate to the rest of the world. The first hour consists of a presentation by an invited speaker or member of the group. For the second hour all members are invited to scour various media sources for an item of global interest and bring a summary of it for discussion. In this way, we hope to increase our exposure to high-quality sources of news and information and to expand our appreciation of the importance of global affairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Leon Lindberg lindbe@tds.net 238-9000, Judy Wagener judyrw27@me.com 761-4603, & Kirk Elliott kirk_elliott@hotmail.com 255-5646 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p>Reminiscence Writing – AM</p> <p>What are your memories? Would you like to leave a legacy of your stories for your children or grandchildren? Or would you simply like the joy of remembering? We have found that it is fun to write and entertaining to listen to one another’s remembrances. Write a 1-2 page memory each week and read it aloud. You will receive support and encouragement from your fellow writers. [No class Nov. 21, Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Paul Gohdes apds541@gmail.com 285-5809 ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Covenant Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>1968: A Fifty Year Retrospective on the Most Impactful/Devastating Year in America since World War II</p> <p>The course will explore the events and currents that came together to change the directions in this country and the rest of the world, many that continue to the present. The objectives will be to consider the significance of the events and how history was changed and to consider how and what the differences might have been if certain events had not occurred. For most of the weeks during the semester we will read articles that will be made available online. Participants will need to have email and internet access. Suggested reading for an overview of the year: <i>Time 1968: War Abroad, Riots at Home, Fallen Leaders - The Year That Changed the World</i>, (2008) Kelly Knauer, ed. [Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Tim Otis tierneyotis@gmail.com 233-1050 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations
<p>Monday & Wednesday</p> <p>10:00 to 11:30 am</p> <p>Monona Library</p>	<p>Russia: Using the Past to Understand the Present</p> <p>See course listing on Monday, 10 am for full details</p>

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Northside Town Center - Goodwill</p>	<p>Biographies – East</p> <p>Class members may volunteer to present a biographical sketch on a person (or group) of their choice. Participants need only do a presentation once or at most twice a year. Otherwise there is no preparation or homework, just join the discussion. We learn a lot and enjoy lively discussions along with coffee and treats. [No class Nov. 21, Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Vicki Ford v.ford@charter.net 850-9474 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Covenant Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>Current Events – West</p> <p>This is an in-depth discussion course on current events in Wisconsin, the United States and the World. Course members choose the topics, lead and moderate a discussion or two. We email readings and website links prior to each discussion. Each presenter may invite a guest with some first-hand knowledge or experience on the topic for the discussion. [Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Greg Bell tgregbell@tds.net 836-9547 & Meg Taylor taylome@charter.net (206) 369-3578 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinators about enrollment status. ▪ This is a popular course and often has a Waiting List. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>UW Space Place</p>	<p>Frontiers in Life Science</p> <p>This class will bring us to the “cutting edge” of scientific research. Each week a different researcher or science expert reports and discusses his or her innovations, inventions and/or discoveries. The UW Biotechnology Outreach Directory has brought a variety of researchers to this class over the past several years. Topics have included: bird flu, heart disease, cancer, aging, stem cells, DNA sequencing, nanotechnology and others. You will be able to discuss your questions and concerns with these science experts each week. [No class Nov. 21, Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Paul Brandl pbrandl90@gmail.com 251-2662 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Neighbor- hood House Community Center</p>	<p>Writing Workshop</p> <p>“The scariest moment is always just before you start.” –Stephen King, <i>On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft</i>. Whether you’ve yet to write the first word or are deliberating over the last, our writers group will provide you with just the right amount of feedback, support and structure. All writers are welcome, regardless of experience or the type of writing pursued. The class is facilitated by Andy Millman, whose work has appeared in several journals and literary websites, including “Midwest Review,” “The Big Jewel,” “Zest Literary Journal,” “Black Heart Magazine,” “Flash Fiction Magazine,” “The Helix,” and “Pif Magazine.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Andy Millman andy@neighborhoodhousemadison.org 255-5337 ▪ Class size limit 14. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular writing/discussion expected.

