



# Spring 2019 Course Descriptions

- Courses **begin the week of February 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](http://www.platomadison.org)) for schedule changes or updates.

<b>MONDAY</b>	
<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Experiencing Great English Literature</b></p> <p>During each semester we discuss a novel, selected poetry, and a drama. This spring the novel will be Saul Bellow's <i>Henderson the Rain King</i>. Said to be Bellow's own favorite among his books, we will examine the forces that drive a man through life in this blend of philosophic discourse and comic adventure. Poetry will be taken from the <i>Seashell Anthology</i>, Christopher Burns, Ed. The drama will be Henrik Ibsen's <i>A Doll's House</i>, to be performed by APT in summer, 2019. This will be the first Ibsen production at APT in 20 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Phil Paulson <a href="mailto:philplsn@gmail.com">philplsn@gmail.com</a> 318-1567</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday &amp; Wednesday</b></p> <p>10 - 11:30 am</p> <p>Monona Library</p>	<p><b>Russian History: Using the Past to Understand the Present</b></p> <p>This course will help participants 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. <b>[Class meets TWICE per week for 8 weeks: Begins Feb. 25 – ends April 17]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Bruce Fischer <a href="mailto:fischer12@charter.net">fischer12@charter.net</a> 838-6116</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 25.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Oakwood Village- University Woods</p>	<p><b>Pathways to a Sustainable Planet</b></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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Richard Steeves <a href="mailto:coot42@gmail.com">coot42@gmail.com</a> 833-5586 &amp; Anthony Praza 203-5768</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>10:00 am – 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p><b>Refighting the Civil War</b></p> <p>We will continue exploring the major battles of the Civil War from <i>Smithsonian’s 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. <b>[No class on March 25.]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Daryl Sherman <a href="mailto:snippetswi@gmail.com">snippetswi@gmail.com</a> 238-5106</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center Craft Room</p>	<p><b>Exploring Creativity</b></p> <p>No experience required. We are an ongoing group of people who gather weekly to do art together. Each class offers a short overview on some aspect of art. Mostly we work from photos as I consider it important for people to work on images that inspire the individual. Our group is welcoming of new members as we all invest in the success of each other. We offer always gentle feedback as we all are growing art skills. Some group supplies available, a \$10 donation is requested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Diane Hughes <a href="mailto:rubyslipper1949@hotmail.com">rubyslipper1949@hotmail.com</a> 205-2667</li> <li>▪ There is no class size limit. However, new participants should contact the course coordinator in advance to talk about how the class operates.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Managing Your Money</b></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. <b>[Begins March 4 and ends May 6]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Bill Sterud <a href="mailto:madmaint@mail.com">madmaint@mail.com</a> 222-1620</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Fitchburg Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Novels Old and New</b></p> <p>For Spring 2019, we will read the following novels, in order: <i>Stones from the River</i> by Ursula Hegi; <i>The Winter of our Discontent</i> by John Steinbeck; <i>A constellation of Vital Phenomena</i> by Anthony Marra; <i>Medicine Walk</i> by Richard Wagamese; and <i>The Bridal Wreath</i> by Sigrid Undset (the Archer translation of Book 1 from Kristin Lavransdatter). Please read half of the first novel for the first meeting on Feb. 25. Join us for lively discussion and coffee, tea, and treats at break time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Eve Wilkie <a href="mailto:e.wilke@icloud.com">e.wilke@icloud.com</a> 347-0473 and Kate Dike 509-5204 <a href="mailto:kate.dike@wisc.edu">kate.dike@wisc.edu</a></li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>1:30 - 3:30 pm</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>Readers' Theater</b></p> <p>Each semester we read aloud and discuss four to five 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 may be some small shared cost for materials, although most of our scripts are already owned by PLATO. We will read <i>Ten Little Indians</i> by Agatha Christie; <i>Arms and the Man</i> by G B Shaw; <i>Odets' Waiting for Lefty</i>; <i>Under Milk Wood</i> by Dylan Thomas; and <i>The Birds</i> by Aristophanes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Andy Bissonnette <a href="mailto:bissonnetteandrew@yahoo.com">bissonnetteandrew@yahoo.com</a> 318-0800 &amp; Peggy Anderson <a href="mailto:powers38@gmail.com">powers38@gmail.com</a> 838-7255</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 15.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants who choose to present.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Women's Journeys Toward Self-Discovery: A Writing Workshop</b></p> <p>Writing journals and memoirs helps 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"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Grethe Brix-J Leer <a href="mailto:grethebrix42@gmail.com">grethebrix42@gmail.com</a> 236-0158</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 15.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>To check on enrollment status, please email the Course Coordinator. This is a popular course and often has a Waiting List.</b></li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>

