



**THE FROMM INSTITUTE
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING**
at the University of San Francisco

**FALL 2025
COURSE CATALOG**




SEPTEMBER 8 - OCTOBER 30, 2025

2 FALL 2025 COURSE SELECTIONS




Full titles, descriptions and faculty biographies appear on pages 8 through 33. Instructions on “how to enroll” and the Academic Calendar are on page 5. Classes run eight weeks from September 8 until October 30.

 In Person Only  Hybrid  Online Only  Recorded





MONDAY MORNINGS • 10:00AM - 11:40AM

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Prof. David Peritz | The Nature & Fragility of Democratic Constitutionalism |
|  Prof. Jan Wahl | From Design to Dialogue to Dance |
|  Prof. Thomas Lewis | Forever Young |




MONDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00PM - 2:40PM

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Prof. Aarón Almendares-Berman | SEMINAR: Spoken Spanish Level 3 |
|  Prof. John Rothmann | Around the Political World with John Rothmann |
|  Prof. Sonny Buxton | Giants of Jazz-The Innovators: Some History |

TUESDAY MORNINGS • 10:00AM - 11:40AM

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Prof. Charlie Varon | SEMINAR: We Are All Storytellers |
|  Prof. Ernest Newbrun | The Bible in Art - Part II The Stories of Joseph and Moses |
|  Prof. Kip Cranna | Wagner Without Fear: Adventures with the Great Genius of German Opera |
|  Prof. Rachel Crawford | Jane Austen - Now and Then |

TUESDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00PM - 2:40PM

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Prof. Chris O’Sullivan | New Perspectives on the American Political Tradition |
|  Prof. Mick LaSalle | The Beauty of the Real: Women in Contemporary French Cinema |
|  Prof. Nate Hinerman Quinn | Rethinking Human Flourishing |

FALL 2025 COURSE SELECTIONS

3

Full titles, descriptions and faculty biographies appear on pages 8 through 33. Instructions on “how to enroll” and the Academic Calendar are on page 5. Classes run eight weeks from September 8 until October 30.



In Person Only



Hybrid



Online Only



Recorded

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS • 10:00AM - 11:40AM



Various Lecturers

Changing the World from Here: USF Faculty Lectures

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS • 11:45AM - 12:50PM (COMPLIMENTARY)



Prof. Lisa Wagner

SEMINAR: Generation to Generation: Community Engagement

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00PM - 2:40PM



Prof. Larry Eilenberg

Film and Biography - The Biopic



Prof. Peter Hess

The Sacred Fire Project - Indigenous Cultural Burning Compared with Ecological Prescribed Burning

THURSDAY MORNINGS • 10:00AM - 11:40AM



Prof. Dale Biron

Poetry as Portal - Rewilding the Human Mind



Prof. Howard De Nike

Monumentalism Across History - An Anthropological Perspective



Prof. Richie Unterberger

Twentieth Century Rox: Rock & Soul Music on Film - The First Thirty Years

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00PM - 2:40PM



Prof. Jonathan Bailey

LECTURE/WORKSHOP - Words and Music



Prof. Laura Sydell

How We Got Here - A History of Silicon Valley



Prof. Maria Ontiveros

Trump's Workplace Reforms - Can He Really Do That?

MEMBERSHIP FEES

THE FROMM INSTITUTE OFFERS FIVE ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

1. **Course Membership - \$150 Per Course (8 Class Sessions)**
 - About **\$19 per class session** - cheaper than a fitness class or art workshop!!
2. **Sessions Membership Bundle - \$500**
 - Enroll in a **maximum of 8 courses** in a single session
 - As low as **\$8 per class session** (enrolled in 8 courses)
3. **Pay Annually - \$1,200 (Up to 8 Courses Per Session)**
4. **Scholarship Membership - Sliding Scale Based on Need**
 - Enroll in a **maximum of 4 courses**
 - A **partial payment** is required
 - To enroll, call the Fromm Institute at **(415) 422-6805**
5. **Pay in Full - \$400 Per Course (Pay the Full, Unsubsidized Cost of Classes)**

IMPORTANT NOTES

- **No additional fees** - membership fees are all inclusive
- Membership fees are **not tuition** and **cannot** be prorated or applied to future sessions
- **Refund Policy:** Withdraw by the **end of Week 2** for a refund, **minus a \$25 Processing Fee**

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- **Credit Card:** online at www.fromminstitute.org or by phone at 415-422-6805
- **Check:** Payable to "The Friends of the Fromm Institute," mailed to The Fromm Institute at USF, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117-1080. Please include your course selections.

COURSE MODALITIES



THE FROMM INSTITUTE OFFERS FIVE COURSE MODALITIES

Live Classes

1. **In Person (IP)** - Faculty and students meet live in Fromm Hall.
2. **Hybrid (H)** - Faculty and students meet live in Fromm Hall and broadcasted online.
3. **Online (OL)** - Students attend live online; faculty teach live online or in Fromm Hall.

Recorded Classes

1. **Recordings** - Access recordings from the current session (included with enrollment in live recorded classes).
2. **Frommcast** - Access recordings from previous sessions (\$10/Month or \$100/Year).

FALL 2025 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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FALL 2025 CALENDAR

Open House/Orientation	Wednesday, September 3, 2025
Classes Begin	Monday, September 8, 2025
Classes End	Thursday, October 30, 2025
Make-Up Week	November 3, 2025 - November 6, 2025
Holidays	Thursday, October 2 (Yom Kippur) Monday, October 13 (Indigenous Peoples' Day)

HOW TO ENROLL



1. Visit: www.fromminstitute.org.
2. Click the “**FALL SESSION 2025 Enroll**” button.
3. Fill out the enrollment form with your contact information, class selections, and preferred plan (in-person or online).
4. After completing the form, you'll be asked to submit payment. You'll also have the option to add a donation before checking out.
5. Once enrolled, you'll receive an email confirmation. Zoom reminders will be sent 30 minutes before each online class.

Need help? Contact the Fromm Institute office at 415.422.6805.

Scholarships: To apply, please call the office to enroll.

DISCOVER, ENGAGE & CONNECT

Lifelong learning is more than simply knowledge — it's about connection, purpose, and vitality. The Fromm Institute transforms lives, combats isolation, and promotes longevity. We provide adults 50 and older with dynamic educational courses in a welcoming community on the intergenerational University of San Francisco campus, fostering intellectual engagement, social connection, and a renewed sense of purpose.

More than just a place to learn, the Fromm Institute is an investment in healthy aging. Research shows that staying mentally and socially active reduces the risk of cognitive decline, strengthens memory, and minimizes physical disease and deterioration. By engaging the mind and building meaningful relationships, we help delay the onset of age-related challenges — empowering and encouraging our students to lead richer, healthier, and more fulfilling lives.

For students, the Fromm Institute is a gateway to continued growth, inspiration, and connection. For donors, it is an opportunity to support a proven model for lifelong learning that enhances mental and physical well-being, fosters community, and extends the health span of older adults. The Fromm Institute is a catalyst for a longer, healthier, and more vibrant life. Join us in shaping a future where curiosity knows no age, and membership is a path to vitality.