<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Life Maps: The Search for Meaning in Modern Philosophy and the Arts</p> <p>This class is designed for people interested in modern literature, film, music, philosophy and the visual arts, and who want to explore connections between these areas and their own life searches. Both parts of this dialogue are equally important. This fall, we'll begin a year-long exploration of what our films tell us about American society today. Using some ideas from Philip Slater's <i>The Pursuit of Loneliness</i> as a starting point, we'll examine key issues and conflicts in representative films. For the fall, we'll watch and discuss <i>Citizen Kane</i>, <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>, <i>All the King's Men</i> and <i>Casablanca</i>. Class members will be asked to draw on their personal experiences and other theoretical frameworks as they seem relevant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Norman Leer normanleer@att.net 236-0158 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ NEW CLASS MEMBERS – email the Course Coordinator BY EMAIL before the first class about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Reminiscence Writing – PM</p> <p>Participants write stories about their pasts and share them with the class. Sometimes they're funny; sometimes they're sad; and sometimes they're fleeting memories that we want to capture with our pencils. We choose topics from our childhood, our family life, and our careers to express who we are. No experience required! [No class Nov. 21, Class ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Judy Havens judyandpeteh@charter.net 443-0777 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>2-3:00 pm</p> <p>Chazen Museum of Art</p>	<p>Chazen Museum of Art – Remixed!</p> <p>Learn about the Chazen Museum of Art's collection in a fresh and fun way! Meet a new docent each week and experience the galleries through lively storytelling, game playing, and more! Who knows? You might even learn a secret or two! Participants should arrive ready to experience a new style of museum tour. Tours will be fast paced and require standing and walking, so comfortable shoes are a must! [8 Sessions: Starts Oct. 3, Ends Nov. 21]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Candie Waterloo cwaterloo@chazen.wisc.edu 263-4421 ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Some discussion expected.
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>2-3:30 pm</p> <p>Chazen Museum Art Studio Classroom</p>	<p>Experience Art Again - Wisconsin Style!</p> <p>Participants in this class will experience art in a fun and relaxed environment designed for the novice! Each week, we'll explore a new medium and create a unique work of art inspired by Wisconsin artists in the Chazen Museum of Art's collection. Painting, printmaking, and more await you when you experience art! All materials provided! Participants are expected to have an open mind and be ready to explore materials – no matter how messy. Smocks, old shirts, and aprons encouraged. NOTE: Priority enrollment given to members who have taken Experience Art. [6 Sessions: Starts Oct. 31, Ends Dec. 5]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Candie Waterloo cwaterloo@chazen.wisc.edu 263-4421 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ High participation expected.

THURSDAY CLASSES	
<p>Thursday</p> <p>9:30 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes, Grand Hall</p>	<p>International Film Festival</p> <p>“Real People, Real Places:” A young man searches India for the family he had lost 20 years before; a young college student confronts momentous events when she becomes a nurse in WWI; two buddies embark on a life-changing motorcycle trip through South America; a Paris street-singer rises to become an international star; a family of tourists fights to survive the Thailand tsunami; a group of determined women change the world. We’ll feature these and other fascinating stories in international movies based on true events. Enjoy. [No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <p>Free parking across the street from Capitol Lakes, treats during the break, and comments from Jim O’Brien and Bob Fry. Come early.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Jim O’Brien jimrobr@gmail.com 271-2808 & Bob Fry bobfry40@hotmail.com 233-0622 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.
<p>Thursday</p> <p>9:30- 11:30 am</p> <p>Madison Christian Community</p>	<p>What in the World Happened?</p> <p>We welcome all who have an interest in history and are open to discussions of all its aspects whether they cover recent or ancient times or local, state, national or international events and issues. Some of the topics presented in the past have been: The Salem Witch Trials, Irish History, Immigration, Mysteries of the Ancients, and History of 20th Century Poverty. We have an hour or so presentation, a social break for coffee and treats, followed by a Q and A session. [No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Bruce Gregg mbgregg@tds.net 231-1109 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.
<p>Thursday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Physics and Society – How we think, naturally and artificially</p> <p>We will continue the investigation of how we think. We are concerned with the physical basis and operation; of memory, both long and short term, of behavior, both innate and learned, of consciousness and unconsciousness. For much will use the following book as guide: <i>The Influential Mind: What the Brain Reveals About Our Power to Change Others</i> by Tali Sharot\ We will also contrast and discuss the differences and similarities of human intelligence and artificial intelligence, as well as the the challenges of AI. [Class begins Oct. 4, No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Don Reeder reeder@hep.wisc.edu 238-3903 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.