<b>TUESDAY</b>	
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>10 a.m. to 12:00 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p><b>Alexander Technique: The Intelligent Use of Movement In Search of Self</b></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. <b>[8 weeks: Begins Feb. 26 – Ends April 16, No class on April 2]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Debby Thomas <a href="mailto:dbythom@gmail.com">dbythom@gmail.com</a> 241-5664</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 14.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular participation/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Wisconsin Bank &amp; Trust</p>	<p><b>Biographies – West</b></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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Mary Becker <a href="mailto:scrabblenutmj@gmail.com">scrabblenutmj@gmail.com</a> 395-9450, Chuck Pils <a href="mailto:cmpils@sbcglobal.net">cmpils@sbcglobal.net</a> 238-3089</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>The Gardens Retirement Community</p>	<p><b>Short Stories and Essays</b></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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Irv Klibaner <a href="mailto:irwinklibaner@gmail.com">irwinklibaner@gmail.com</a> 274-4089</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Celebrating the Poetic Voice in Your Life</b></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"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Daryl Sherman <a href="mailto:snippetswi@gmail.com">snippetswi@gmail.com</a> 238-5106</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 15.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinators about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected and high participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants who choose to present.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Wisconsin Bank &amp; Trust</p>	<p><b>Jazz</b></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 and enjoying this truly American music genre. Class members learn about upcoming jazz events and a group outing is organized, if there is enough class interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Toni Jakovec <a href="mailto:tjakovec@yahoo.com">tjakovec@yahoo.com</a> (650) 948-5831</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Ashman Public Library</p>	<p><b>Film History</b></p> <p>“The British are coming; the British are coming.” And the Irish, and the Asians, but not in anything but chronological order. Remember the ‘50s quiz show Twenty One? I do. Remember Claus Von Bulow. I do, sorta. Remember King George III of England. They’ll all be there. <b>[8 Sessions: Begins Feb. 26 and ends April 23, No class on April 2 (Election Day)]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Jim O’Brien <a href="mailto:jimrobr@gmail.com">jimrobr@gmail.com</a> 271-2808</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 25.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
<p><b>Monday &amp; Wednesday</b></p> <p>10 - 11:30 am</p> <p>Monona Library</p>	<p><b>Russian History: Using the past to understand the present</b></p> <p>Meets Monday and Wednesday each week—please see full description in Monday’s course listings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Bruce Fischer <a href="mailto:fischer12@charter.net">fischer12@charter.net</a> 838-6116</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 25.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes, Grand Hall</p>	<p><b>Global Affairs and the Media</b></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 by a 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. <b>[On March 20 and April 17, the class will meet in the HL Center Auditorium.]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Judith Wagener <a href="mailto:jrwwagener5@gmail.com">jrwwagener5@gmail.com</a> 815 761-4603</li> <li>▪ Co-Coordinators: Leon Lindberg <a href="mailto:lindbe@tds.net">lindbe@tds.net</a> 608 238-9000 Kirk Elliott <a href="mailto:kirk_elliott@hotmail.com">kirk_elliott@hotmail.com</a> 608 255-5646</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Continuing Philosophy</b></p> <p>The class will continue reading and discussing the book <i>The Moral Landscape</i> (First Free Press Trade PAPERBACK VERSION – published September, 2011) by Sam Harris, a neuroscientist. Mr. Harris contends we can develop an objective moral code based on our knowledge of the brain and its relationship to events in the world—that we can use the scientific method to determine answers to the question of how we <u>should</u> lead our lives—answers, he argues, that neither moral relativism nor religion can satisfactorily provide. If you wish to join the discussion of what is a controversial proposal, get a copy of the book, read the Introduction, and begin reading Chapter 3: Belief.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Jim Halloran <a href="mailto:jp.hallo@tds.net">jp.hallo@tds.net</a> 238-7201 &amp; Ed Cothroll <a href="mailto:cothroll@tds.net">cothroll@tds.net</a> 831-4493</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p><b>Reminiscence Writing – AM</b></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. <b>[Begins Feb. 20, ends April 24]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Paul Gohdes <a href="mailto:apds541@gmail.com">apds541@gmail.com</a> 285-5809</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 15.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status. Anyone not previously enrolled in this class must contact the coordinator before the first class session to check on enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Goodwill Northside Town Center</p>	<p><b>Biographies – East</b></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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Vicki Ford <a href="mailto:v.ford@charter.net">v.ford@charter.net</a> 850-9474</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>10 a.m. to 12:00 noon</p> <p>Covenant Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>Current Events – AM, West</b></p> <p>This class will discuss local, national, or international events. In the first class, we will choose the topics and decide on the format for presentation and discussion. All viewpoints are encouraged. <b>[8 Sessions: Begins Feb. 27—Ends April 17]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Therese Stevens <a href="mailto:thmstevens@gmail.com">thmstevens@gmail.com</a> 469-1740</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Covenant Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>Current Events – PM, West</b></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. <b>[Begins Feb. 27 – Ends: May 15, Will not meet on May 8]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Greg Bell <a href="mailto:tgregbell@tds.net">tgregbell@tds.net</a> 836-9547 &amp; Meg Taylor <a href="mailto:taylome@charter.net">taylome@charter.net</a> (206) 369-3578</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 20.