THE FALL 2025 OPEN HOUSE & NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

10:00am - Noon (Open House)

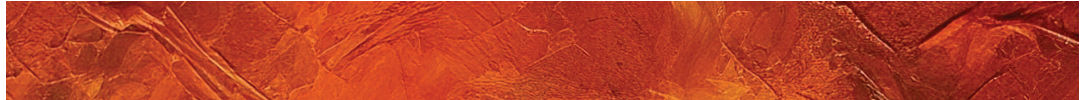
11:30am - Noon (New Member)

Please join us at the Fromm Institute Fall Open House & New Student Orientation on Wednesday, September 3, from 10am to 12pm, in Fromm Hall on the University of San Francisco campus. This event is an excellent opportunity for you to meet with our Fall Session faculty and learn about the diverse range of courses offered. Whether you are interested in fine arts, current events, political science or history, our faculty members are passionate about sharing

their knowledge and expertise with you. You can also learn about the Fromm Institute Student Association (FISA) and other resources available to you as a Fromm Institute student.

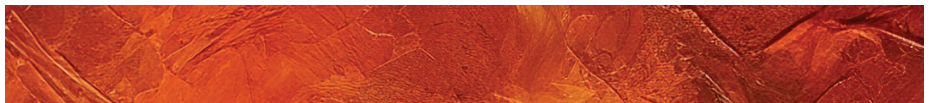
The Fall Open House & New Student Orientation is a great opportunity for us to reconvene in person with other Fromm Institute students. You can share your experiences, learn from each other, and make new friends. Refreshments will be served, and we'll have plenty of time for socializing. Registration is required. Secure your spot today at this informative and engaging event. We look forward to seeing you there!

PARKING



Parking on the USF campus is very limited. If you are taking an in-person class, you may request a parking permit. You can pay for parking directly through the enrollment form.

CONTACT US



The Fromm Institute office is open Monday through Thursday from 8am to 5pm.

You can reach us at:

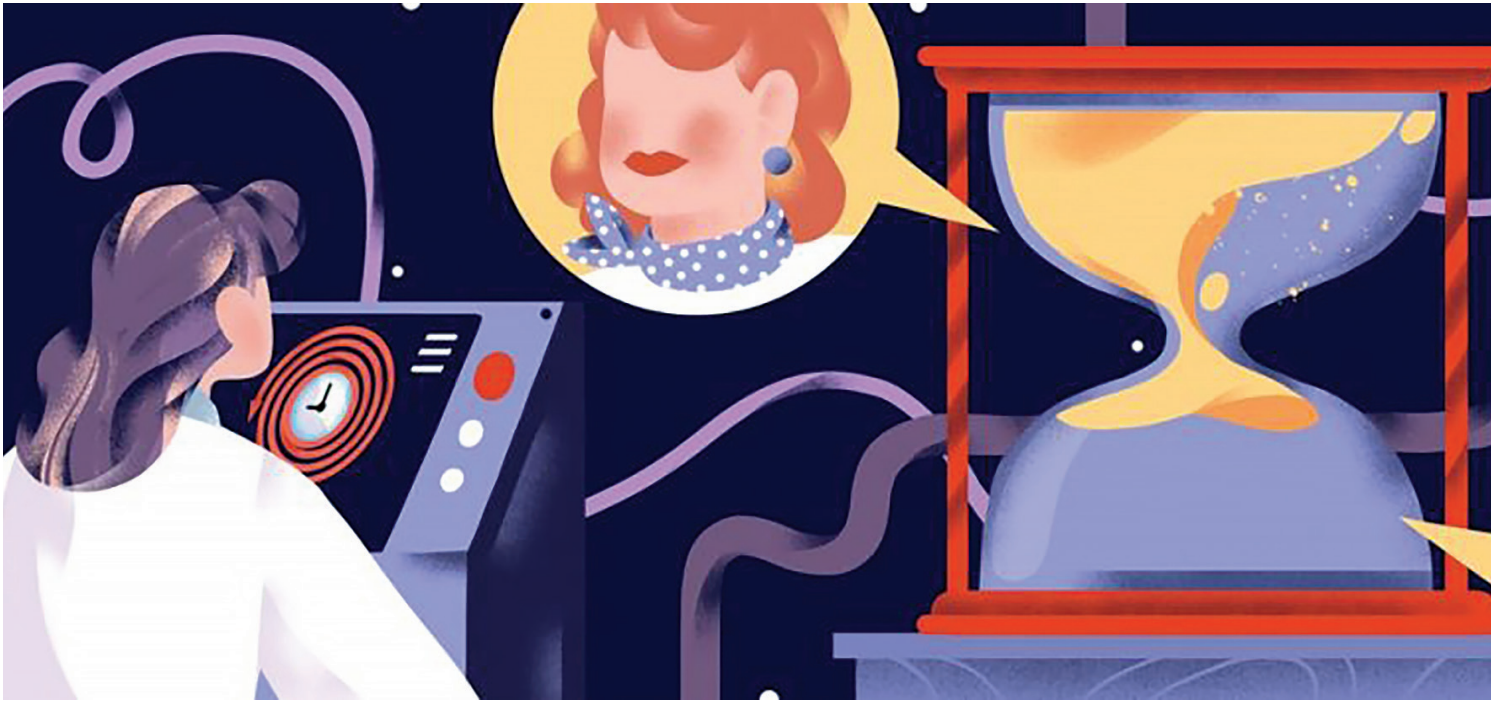
Phone: 415.422.6805

Email: info@FrommInstitute.org

Web: FrommInstitute.org

Mailing Address: 2130 Fulton St., SF, CA 94117-1080

8 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOS



Monday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

FOREVER YOUNG

PROF. THOMAS LEWIS

In Person Only / Not Recorded

In our midst, a scientific revolution is taking place of which few are aware: medical science has now seized control of the very mechanisms of life itself. Throughout human history, aging was an inevitable part of every person's life. Now, longevity scientists tell us that aging is a physiologic process they can modulate. Science today has the power to slow aging and may soon attain the power to stop - and even to reverse - the aging process. This is not science fiction - it's science now.

All of this is the subject of a documentary film I've been involved in that will likely be released some time this year. This class will use the film as a launching point as we explore humanity's age-old quest for the fountain of youth - from the epic of Gilgamesh to the mysteries of metformin and rapamycin, from Dorian Gray and the vampire all the way to the Silicon Valley billionaires who think they will be humanity's first immortals. In examining the foundations and future of our mortality, we find ourselves confronting fundamental questions about human nature - including questions about where meaning resides in any life, no matter the length.

PROF. THOMAS LEWIS

Education: M.D., University of California, San Francisco

Expertise: Neuroscience, Human Emotions

Previous Roles: Physician, Psychiatrist, Psychopharmacologist, Speaker, Writer, Author

Author of *A General Theory of Love*. He focuses on the intersection between neuroscience and the human experience, across a range of domains — love and empathy, creativity, language, story, and the performing arts. He is one of the producers of the feature-length documentary *Forever Young*, in which he also appears.