<p>Thursday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>UW South Madison Partnership</p>	<p>The Experience of Native People of Wisconsin: Injustice and Inequality in Madison</p> <p>Course members will explore the archeology, history, culture, governance, values and issues of concern of Native People in Wisconsin. An awareness and understanding of past and present will allow course members to appreciate Native People as they are today, their “world view”, and the forces and challenges overcome that brought them to the current point in history. The course will rely on readings, videos, a field trip, and lectures by, and discussions with, Native presenters. [Class begins on Friday, Sept 28, thereafter on Thursdays. No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <p>Course Notes: Submission of a course Registration Form accompanying this course description is a registration requirement. Registration is open to all PLATO members. Email the completed form to rickorton@tds.net. A hard copy can be requested by calling 608-271-9219.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Rick Orton rickorton@tds.net 271-9219 ▪ Pre-enrollment required (deadline: Sept. 20). Contact Coordinator for further information. Participants will be notified of entry into the course as Registration Forms are received. ▪ No class size limit ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected. ▪ High participation with class discussion on reading assignments and guest presentations.
<p>Thursday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Readings in the Science of Happiness</p> <p>We will be reading and discussing the book, <i>A Fearless Heart: How the Courage to Be Compassionate Can Transform Our Lives</i> by Thupten Jinpa Phd. “Based on the revolutionary course in Compassion Cultivation Training at Stanford that Jinpa helped to create, <i>A Fearless Heart</i> shows us that compassion can be a path through suffering, a key to robust health, and even an effective way to reach our goals.....Pulling from the latest Western research as well as traditional Buddhist psychology, Jinpa offers simple daily practices that will help readers train their compassion muscle for a greater meaning, connection, and fulfillment.” - Amazon review. We will study and discuss how compassion meditation can lead to happiness. Join us in learning more about compassion meditation. We read and discuss one chapter/week using a discussion guide. [Class begins Oct. 4, No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Jan Fulwiler jfulwiler@att.net 831-4073 & Kathi Vos kathiv@tds.net 234-8821 ▪ Class size limit 25. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact Kathi Vos about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.
<p>Thursday</p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Oak Park Place</p>	<p>Mindfulness Meditation: Foundations for Practice—and Beyond</p> <p>The course provides training in mindfulness meditation with Buddhist origins. The focus is on the “nuts and bolts” of mindfulness, featuring substantial periods of meditation and discussion of experiences. Also, important components of mindfulness will be introduced in areas of mindfulness of body, emotions, thought, mind and further intermediate topics. [No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Craig Wille wille.craig@gmail.com 692-3163 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected. ▪ Regular periods of meditation, starting at 20 minutes per day.