</b></li> <li>▪ 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.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>UW South Park Partnership Classroom</p>	<p><b>Diversity Reads Book Club—Meets second Wednesday of the month</b></p> <p>“Easy reads with a tough message,” this is a book club of fiction titles with a social justice message. First two titles will be <i>The Hate U Give</i> by Angie Thomas and <i>All American Boys</i> by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. Participants will be asked to suggest additional titles for discussion and for a reading list to make available to all PLATO members at the end of the session. The intention of the book club is simply to offer another vehicle for educating ourselves—heightening our awareness—of situations facing people outside the dominant white community and promoting discussion of difficult issues through common reads. <b>[First class is Feb. 13. Then, once a month—March 13, April 10, and May 8]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Kathy Michaelis <a href="mailto:ksmichaelis@gmail.com">ksmichaelis@gmail.com</a> 576-4285</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 30.</b></li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected with option for presentation by participants.</li> <li>▪ Please contact the course coordinator to enroll.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>UW Space Place</p>	<p><b>Frontiers in Life Science</b></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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Paul Brandl <a href="mailto:pbrandl90@gmail.com">pbrandl90@gmail.com</a> 251-2662</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Neighborhood House Community Center</p>	<p><b>Writing Workshop</b></p> <p>“The scariest moment is always just before you start.” -Stephen King, <i>On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft</i>.</p> <p>Maybe you haven’t written the first word. Possibly you’re polishing that manuscript. Our writers group will provide you with the feedback, structure and support you need to push forward. All writers are welcome, regardless of your experience or the type of writing you wish to pursue. The class is facilitated by Andy Millman, whose work has appeared in “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"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Andy Millman <a href="mailto:andy@neighborhoodhousemadison.org">andy@neighborhoodhousemadison.org</a> 255-5337</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 14.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular writing/discussion expected.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Life Maps: The Search for Meaning in Modern Philosophy and the Arts</b></p> <p>This class is designed for people interested in modern literature, film, music, philosophy and the visual arts, who want to explore connections between these areas and their own life searches. Both parts of the dialogue are equally important. This spring, we'll continue a year-long exploration of what our films tell us about American society today. For the spring, we'll watch <i>Death of a Salesman</i>, <i>Deer Hunter</i>, <i>Places in the Heart</i>, <i>Matewan</i> and <i>O Brother, Where Art Thou?</i> Class members are encouraged to work from their personal experiences as they seem relevant. Members will be asked to come one hour earlier on March 13<sup>th</sup> for <i>Deer Hunter</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Norman Leer <a href="mailto:normanleer@att.net">normanleer@att.net</a> 236-0158</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 20.</b></li> <li>▪ NEW CLASS MEMBERS – contact the Course Coordinator <b>BY EMAIL</b> before the first class about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Reminiscence Writing – PM</b></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 we want to capture with our pencils. We choose our topics from our childhood, our family life, and our careers to express who we are. No experience required!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Judy Havens <a href="mailto:judyandpeteh@charter.net">judyandpeteh@charter.net</a> 443-0777</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>2-3:00 pm</p> <p>Chazen Museum of Art</p>	<p><b>Chazen Museum of Art REMIXED</b></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! <b>Priority enrollment will be given to students who have not previously enrolled in this course. [8 Sessions: Ends April 17]</b></p> <p>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!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Candie Waterloo <a href="mailto:cwaterloo@chazen.wisc.edu">cwaterloo@chazen.wisc.edu</a> 263-4421</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit: 15.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the course coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>2-3:30 pm</p> <p>Chazen Museum Art Studio Classroom</p>	<p><b>Do-it-yourself Fabric</b></p> <p>Explore your passion for fashion in this class as you create one-of-a-kind fabric creations from wearables to more! We'll transform boring white fabric into designer cloth through the art of shibori and silk painting...just to name a few. Scarves, wreaths, and more await you! <u>Most materials provided, but in some instances, students may need to provide supplemental materials.</u> <b>[8 Sessions: Begins March 6 – Ends April 24]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Candie Waterloo <a href="mailto:cwaterloo@chazen.wisc.edu">cwaterloo@chazen.wisc.edu</a> 263-4421 &amp; Helen Burish <a href="mailto:htburish@wisc.edu">htburish@wisc.edu</a></li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 12.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>