Monday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

THE NATURE & FRAGILITY OF DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONALISM

PROF. DAVID PERITZ

Online / Recorded

The United States Supreme Court far more often sides with the forces that use Constitutional arguments to rationalize injustice than those that seek to leverage the values articulated in America's founding charter to secure progress in the pursuit of justice. Among other things, this means that too often the Court has been anti-democratic, both in its invalidation of laws passed through the more democratically accountable branches of American government, and also in its defense of racial tyranny and sex- or gender-based exclusions, and its hostility to the use of law by ordinary folk to limit the power of those with highly concentrated wealth and power. Yet in 2025, as Americans reckon with a President who has publicly avowed that he is not sure whether he's bound by the Constitution and pursued an aggressive and expansive agenda of executive actions that appear illegal or unconstitutional on their face, we seek recourse in the idea that an independent judiciary is the cornerstone of the rule of law and a law-based state. In this class we will explore Americas' ambivalent

relationship with its high Court and Constitution from the perspective of our long-standing commitments to democracy, justice, equality and the rule of law. We will examine issues at the intersection of philosophy, political science, history and constitutional law by focusing on the reasons why modern representative democracy tends to be structured by constitutions that limit the power of the majority. Is constitutional democracy a contradiction in terms, a ploy used by the powerful to secure popular consent to camouflaged elite rule? Or is there a case to be made that a carefully crafted constitution does not constrain but instead enables the democratic pursuit of justice? And, if we conclude that democratic constitutionalism is a coherent idea, is assigning the role of interpreting and preserving the constitution exclusively to a supreme constitutional court the best way to institutionalize these tasks? To examine these issues, we will focus on the 18th century debate surrounding the adoption of the American constitution and the institutionalization of judicial review, on the one hand, and contemporary debates about whether we remain convinced nearly 250 years later that these issues were correctly decided. Special attention will be paid to the role the Court has played in American history in promoting or thwarting civil rights and the political equality of racial minorities, women and the less powerful.



PROF. DAVID PERITZ

Education: B.A., Occidental College; Ph. D, Oxford University

Expertise: Political Philosophy, Democratic Theory, Diversity & Equality

Other Roles: Professor, Sarah Lawrence College

David Peritz is the recipient of a Marshall Scholarship and has taught at Harvard, Deep Springs, Dartmouth, UC Berkeley, and Cornell. His research focuses on modern and contemporary political philosophy, especially theories of democracy and justice and their relation to issues of diversity and inequality. He has taught at Fromm since 2016 and in lifelong learning for 25 years. He directs the Minerva Academy of Lifelong Learning and recently received support from the Mellon Foundation for his work in this field.



Monday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

FROM DESIGN TO DIALOGUE TO DANCE

PROF. JAN WAHL

In Person & Online / Recorded

This course will deep-dive into three areas of film. We'll study the details of production and

fashion design by examining sets, costumes, and props in Period and Modern films. Moments of great dialogue will be examined, both the script and the actors delivering the words. Dance will be explored in all its invention and artistry.



PROF. JAN WAHL

Education: B.A. in Broadcast Communications & Arts, San Francisco State University

Expertise: Hollywood, Show Business, Movies

Previous Roles: Film Critic, Interviewer, Documentary Producer, Emmy Winner, Newswriter

Recognized as a woman of many hats, film critic Jan Wahl critiques movie releases, reviews videos, conducts celebrity interviews, and offers interesting background on show business. When she's not working in TV or radio, she emcees community events, lectures throughout the Bay Area and on international cruises, including a course she originated for corporations and schools, "Critical Thinking of the Mass Media." Before coming here, she

worked for ABC in LA, as a documentary producer, and later as a stage manager and director. In 1977, Wahl won an Emmy for "They Still Say I Do," a humorous documentary on the palimony case of Lee and Michelle Triola Marvin. That year she became a member of the Directors Guild of America. In 1999, she won a second Emmy for "A Filmgoer's Bill of Rights." A movie enthusiast since her youth, she entered the journalism field as a newswriter for KGO TV, where she also produced two documentaries while attending SF State. She graduated with a degree in Broadcast Communications and Arts.

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Contact Donna Touros

916-284-4438

dtouros@4lpi.com



About The Fromm Institute

Since 1976, the Fromm Institute has encouraged persons, age 50 and older, from all walks of life, to engage their minds in academic pursuits while enriching their social lives with a community of fellow lifelong learners. We invite you to join us as you discover what our lifelong learning program is all about.



Monday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

SEMINAR: SPOKEN SPANISH LEVEL 3

PROF. AARÓN ALMENDARES-BERMAN

In Person Only / Not Recorded

This course will review the spoken language skills learned in both Level 1 and Level 2 courses and progress to new and more challenging skills such as those needed for language related to international travel in Spanish speaking countries and for assisting Spanish speakers in the United States who need assistance. In all classes there will be classical and popular music from Latin America and Spain both to enjoy and support



language learning.

Enrollment Note: This class is limited to 25 students on a first come, first served basis - to maintain a smaller class size, an additional \$100 fee applies - students can expect more involvement and attention. The first meeting (September 8) is required, as is regular attendance. Please do not apply unless you can make this commitment. This class will not be recorded.



PROF. AARÓN ALMENDARES-BERMAN

Education: B.A. in Education, University of Miami; M.A. in English Language and Linguistics, University of Michigan; Educational Doctorate in Language and Linguistics, New York University

Expertise: Spanish, English Language, Linguistics

Previous Roles: Professor Emeritus, Sonoma State University; Founder, Sonoma State American Language Institute, Editor, Publisher

Aarón Almendares-Berman taught Spanish, English as a Second Language and Language Teaching Methodology for 24 years. He was the acquisitions editor of Alta Book Center Publishers for 35 years. Alta Book Center was a publisher of books and other materials for teaching and learning languages. He was a Fulbright Professor in Colombia and Mexico and later resided in Mexico for several years where he was executive director of MEXTESOL, the Mexican Association of Teachers of English. He is interested in developing intercultural understanding through language learning.

Support The Fromm Institute

Your generosity fuels our mission of lifelong learning. As a nonprofit, we rely on supporters like you to keep our community thriving. Make a gift today and be part of something extraordinary!

www.fromminstitute.org/giving



Monday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

GIANTS OF JAZZ - THE INNOVATORS: SOME HISTORY

PROF. SONNY BUXTON

Online Only / Recorded

LOUIS ARMSTRONG, the first African American superstar, emerged from a very humble beginning in New Orleans, to one of the most influential persons of the twentieth century.

Best known as a trumpeter, Armstrong was one of the most imitated singers. He also appeared in numerous motion pictures, and

was one the early television stars.

ELLA FITZGERALD - KNOWN AS: THE FIRST LADY OF SONG - Ella Fitzgerald was known and revered, world wide.

DUKE ELLINGTON- Edward Kennedy Ellington - fifty years, a band leader; he also wrote for ballet, film, Broadway, and was regarded as one of the true innovators of the piano.

QUINCY JONES-QUINCY DELIGHT JONES was another artist, from a humble beginning, Chicago and Seattle. Jones eventually earned the title of one of the most versatile. He was an E.G.O.T. Award winner - Emmy, Grammy(28), Oscar and Tony.