<p>Thursday</p> <p>10:30 – 12 noon</p> <p>Chazen Museum Art Studio Classroom</p>	<p>Experience Art!</p> <p>Participants in this class will experience art in a fun and relaxed environment designed for the novice! Each week, we'll explore a new medium and create a unique work of art with what we've learned. Painting, printmaking, and more await you when you experience art! Former students are welcome to enroll as we will be exploring new processes. All materials provided, but a \$10 materials fee will be collected on the first day of class. [6 Sessions: Begins Sept. 27 and ends Nov. 1]</p> <p>*** Participants are expected to have an open mind and be ready to explore materials – no matter how messy. Smocks, old shirts, and aprons encouraged. ***</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Helen Burish htburish@wisc.edu 212-8141 & Bob Elland ▪ Class size limit 15. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ High participation expected.
<p>Thursday</p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Museums and studios in Madison</p> <p>(1st meeting location: MMoCA Conference Room)</p>	<p>Art Museums</p> <p>Members of this class will visit various museums and other art venues in Madison, such as MMoCA, Madison Public Library, the Chazen, and Edgewood STREAM. Each week we will have someone familiar with the works talk to us - this may be a docent, curator or the artist. Discussion during and after is encouraged. [8 Sessions: Begins Sept. 27 – Ends Nov. 15]</p> <p>Please note: Registration for this class is limited to ONLY one semester unless given instructor permission. This system helps to include as many PLATO members as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Martha Moye mmmmoye@gmail.com 695-9604 ▪ Class size limit 30; register early. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please email the Course Coordinator about enrollment status (even if you have contacted her earlier about this semester). ▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.
<p>Thursday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>The Play's the Thing – Downtown</p> <p>Each semester we read (aloud) and discuss 3 or 4 plays using an integrated approach which allows everyone to participate. A brief background of each play and playwright is presented by a volunteer from the group. This semester we'll read <i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i> by Edmond Rostand, <i>Dr. Faustus</i> by Christopher Marlowe, <i>Under Milk Wood</i> by Dylan Thomas, and either <i>Private Lives</i> by Noel Coward or <i>Hamlet</i> by William Shakespeare. [Class begins Oct. 4 and ends Dec. 15]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Tess Mulrooney tlmmdsn@aol.com 257-5595 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ 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>Thursday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Covenant Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>We Love a Mystery</p> <p>The focus of this course is to read and critique contemporary mystery novels and short stories. Members take turns leading the discussions focusing on the author, the setting, character and plot development, and story conclusion. Books and stories are chosen at the end of each semester for the next semester. Full-length novels alternate weekly with short stories. The first novel is <i>The Heist</i> by Daniel Silva. The short stories are selected from the short story anthology "The Best American Mystery Stories 2017." Novels are available from the South Central Library System. Anthologies are usually purchased. Limited photo-copying is expected. [No class Nov. 22, Class ends Dec. 6]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Barbara Evans evansbj@charter.net 833-6822 ▪ Class size limit 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>Thursday</p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>Stage Presence: A Sampling of Madison Area Theatre Companies</p> <p>Area theatre companies will present information on who they are, what they do and why. Most will include performances from current or recent plays. They are: American Players Theater, Broom Street Theater, Capital City Theatre, Forward Theater Company, Four Seasons Theatre, Hamilton - The Revolution, Middleton Players Theater, Sun Prairie Civic Theatre and UW-Madison Theatre. Each class will include participation by members and a Q&A session with the guest companies. [No class Nov. 22]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Lewis Bosworth lewisabosworth@gmail.com 238-3648 & Tammy Albrecht, Sybil Better, Andy Bissonnette, and Debbie Bissonnette ▪ Class size limit 40. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Some reading/discussion expected.
FRIDAY CLASSES	
<p>Friday</p> <p>10 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p>Travel</p> <p>Ever dreamed of or reminisced about your travel adventures? If so, climb aboard our PLATO jumbo jet--first class seating for everyone--as we relax and enjoy our global arm chair journeys. Share your own travel experiences, new or old, join in discussions, or just enjoy meeting new travel friends and experiencing their exciting stories first hand. No reservations necessary. A-V equipment is available at Capitol Lakes as well as hook-ups for your own PC, and peer assistance. We'll be visiting places all around the world. See you there. Don't miss the flight! [9 sessions: No class on Nov. 23]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators: Leslie and Brent Larsen lmlarsen45@gmail.com 274-8002 ▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required. ▪ Minimal reading/discussion expected OR ▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.

<p>Friday</p> <p>10 – 12:00 noon</p> <p>Oakwood Village, Prairie Ridge</p>	<p>Origin of Life: Scientific Perspective</p> <p>One of the great questions pondered by theologians, philosophers and scientists is the origin of life. Darwin proposed that all life began with a single cell. How did that cell originate—spontaneous generation? Where was that cell originally formed - the ocean, thermal vents, outer space? During the twentieth century a number of scientists were able to create in their labs many of the chemicals found in cells. Other labs were able to create ‘proto-cells’ that showed remarkable cell-like properties. However, many intriguing questions remain about how life began on earth. Dr. Bill Eisinger and guest lecturers will explore and discuss these topics and more. [5 sessions: begins on Sept 28 and ends on Oct. 26]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Bill Eisinger weisinger@scu.edu 408 386-7632 ▪ No need to pre-enroll since there is no class size limit; just come to the first class session. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected. 												
<p>Friday</p> <p>10 – 12:00 noon</p> <p>Fitchburg Senior Center</p>	<p>Colonial and Postcolonial Novels</p> <p>This semester we will read three novels that deal with colonial and postcolonial themes:</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Title</u></th> <th><u>Author</u></th> <th><u>ISBN Number</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Things Fall Apart</i></td> <td>Chinua Achebe</td> <td>ISBN: 9780385474542</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Waiting for the Barbarians</i></td> <td>J.M. Coetzee</td> <td>ISBN: 9780143116929</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Midnight's Children</i></td> <td>Salman Rushdie</td> <td>ISBN: 9780812976533</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The first two novels this semester look at the impact of colonialism in Africa. The third novel explores India's transition from British colonialism to independence to partition. For the first class meeting please read and be prepared to discuss up to page 109 in <i>Things Fall Apart</i>. We will finish the book in the second class and then spend two weeks on <i>Waiting for the Barbarians</i>. [Class begins Oct. 5 and ends Dec. 14, Class will not meet Nov. 23]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: John and Jan Kinar jrkinar@charter.net 238-2826 ▪ Class size limit 14. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected. 	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>ISBN Number</u>	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>	Chinua Achebe	ISBN: 9780385474542	<i>Waiting for the Barbarians</i>	J.M. Coetzee	ISBN: 9780143116929	<i>Midnight's Children</i>	Salman Rushdie	ISBN: 9780812976533
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<i>Midnight's Children</i>	Salman Rushdie	ISBN: 9780812976533											
<p>Friday</p> <p>10 – 12:00 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>The Sacred Feminine: Women and the Sacred Feminine in Buddhism</p> <p>This class will explore what sacred texts and iconography reveal about women and the Sacred Feminine and how cultural attitudes shaped the role they played in early Buddhism. The class will focus on the pantheon of Buddhist goddesses, from the yakinis and Majadevi to the dakinis and protector goddesses, as well as the consorts of the Buddhas, and the Boddhisatvas such as Tara, Kuan Yin and Cunda. What role(s) have these goddesses played in the life of women? We'll also examine how the evolution of Buddhism continues to redefine women's roles in Buddhism. [Class begins Oct. 5, Class will not meet Nov. 23]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Patricia Herrling pjherrli@wisc.edu 576-8790 & Abbie Loomis aaloomis@wisc.edu ▪ Class size limit 25. ▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected. 												