## THURSDAY

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>International Film Festival</b>
<p>9:30 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes, Grand Hall</p>	<p>Films from around the world include a Bergman classic comedy, a Bert Reynolds tribute film and a Holocaust remembrance. Subtitles when available. Introductions and short discussions led by Jim O'Brien and Bob Fry. Mid-film break and treats. Free parking on top floor of Hyatt ramp across from 333 W. Main – entrance to Capitol Lakes Grand Hall. No pre-registration. 9:30 sharp start time. Come a bit early.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Jim O'Brien <a href="mailto:jimrobr@gmail.com">jimrobr@gmail.com</a> 271-2808 &amp; Bob Fry <a href="mailto:bobfry40@hotmail.com">bobfry40@hotmail.com</a> 233-0622</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>What in the World Happened?</b>
<p>9:30 am - 11:30 am</p> <p>Verona Public Library</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 to be presented are: The Lincoln Election, Lawrence of Arabia, Espionage Through the Ages, and the Golden Age of Broadway. We have an hour or so presentation, a social break for coffee and treats, followed by a Q and A session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Bruce Gregg <a href="mailto:mbgregg@tds.net">mbgregg@tds.net</a> 231-1109</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Physics and Society: In the Beginning...</b>
<p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p>We will review the current status of Big Bang Cosmology. The evidence for the amazing picture which describes our knowledge of the early universe. We will discuss the deficiencies of this picture and the possible ways out. Of course, the puzzles of mark matter and dark energy and inflation are the biggest obstacles to our understanding a more complete picture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Don Reeder <a href="mailto:reeder@hep.wisc.edu">reeder@hep.wisc.edu</a> 238-3903</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Some reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>The Power of the Short Film in American Culture</b>
<p>10 am – 12 noon</p> <p>Oakwood Village University Woods</p>	<p>We will watch several short films per session—comedies, dramas, horror, musicals, and animation from the U.S. and international cinema—running from two to 30 minutes in length. Most of the offerings are recent, little-seen Oscar winning or nominated shorts, some are from filmmakers you know, most from creative folks you don't know. Each is a "film festival winning" offering that has something to say about the human condition. A discussion will follow each film. We will talk about the structure of the short film, <i>mise-en-scène</i> (aesthetics), and the narrative(s) at play. <b>[9 Sessions; No Class March 21]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Bob Pondillo <a href="mailto:pondillo@gmail.com">pondillo@gmail.com</a> 615-299-6126</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Minimal or no reading expected</li> </ul>