PROF. SONNY BUXTON

Expertise: Jazz Music

Previous Roles: Musician, Music Producer, Restaurateur, Newsman, Football Player

Prof. Buxton's lifelong passion has been music and documentary filmmaking. He has worked as a professional musician, with the likes of Peggy Lee, Billy Eckstine, and Bill Strayhorn. He has produced shows ranging in scope from the Motown Allstars to B. B. King, Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, and Miles Davis. He traveled with Ellington producing an award winning audio documentary. A longtime jazz club/restaurateur in Seattle and SF, he has also had a long career in broadcasting working for KGO as a newsman, a talk show host, and an executive producer. He is a Northern California Emmy Awardee. He hosts

"Saturday MidDay Jazz" on KCSM. Working as a social psychologist/football player have been parts of his life now being put into Memoirs of a Jazz Junkie: My First Two Hundred Years.

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Monday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

AROUND THE POLITICAL WORLD WITH JOHN ROTHMANN

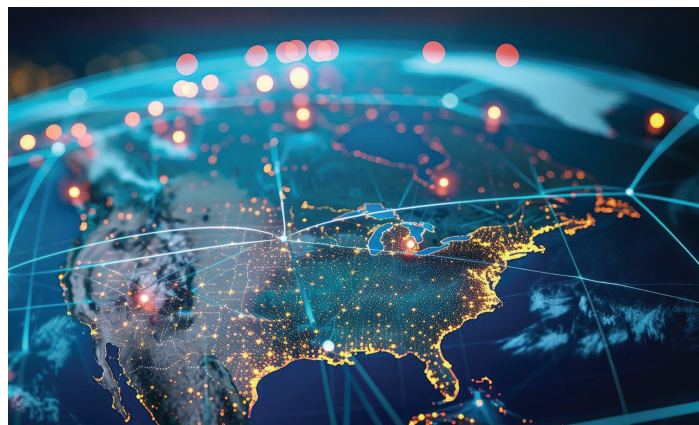
PROF. JOHN ROTHMANN

In Person & Online / Recorded

Offered Through the Generosity of The Howard Nemerovski Chair in Government, Society & Public Policy

Join veteran political commentator **John Rothmann** for an incisive and engaging weekly seminar that unpacks the most pressing political developments across the globe. With his signature historical insight and up-to-the-minute analysis, Rothmann guides participants through the complex and ever-evolving landscape of domestic and international affairs. Each session will explore headline-making issues including, but not limited to:

- The ongoing legal and political developments surrounding **Donald Trump** and their impact on American democracy
- The **rebuilding of the Democratic Party** in the aftermath of recent elections and its evolving strategy heading into 2026
- A **historical perspective on Congressional Republicans**, exploring



ideological shifts, key players, and their influence on national policy

- The latest on critical global flashpoints such as **Ukraine**, the **Gaza conflict**, and the evolving role of **NATO** in a multipolar world
- Special attention to **elections, diplomacy, judicial developments**, and political movements that shape our future

Interactive and dynamic, this course invites participants to ask questions, share perspectives, and deepen their understanding of the forces shaping the world today. Whether you're a seasoned political observer or just trying to make sense of the daily headlines, this seminar will equip you with the context and commentary needed to stay informed and engaged.



PROF. JOHN ROTHMANN

Education: B.A. and Master's in Arts in Teaching, Whittier College

Expertise: American Politics, Middle East, Foreign Policy, Political History

Previous Roles: Director of Nixon Collection at Whittier College, Chief of Staff to Sen. Milton Marks, Field Representative to Sen. Quentin Kopp, Faculty at USF

Professor Rothmann is a politics and foreign policy consultant who has spoken at over 150 campuses. He is the coauthor of Icon of Evil — Hitler's Mufti and the Rise of Radical Islam and Harold E. Stassen: The Life and Perennial Candidacy of the Progressive Republican. His article, "An Incomparable Pope — John XXIII and the Jews," appeared in Inside the Vatican in April 2014. He has a daily podcast called "Around the Political World with John Rothmann" visit <https://johnrothmann.com>.

Our Mission

The Fromm Institute, a “University within a University,” stages daytime courses for retired adults over 50 years of age. Founded by Alfred and Hanna Fromm in 1976, the Institute offers intellectual stimulation and social camaraderie by introducing members to a wide range of college level learning opportunities with access to the facilities and services at the University of San Francisco.



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Tuesday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

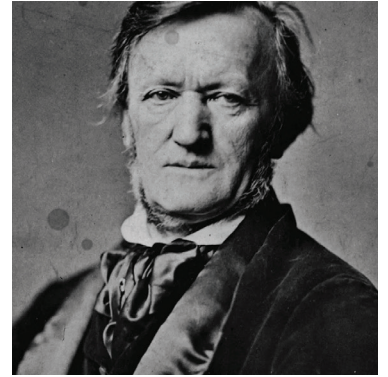
WAGNER WITHOUT FEAR: ADVENTURES WITH THE GREAT GENIUS OF GERMAN OPERA

PROF. KIP CRANNA

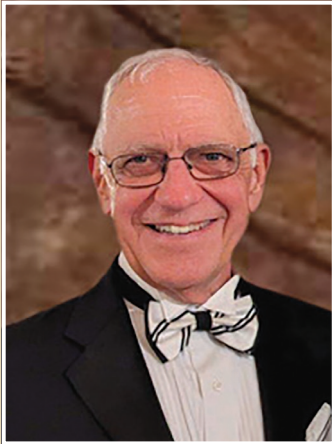
In Person & Online / Recorded

Richard Wagner was the towering figure of Nineteenth Century Opera, a genius whose work affected virtually every other composer of his time. His operas can be daunting, exciting, stirring, and demanding, all at the same time. His luminous final opera “Parsifal” will be presented by San Francisco Opera in Fall 2025 for the first time in 25 years. Let’s take a close look at Wagner’s world and discover what lies behind the music,

as we watch him grow in power and influence, and glimpse the people, events, and controversies that made his life and art so fascinating. We’ll use video examples (with English subtitles) to examine in detail his majestic and mythic music dramas. No previous opera background required. Just watch, listen, and enjoy.



Enrollment Note: This class will not meet during the first week of classes. The first class meeting will be Tuesday, September 16 and the last class meeting will take place during Make-Up Week on Tuesday, November 4, 2025.



PROF. KIP CRANNA

Education: Ph.D. in Musicology, Stanford University

Expertise: Opera Appreciation

Previous Roles: Dramaturg

Dr. Clifford “Kip” Cranna is Dramaturg (Scholar in Residence) Emeritus of San Francisco Opera, where he served on the staff for over 40 years, earning the San Francisco Opera Medal, the Company’s highest honor. He holds a PhD in Musicology from Stanford, and has taught at the San Francisco Conservatory. He teaches opera appreciation regularly at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes at UC Berkeley, San Francisco State, and Dominican University as well as at the Fromm Institute.

Real stories from real students.