<p>Friday</p> <p>10 – 11:30 am</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p>How “Fake” is the News?</p> <p>Through lecture and discussion, the course will consider each week topics such as the distinction between facts and truth, news and opinion, analysis and propaganda, traditional media and digital media. The bulk of our time, however, will be devoted to discussion of specific media content that students spot during the week and share with other students via e-mail prior to class. Students should bring to class laptops, i-pads, or cellphones in order to read e-mail messages and on-line media. [Class ends Nov. 16]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Jack Mitchell jwmitch1@wisc.edu 274-6903 ▪ Class size limit 20. ▪ 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>Friday</p> <p>1 – 3 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>How Does Religion Evolve? Part One</p> <p>How did modern religions, especially those in the USA, come to be what they are today? How do animism, magic, taboo, shamanism, priest-kings, human sacrifice, and/or mystery cults relate to this process? We search for evidence by watching DVDs of lectures/conversations by scholars in the fields of religion, mythology, anthropology, archaeology, and history. And we read excerpts from scholarly writings. Some of our experts: John Hale, James Frazer, Elizabeth Vandiver, Joseph Campbell, David Leeming, Richard E. Friedman, Barbara Walker, Bart Ehrman, Mircea Eliade, Marija Gimbutas. Join us for tolerant, stimulating discussion. All opinions, including those of debunkers, are welcome. [Begins on Sept. 21 and ends on Dec. 7, Class will not meet Nov. 23]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinator: Tom Schlicht (no e-mail) Mailing address: 2401 Mayflower Dr, Middleton, 53562 ▪ Class size limit 25. ▪ To enroll, please contact the coordinator by phone at 608-831-6593 sooner, rather than later. Note the early start date. ▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.

Fall 2018 Course Information

✦ COURSE LOCATIONS ✦	
Ashman Branch Public Library: 733 N. High Point Rd.	Monona Library: 1000 Nichols Rd.
Capitol Lakes: 333 W. Main St	Neighborhood House Community Center: 29 S. Mills St. (Free parking behind the building)
Chazen Museum of Art: 750 University Ave.	Northside Town Center – Goodwill: 2901 N. Sherman Ave.
Christ Presbyterian Church: 944 E. Gorham St.	Oak Park Place: 718 Jupiter Dr.
Covenant Presbyterian Church: 326 S. Segoe Rd.	Oakwood Village – Prairie Ridge: 5565 Tancho Dr.
Fitchburg Senior Center: 5510 E. Lacy Rd.	Oakwood Village – University Woods (West): 6201 Mineral Point Rd.
The Gardens Independent Living: 602 N. Segoe Rd.	State Bar of Wisconsin: 5302 Eastpark Blvd.
MMoCA (Madison Museum of Contemporary Art): 227 State St.	UW South Madison Partnership, Villager Mall: 2312 S. Park St.
Madison Christian Community: 7118 Old Sauk Rd	UW Space Place, Villager Mall: 2300 S. Park St.
Madison Senior Center: 330 W. Mifflin St.	



PLATO 2018 Fall Open House

Talk with Course Coordinators, committee representatives, & meet other PLATO members!

The afternoon includes light refreshments.

Thursday, Sept. 20th 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.

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