<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Science of Happiness: Positive Psychology</b></p> <p>This spring we will read Barbara Fredrickson’s book, <i>Love 2.0: Finding Happiness and Health in Moments of Connection</i>. “Fredrickson redefines love not as a stable behemoth, but as micro-moments of connection between people—even strangers. She demonstrates that our capacity for experiencing love can be measured and strengthened in ways that improve our health and longevity. Finally, she introduces us to informal and formal practices to unlock love in our lives, generate compassion, and even self-soothe.” (Amazon review). We will read and discuss the book chapter by chapter. We will learn to practice loving kindness meditation and explore applying these ideas to our lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Jan Fulwiler <a href="mailto:jfulwiler@att.net">jfulwiler@att.net</a> 831-4073 &amp; Kathi Vos <a href="mailto:kathiv@tds.net">kathiv@tds.net</a> 234-8821</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 25.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact Kathi Vos about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12 noon</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>Mindfulness Meditation: Foundations for Practice</b></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. <b>[6 Sessions: Begins on March 14 and ends April 18]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Craig Wille <a href="mailto:wille.craig@gmail.com">wille.craig@gmail.com</a> 608 692-3163</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 20.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact Craig Wille about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> <li>▪ <b>Regular period of meditation at home, starting at 20 minutes a day.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>Pathways Toward Peace: Active Nonviolence, the UN, Diplomacy, and Human Rights</b></p> <p>The human dream of peace with justice is as ancient as the harsh reality of war. But what has actually been successful in preventing or stopping warfare between nations, tribes, and political groups? We will critically examine the philosophy and practice of active nonviolence, the UN, diplomacy, and human rights. Specific case studies will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Gandhi in the Indian independence movement;</li> <li>2) M.L. King in the Civil Rights movement;</li> <li>3) The 1989 liberation of Poland, Czechoslovakia, and E. Germany through nonviolent people power;</li> <li>4) The role of the UN and its agencies during the Cold War.</li> </ol> <p>We will read short studies, some of which are my publications, and discuss them Socratically. <b>[8 Sessions; Class ends April 18, 2019]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Dr. Vincent Kavaloski <a href="mailto:vincekavaloski@gmail.com">vincekavaloski@gmail.com</a> 709-1170</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit is 12.</b> Please contact the course coordinator about enrollment.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Museums and studios in Madison</p> <p>(1<sup>st</sup> meeting location: MMoCA Conference Room)</p>	<p><b>Art Museums</b></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. 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> <p><b>[8 Sessions: ends April 18]</b></p> <p><b>Please note:</b> 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"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Martha Moye <a href="mailto:mmmmoye@gmail.com">mmmmoye@gmail.com</a></li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 30; register early.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator <b>by email</b> about enrollment status (even if you have contacted her earlier about this semester).</li> <li>▪ Minimal or no reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>The Play's the Thing – Downtown</b></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>Hamlet</i> by Shakespeare, and another play.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Tess Mulrooney <a href="mailto:tlmmdsn@aol.com">tlmmdsn@aol.com</a> 257-5595</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 20.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p>1:30-3:30 pm</p> <p>Covenant Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>We Love a Mystery</b></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 Last Mile</i> by David Baldacci, will begin on Feb. 28. The short stories are selected from the short story anthology <i>The Best American Mystery Stories 2017</i>. Novels are available from the South Central Library System. Anthologies are usually purchased. Limited photo-copying is expected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Barbara Evans <a href="mailto:evansbj@charter.net">evansbj@charter.net</a> 833-6822</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 18.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>