“I’ve been a Fromm lifelong learner since 2018. The course offerings are diverse and top-level, and the professors are outstanding. I love the in-person classes — a great way to stay engaged with friends and meet new ones!”

Tuesday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

THE BIBLE IN ART: PART II THE STORIES OF JOSEPH AND MOSES

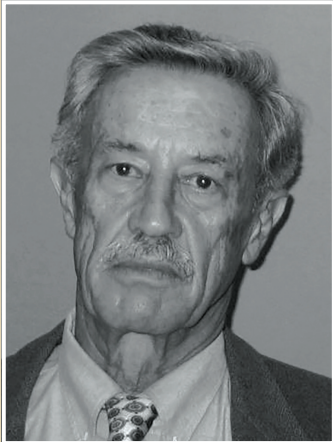
PROF. ERNEST NEWBRUN

Online Only / Recorded

The Bible is one of the best-known literary works in the world. Artists have been inspired to depict its many narrative stories. In this course we will focus on art illustrating the Joseph and Moses stories. You need not have attended Part I to take this course, Part II. Since the advent of the printing press, many publishers of the Bible sought out artists to illustrate their texts. We will see how artists have painted, drawn, engraved, sculpted and used other media (mosaic, stained glass lithograph, woodcut) to convey



their interpretation of these stories. We will visit many of the world's great museums, libraries, and other sites (Louvre; Hermitage; Metropolitan, N.Y.; National Gallery, London; Uffizi; National Gallery of Art, Washington; Rijksmuseum; Vatican Loggia and Sistine Chapel; etc.) to enjoy viewing the works of Michelangelo, Ghiberti, Raphael, Lastman, Rembrandt, Victors, Tintoretto, Tiepolo, Steinhardt, Velasquez, Murillo, Doré, Chagall and many more.



PROF. ERNEST NEWBRUN

Education: dental degrees (BDS, DMD), graduate degrees (MS, PhD) and received honorary doctorates (Doc Odont, DDSc)

Expertise: Science, Nutrition, Art History

Previous Roles: Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Francisco

Since his retirement from the UC in 1994, he has been teaching in lifelong learning programs at USF's Fromm Institute and Sonoma State University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Prof. Newbrun was born in Vienna, Austria, grew up in Sydney, Australia and has lived in San Francisco since 1961.

Reach a hyperlocal audience.

An advertisement in this course catalog is a highly effective way to promote your business to our community.



Call me to reserve this spot today!

Donna Touros | 916-284-4438



Tuesday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

SEMINAR: WE ARE ALL STORYTELLERS

PROF. CHARLIE VARON

In Person Only / Not Recorded

In this seminar we'll focus on the senses. One of my great pleasures as a storyteller is lingering on a smell, a sound, a sensation. Feeling into it. And then playing around with how I might give that sense-experience to a reader or listener. This kind of play is invigorating and fun, and gives me energy as a writer. In this class, we'll experiment with the senses.

Each class session will include

- a brief writing prompt using one or more senses
- a chance to share what you've written with another student
- several students sharing work with the group, and getting feedback from me (optional)

This is a class for writers at all levels, from beginners who want to get started to seasoned storytellers who want a jolt of fresh energy. A note on the course title: "We are all



storytellers" is an homage to the late paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould, who wasn't sure *Homo sapiens* was the best name for our species. He preferred *Homo narrator*, because human beings are the storytelling animal.

Enrollment Note: This class is limited to 25 students on a first come, first served basis - to maintain a smaller class size, an additional \$100 fee applies - students can expect more involvement and attention. The first meeting (September 9) is required, as is regular attendance. Please do not apply unless you can make this commitment. This class will not be recorded.

Enrollment Note: This class will not meet on September 23, it will meet during Make-Up Week on November 4, 2025.



PROF. CHARLIE VARON

Expertise: Writing, Acting, Storytelling

Previous Roles: Playwright, Comedian, Actor, Director, Teacher, Mentor, Coach, Narrator

The San Francisco Chronicle has credited Charlie Varon with "redefining the medium" of solo performance. For over 30 years, he has written, performed, directed and taught at The Marsh Theater in San Francisco. Charlie's award-winning shows - all created in collaboration with David Ford - include *Rush Limbaugh in Night School*, *The People's Violin*, *Rabbi Sam*, and *Second Time Around*. Since 2004, Charlie has collaborated with and directed Dan Hoyle on his hit solo shows, including *Tings Dey Happen*, *The Real Americans* and *Border People*. Charlie's current focus is his work as coach, mentor, and convener

of *Charlie's Monday Salon* each week in Noe Valley. "I'm passionate about the craft of storytelling, and creating the conditions where anyone can express and share their truth."

Tuesday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

JANE AUSTEN: NOW AND THEN

PROF. RACHEL CRAWFORD

In Person Only / Not Recorded

Jane Austen was long thought to stand so far outside the period of the French Revolution (began 1789) and Napoleonic Wars (ended 1815), during which four of her six major novels were published, that English departments placed her not during the untidy Romantic Period, but with the rational novels of the earlier Eighteenth Century. Only during the late 1980s did scholars begin to place her where she lived: smack in the middle of these tumults. So, in her books – where are the wars? How did her quiet, romantic stories grow out of the reign of terror and Napoleon's bloody bid to own his world? How could she possibly write such mannerly novels during the tectonic upheaval of her time? Well, that is in part what we will look at together in this course. In addition we will watch a few of the welter of "Austen films" that emerged in



our century. We will ask how these popular films interpret her plots, and if, at times, they perhaps interpret each other. We will not, however, neglect the raw and beautiful intelligence that constitutes Jane Austen's mind, nor the permanent tectonic shift that she herself caused in the discipline of writing.



PROF. RACHEL CRAWFORD

Education: Ph.D., University of Washington

Expertise: Literature, Romanticism, Gender & Sexualities, Feminist Thought

Previous Roles: Professor, Author, Editor

Rachel Crawford received her PhD from the University of Washington and taught at USF from 1992 to 2014. She taught British Romanticism (1798-1832), The Long Eighteenth Century, Critical Analysis, Gender and Sexualities, Feminist Thought, the Honors course, Romanticism and Revolution, and courses in the University Core. She won the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies award for Innovative Course Design for her course, "Cartography and Literature." Her book, Poetry, Enclosure, and the Vernacular Landscape, 1700 – 1830 (Cambridge UP), won the Alpha Sigma Nu Award for

Literature and the Fine Arts, the University of Virginia Walker Cowen Manuscript Prize, and was reissued by Cambridge UP in paperback. She has published numerous articles in journals, including ELH, the Huntington Quarterly, Studies in Romanticism, Romanticism, and The European Romantic Review, and has contributed chapters to several collected editions and literature companions. She also co-edited The Complete Works of Robert Southey.

Tuesday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

RETHINKING HUMAN FLOURISHING

PROF. NATE HINERMAN QUINN

Online Only / Recorded

What does it mean to flourish in a world of complexity, uncertainty, and accelerating change? Rethinking Human Flourishing is an interdisciplinary journey through neuroscience, mindfulness, evolutionary biology, trauma studies, philosophy of mind, and ecological thinking. Building on the foundation of Making Sense of Health, this 8-week course explores the deeper dimensions of well-being—beyond symptom reduction or resilience—to include meaning, embodiment, relationships, and planetary belonging.

We'll read from contemporary thinkers such as Lisa Feldman Barrett, Iain McGilchrist, Thomas Hübl, Anil Seth, and Robin Wall Kimmerer while drawing on ancient contemplative traditions and emerging sciences of consciousness. Through reflection, dialogue, and practice, students will examine the constructed nature of the self, the role of interoception



and emotion in shaping our inner lives, the impact of trauma and collective grief, and how systems thinking and ecological awareness expand our understanding of human thriving.

This course is ideal for those in the healing professions, educators, seekers, and changemakers interested in deepening their understanding of self and society. Participants will leave with both intellectual insights and embodied tools to navigate life with clarity, compassion, and purpose.



PROF. NATE HINERMAN QUINN

Education: Ph.D. in the philosophy of religion, UC Berkeley/GTU

Expertise: Psychology, Neuroscience, Mindfulness, Existential Thought, Systems Thinking

Previous Roles: Philosopher, Educator, Psychotherapist

Dr. Nate Hinerman is a licensed psychotherapist, philosopher, and educator with over 20 years of clinical experience. He holds advanced degrees in philosophy, computer science, and counseling psychology, including a PhD from UC Berkeley in the philosophy of religion and a PhD in Psychology. His interdisciplinary work bridges neuroscience, mindfulness, existential thought, and systems thinking, and he is the author of seven books on suffering, published through Oxford University Interdisciplinary Press. He currently

leads one of San Francisco's largest private practices specializing in mindfulness-based treatment for depression, addiction, trauma, and end-of-life care.

Tuesday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

THE BEAUTY OF THE REAL: WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY FRENCH CINEMA

PROF. MICK LASALLE

In Person & Online / Recorded

In France, an actress can work steadily from her teens through old age. She can start out in stories of youthful rebellion and end up, fifty years later, a screen matriarch. And in the process, her career will end up telling the story of a life — her own life, in a sense, with the films serving, as Valeria Bruni Tedeschi puts it, as a “journal intime,” or diary, of one woman’s emotions and growth. No wonder so many French actresses are beautiful. They’re radiant with living in a cinematic culture that values them, and values them as women.

In the luminous humanity of their faces and in the illuminated humanity of their characters, we discover in these actresses something much more inspiring than the blank perfection and perfect blankness of the Hollywood starlet. We discover the beauty of the real.

Based on Mick LaSalle’s book of the same title, this course will cover the work of French actresses and filmmakers including Isabelle Huppert, Nathalie Baye, Sandrine Bonnaire, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Geraldine Pailhas, Virginie Efira, Isabelle Carre, Karen Viard, Lea Seydoux, Sandrine Kiberlain, Catherine Deneuve, and Ludivine Sagnier.

Enrollment Note: *This class will not meet on Tuesday, September 9, 2025. The first class meeting will be on Tuesday, September 16 and the class will meet during Make-Up Week on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Thank you.*



PROF. MICK LASALLE

Expertise: Cinema

Previous Roles: Professor, Author, Lecturer

Mick LaSalle is the author of four books on cinema, including [The Beauty Of The Real: What Hollywood Can Learn From Contemporary French Actresses](#). He is a columnist for the *SF Chronicle* and was that newspaper’s film critic from 1985 through 2024. He was the on-air film critic for KGO-TV news from 1994 to 1999 and is a frequent panelist at the Venice Film Festival.

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Tuesday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE AMERICAN POLITICAL TRADITION

PROF. CHRIS O'SULLIVAN

In Person & Online / Recorded

*Offered Through the Generosity of
The Roger Boas Chair in Global History &
World Affairs*

USF history professor Chris O'Sullivan will lead an exploration of the American past, sharing fresh scholarly perspectives on eight consequential historical eras and investigating

their underlying political, cultural, social and philosophical dimensions. Loosely surveying the chronology developed by celebrated historian Richard Hofstadter in his critically acclaimed 1948 book The American Political Tradition, the course will provide up-to-date scholarly reappraisals of eight dramatic eras. Lecture topics will include the age of the Federalists, Jeffersonian republicanism, Jacksonian democracy, the enduring legacy of the American Whigs, the rise of Lincoln and the Republicans, the politics of the Gilded Age and the Populist backlash, the Progressives of the early 20th century and, inevitably, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal.



PROF. CHRIS O'SULLIVAN

Education: BA in History, University of California at Berkeley; MA and Ph.D. in History, with distinction, London School of Economics, University of London

Expertise: History & Politics

Previous Roles: Professor, Author, Lecturer

Chris O'Sullivan has taught in USF's Department of History for more than two decades, where he is the recipient of USF's Distinguished Teaching Award as well as USF's Innovations in Teaching Prize. He has published six books on historical and political topics including Sumner Welles: Postwar Planning and the Quest for a New World Order (2008) which won the American Historical Association's Gutenberg Prize. He has been a Fulbright Visiting Professor at the University of Jordan, a Visiting Fellow at the Center for International Studies

at the London School of Economics and has been invited to lecture on historical topics throughout the United States, Asia, the Middle East, Europe. This is his fourteenth course at the Fromm Institute, where he has taught since 2015.

Leave a Lasting Legacy with the Fromm Society

By including the Fromm Institute in your will, trust, or retirement plan, you're supporting lifelong learning for years to come. As a member of the Fromm Society, your legacy will empower future learners and help foster a community of curiosity and growth. To become a member, contact Derek Leighnor at 415-422-6805 or Derek@fromminstitute.org.

Wednesday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

CHANGING THE WORLD FROM HERE: USF FACULTY LECTURES

PROF. Various Lecturers

In Person Only / Not Recorded

Curated by Carla Hall, Associate Director of the Fromm Institute, this dynamic lecture series welcomes distinguished University of San Francisco faculty to share insights from their fields of expertise. Designed to foster meaningful connections between USF, the Fromm Institute and the broader community, this initiative introduces USF's accomplished scholars to the Fromm Institute's vibrant learning community, supports intergenerational dialogue, celebrates USF's commitment to its "Age-Friendly University"

initiative, and honors the fifty year partnership between USF and the Fromm Institute.

Each Fall, the series features presentations by USF faculty and leadership, showcasing groundbreaking research, innovative teaching, and community-focused student projects. As the Fromm Institute continues to grow and evolve, these lectures provide a timely opportunity to learn from the expertise found right on our doorstep.

Join us in person Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Fromm Hall for this free lecture series. Advance registration is required. A complete list of speakers and lecture topics will be released in August.

Enrollment Note: *This series is 'exceptional' because it may be taken in addition to the four-course maximum.*

Values

The Institute has a firm commitment to learning, believing that older students should be able to learn within a peer setting and be taught by emeritus professors of their own age. The Fromm Institute welcomes people regardless of previous academic achievement or their ability to pay a modest membership fee. As an independent, non-profit program on the USF campus, The Fromm Institute appeals to its members and to a broader philanthropic community for the financial support of its mission. This San Francisco "original" serves hundreds of older students each day, and includes thousands among its lifelong learning student body and alumni.