<b>FRIDAY</b>	
<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Fitchburg Senior Center</p>	<p><b>Exploring Japanese Authors</b></p> <p>This semester we will focus on Japanese literature with one book of non-fiction followed by three novels: <i>The Book of Tea</i> by Okakura Kakuzo (ISBN: 9780983610601); <i>Thousand Cranes</i> by Yasunari Kawabata (ISBN: 9780679762652); <i>Norwegian Wood</i> by Haruki Murakami (ISBN: 9780375704024); and <i>the Woman in the Dunes</i> by Kobo Abe (ISBN: 9780679733782). The first book is non-fiction and explores the aesthetic of the Tea Ceremony in Japan. Please read this book before the first class. The remaining three books are novels by well-known and celebrated Japanese authors, which will be both challenging and rewarding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: John and Jan Kinar <a href="mailto:jrkinar@charter.net">jrkinar@charter.net</a> 238-2826</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 14.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinators <b>BY EMAIL</b> about enrollment status.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p>10 am – 11:30 am</p> <p>Christ Presbyterian Church</p>	<p><b>How “Fake” is the News?</b></p> <p>Through lecture and discussion, the course will consider questions such as “Who creates the news?” and “What hath Zuckerman wrought?” and “Is a picture worth a thousand words?” We will discuss the difference between “facts” and “truth,” and ask if truth matters any more. Class members will monitor specific media and discuss their findings. Participants should bring laptops, i-pads, or cellphones to look at media examples during class. <b>[8 Weeks: Begins March 1 and Ends April 26, No Class April 19]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Jack Mitchell <a href="mailto:jwmitch1@wisc.edu">jwmitch1@wisc.edu</a> 274-6903</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 20.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator BY EMAIL about enrollment status. Some popular courses may have a waiting list.</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p>10 am - 12:00 noon</p> <p>Capitol Lakes</p>	<p><b>Travel</b></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!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators: Leslie and Brent Larsen <a href="mailto:lmarsen45@gmail.com">lmarsen45@gmail.com</a> 274-8002</li> <li>▪ No class size limit; no pre-enrollment required.</li> <li>▪ Minimal reading/discussion expected OR</li> <li>▪ High participation with assignments and/or presentations by participants.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p>1-3:00 pm</p> <p>Madison Senior Center</p>	<p><b>How Does Religion Evolve? Part Two</b></p> <p>We continue studying the evolution of religion, especially our own traditions, by looking at heroes. We wonder if the stories of Moses, Jesus, or Mary reflect those of earlier heroic figures from Indo-European, Semitic, or other cultures. We examine the links between three hero types: human (Moses, Zoroaster, Odysseus), semi-divine (Aeneas, Gilgamesh, Mwindo), and divine (Horus, Krishna, Jesus). We watch DVD lectures by professors and read excerpts from scholarly writing. Some of our experts are: Joseph Campbell, Elizabeth Vandiver, John Hale, Barbara Walker, David Leeming, Grant Yoth, and Kathryn McClymond. Join us for a tolerant, stimulating discussion. All opinions are welcome. <b>[Note early start date: Begins Feb. 22]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinator: Tom Schlicht 831-6593</li> <li>▪ <b>Class size limit 25.</b></li> <li>▪ Since this course has a class size limit, please contact the Course Coordinator <b>by phone</b> to enroll at 608-831-6593.</li> <li>▪ Regular reading/discussion expected.</li> </ul>
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## Spring 2019 Course Information

★ COURSE LOCATIONS ★	
<b>Ashman Branch Public Library:</b> 733 N. High Point Rd.	<b>Monona Library:</b> 1000 Nichols Road
<b>Capitol Lakes:</b> 333 W. Main St.	<b>Neighborhood House Community Center:</b> 29 S. Mills St. (Free parking behind the building)
<b>Chazen Museum of Art:</b> 800 University Ave.	<b>Northside Town Center – Goodwill:</b> 1865 Northport Dr.
<b>Christ Presbyterian Church:</b> 944 E. Gorham St.	<b>Oakwood Village –University Woods (West):</b> 6201 Mineral Point Rd.
<b>Covenant Presbyterian Church:</b> 326 S. Segoe Rd.	<b>UW South Madison Partnership, Villager Mall:</b> 2312 S. Park St.
<b>Fitchburg Senior Center:</b> 5510 E. Lacy Rd.	<b>UW Space Place, Villager Mall:</b> 2300 S. Park St.
<b>The Gardens Retirement Community:</b> 602 N. Segoe Rd.	<b>Verona Public Library:</b> 500 Silent St, Verona
<b>MMoCA (Madison Museum of Contemporary Art):</b> 227 State St.	<b>Wisconsin Bank &amp; Trust:</b> 8240 Mineral Point Rd.
<b>Madison Senior Center:</b> 330 W. Mifflin St.	



## PLATO 2019 Spring Open House

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

The afternoon includes light refreshments and board members available to answer any questions you have about PLATO.

**Wednesday, February 20<sup>st</sup> from 1:30 – 3:00 pm**

**Madison Senior Center 330 W. Mifflin St.**




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*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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