Wednesday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

FILM AND BIOGRAPHY:

THE BIOPIC

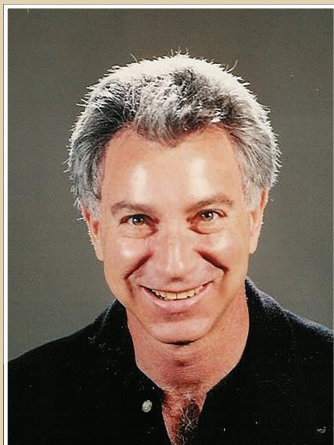
PROF. LARRY EILENBERG

In Person Only / Recorded

***Offered Through the Generosity of
The Robert Fordham Chair in Liberal Arts***

Among the most popular and enduring of film genres, biopics dramatize the lives of actual persons, with varying degrees of historical accuracy and narrative invention. The two most heralded recent examples: “Oppenheimer” and “A Complete Unknown” offer a scientist (J. Robert Oppenheimer) and a musician (Bob Dylan). The two most canonical of silent film biopics: “La Passion de Jeanne

d’Arc” and “Napoleon,” focus on a warrior/saint and a warrior/emperor. Inevitably, the biopic filmography sorts itself into categories defined by the subjects’ claim to fame and to our attention, with the course organized accordingly. Biopics about Musicians, Politicians, Criminals, Scientists, Soldiers, Civil Rights Leaders, and Athletes will each have their own session. And each lecture will display the wide range of approaches taken by biopics, with Athletes, for example, including as diverse movies as “Raging Bull,” “Moneyball,” and “Seabiscuit.” Providing ample clips as illustrations, the course will be a scholarly consideration of this far-reaching filmic form.



PROF. LARRY EILENBERG

Education: B.A., Cornell University; M. Phil & Ph.D., Yale University

Expertise: Theatre, Film, Comedy

Previous Roles: Professor, Department Chair, Artistic Director, Dramaturg

Larry Eilenberg has had a distinguished theatrical career as artistic director, educational leader, and pioneering dramaturg. Dr. Eilenberg earned his B.A. at Cornell University and his Ph.D. at Yale University. Professor Emeritus of Theatre Arts at San Francisco State University, he also taught at Yale, Cornell, the University of Michigan, and the University of Denver. Artistic Director of the renowned Magic Theatre during the period 1992-2003, Dr. Eilenberg has served as a commentator for National Public Radio’s “Morning Edition,” as a U.S. theatrical representative to Moscow, and as a popular lecturer on film and on comedy.

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Wednesday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

THE SACRED FIRE PROJECT: INDIGENOUS CULTURAL BURNING COMPARED WITH ECOLOGICAL PRESCRIBED BURNING

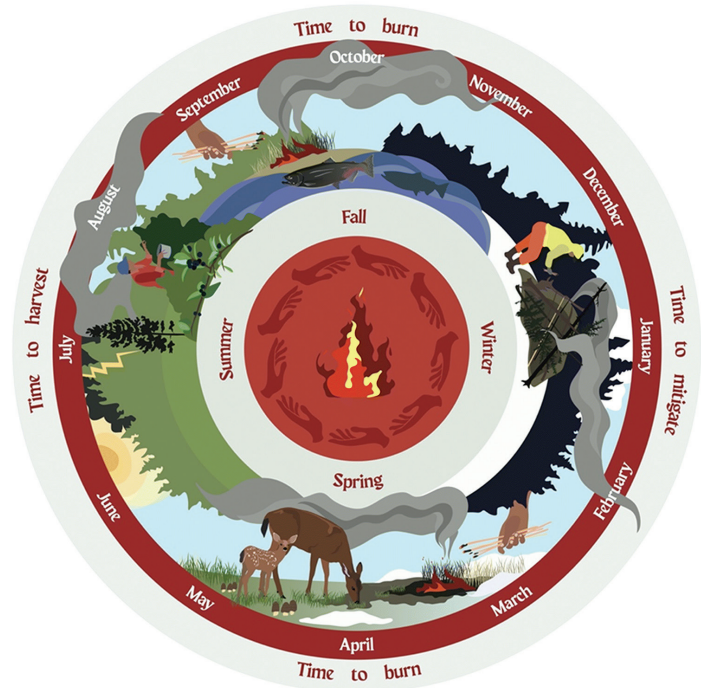
PROF. PETER HESS

In Person Only / Not Recorded

Is fire beneficial to natural ecologies and the built environment? This course contrasts traditional cultural burning practiced by indigenous peoples with modern prescribed burning used for wildfire fuel reduction.

Homo sapiens have settled in many different ecologies around the globe. Fire ecologies are evolutionarily adapted to burn on a periodic basis, allowing food plants and building materials to be rejuvenated. Indigenous peoples in Africa, Australia, and the Americas have adapted to these local fire regimes and incorporated cultural burning into their ways of life, ceremonies, and religion.

Modern cultures have rediscovered the essential role of controlled fire in ecological cleansing and restoration. Farmers, forest



services, firefighting agencies, and watershed managers recognize that when we don't reduce the natural fuel buildup, the incidence of uncontrollable and catastrophic wildfires increases.

Even taking into consideration relevant cultural differences, the goals of ecological restoration and preventing wildfires are common to both indigenous and colonizer cultures.



PROF. PETER HESS

Peter M. J. Hess received a B.A. in humanities (U.S.F.), an M.A. in philosophy (Oxford University), and a Ph.D. in historical theology (G.T.U., Berkeley, 1993). He has taught at universities in the Bay Area and is author of numerous articles and book chapters. He is co-author of *Catholicism and Science* (Greenwood, 2008) and contributor to *Climate Abandoned* (2018). Peter specializes in the historical interface between theology and the sciences, in science fiction and religion, and in ethical issues raised by climate disruption. He served as international director with the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences (Berkeley, 1996-2002), and outreach director for the National Center for Science Education (Oakland, 2006-2014). He is a wildland firefighter and co-founder of a prescribed burning association to reduce the fuel load in northern

California. He is on the Sierra Climb committee for prescribed burning, and writes on issues in wildfire resilience and ecological restoration.

Wednesday Afternoons 11:45am – 12:50pm

SEMINAR: GENERATION TO GENERATION: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PROF. LISA WAGNER

In Person Only / Not Recorded

Do you ever wonder, “What’s it like to be a young adult in 2024?” Or perhaps, “How are young people dealing with all of the problems our society faces?” Many USF students choose USF due to its social justice mission and they want to make the world a better place. Solving societal problems will take multigenerational collaboration. This unique class enrolls both Fromm and USF students and considers questions such as: How do we develop community across different generations? How do our social identities affect our community engagement? What communities do we want to help? What communities do we tend to ignore?

Would you enjoy sitting down with USF college students and discussing issues like these? If so, here’s your chance to be a part of an ‘exceptional’ course that promotes interaction, understanding, and appreciation between students from different generations. Each week you’ll read one article outside of class and then come together to discuss it in small, mixed USF/Fromm groups. We’ll talk

about how prejudice affects attitudes towards other groups (age, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc.) and how it affects who we tend to help. Outside of class, small groups will take two field trips sharing how they engage with their own communities. Intergenerational service projects are required for USF students and Fromm students are welcome to share their own community organizations/service with USF students if possible.

Enrollment Note: *This is ‘exceptional’ because it may be taken in addition to the four-course maximum; it is taught by a USF Faculty member; it takes place in the Fall term (including make-up week) on Wednesdays during lunch, 11:45 a.m. – 12:50 p.m., with a follow-up end of the semester potluck (Wednesday, December 3), it is free, and unlike other Fromm classes, regular attendance is crucial as the younger generation is counting on Fromm students. Please do not sign up if you know you will have repeated class conflicts (e.g., travel).*

Enrollment Note: *This class is limited to 25 students on a first come, first served basis – students can expect more involvement and attention. The first meeting (September 10) is required, as is regular attendance. Please do not apply unless you can make this commitment. This class will not be recorded.*



PROF. LISA WAGNER

Expertise: Psychology, Intergenerational Studies, Aging

Previous Roles: Professor of Psychology

Lisa Wagner is Professor of Psychology at USF and has conducted research on stereotyping and aging for the past 25 years. Prof. Wagner is interested in promoting positive, mutually beneficial interactions between younger and older adults. Her publications include two co-authored books, *Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination* (4th edition) and *Aging and Diversity: An Active Learning Experience* (3rd edition), examining how diversity affects the aging experience.

The University of San Francisco (USF)

As a member of Fromm Institute, our students have access to the Gleeson Library/Geschke Learning Center and enjoy the intellectual and social benefits of USF's multi-generational college environment.



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Thursday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

POETRY AS PORTAL - REWILDING THE HUMAN MIND

PROF. DALE BIRON

In Person & Online / Recorded

In our increasingly distracted world, dealing with political and environmental issues, and with corporate-controlled information, poetry becomes a powerful tool and gateway to rewilding our minds. This course explores poetry as a nurturing practice that helps us focus, reconnect with ourselves, others, and the living world, and build emotional strength. Through lively discussions, close readings, and reflection, we'll explore poetry's ability to resist fear, manipulation, and apathy, allowing us to reclaim a more lively and engaged life. All of this will help us navigate uncertainty, cultivate wonder, and reimagine our relationship with the world and its inhabitants.

Week 1: The Wild Mind - Poetry as an Act of Rewilding

Week 2: Escaping the Clickbait Mind - Poetry as an Antidote to Manipulation



Week 3: Seeing the Whole Picture - The Meta-Crisis in Poetry

Week 4: The Language of the Wild - Expanding Perception through Poetry

Week 5: Beyond Fear and Anger - Poetry as Emotional Alchemy

Week 6: Dismantling False Stories - Poetry as Counter-Narrative

Week 7: The Poetic Mindset - Poetry as a Practice of Attention and Care

Week 8: The Future in Poetry - What Comes Next?



PROF. DALE BIRON

Education: B.A., University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Expertise: Poetry

Previous Roles: Poet, Storyteller, Executive Coach

Dale Biron is one of only a handful of poet-storytellers who has presented and taught in university, community and corporate settings. Bucking tradition, Dale presents poetry in entertaining, engaging and often humorous ways that seek to ignite the mind, unleash the imagination and touch the heart. He's presented and taught classes in many venues, including: The Fromm Institute, TEDx Marin, Herbst Theatre and OLLI Dominican University. He served on the board of the Marin Poetry Center and was past poetry editor for A Network for Grateful Living. In 2014 he published his own book of collected poems entitled Why We Do Our Daily Practices. Dale's latest prose book is entitled, Poetry for the Leader Inside You: A Search and Rescue Mission for the Heart and Soul and was published in 2018.

Thursday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am

MONUMENTALISM ACROSS HISTORY: AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

PROF. HOWARD DE NIKE

In Person Only / Not Recorded

Humans in various regions and eras have erected monumental structures, ranging from the Egyptian Pyramids of Giza to the Great Cathedrals of Europe. Lecture presentations will analyze eight constructions erected in different settings, asking how these “monuments” are comparable and how they contrast.

The list of subjects includes:

- 1) The basalt log structures of Nan Madol on the remote Island of Pohnpei, Micronesia.
- 2) The Pyramids of Giza, Egypt.
- 3) The Temples and Pyramids of Teotihuacan, Mexico.
- 4) The structures at Machu Picchu, Peru, Citadel of the Incas.
- 5) Angkor Wat, Khmer culture’s 12th century complex in Siemreab, Cambodia.
- 6) Notre Dame, Paris, and the great Cathedrals of Europe.



7) The creations of the Mound People of North America.

8) Boulder Dam, Nevada, and contemporary Monumentalism.

The classes will draw on lecturer’s experience with the selected sites, offering personal context, plus archeological research, and contemporary analyses. (It is safe to assume that Fromm students will be familiar with many of these sites from their own visits, enriching the presentations.)

The course will promote a cross-cultural understanding of diverse monumental structures, though often contrasting, yet possessing common rationales and motivations.



PROF. HOWARD DE NIKE

Education: Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology, University of New Mexico

Expertise: Cultural Studies

Previous Roles: Attorney, Anthropologist, Author, Professor

Following a twenty-three-year legal career, Professor De Nike received a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology in 1995 from the University of New Mexico, with a dissertation on the fate of the jurists of East Germany following German Unification. Since then, Dr. De Nike’s work has taken him to Cambodia, Ukraine, Armenia, West Bank/Gaza, Guyana, and Afghanistan. He has also taught at USF, San Francisco State University, and the University of New Mexico. His books and articles on law and anthropology cover such topics as the 1979 Trial of Pol Pot, a memoir on lawyering in military courts in Vietnam and West Germany, and indigenous land claims in Australia.

Thursday Mornings 10:00am - 11:40am
**TWENTIETH CENTURY ROX:
 ROCK AND SOUL MUSIC ON
 FILM: THE FIRST**

PROF. RICHIE UNTERBERGER

In Person & Online / Recorded

***Offered Through the Generosity of
 The Carrie & Ronald Ludwig Chair in 20th
 Century Rock & Soul Music***

Since rock'n'roll music began in the 1950s, rock has often been featured in movies, television programs, and short promotional films. Twentieth Century Rox (sic) surveys how it was seen from the 1950s through the 1980s, from early rocksploitation films with cameo appearances by early greats through the

Beatles' features, blaxploitation movies, reggae's breakthrough to an international audience with *The Harder They Come*, and the brilliant "mockumentary"

Spinal Tap. It

will also discuss

television series featuring rock, from *Shindig* and *Soul Train* through *Midnight Special* and *Saturday Night Live*; movies using rock as an integral part of the soundtrack, such as *Easy Rider*; and the growth of promotional rock films meant to be screened as part of television programs, leading to the birth of MTV.



PROF. RICHIE UNTERBERGER

Education: Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pennsylvania, 1982

Expertise: Rock & Soul Music History

Previous Roles: Author, Professor

Richie Unterberger is the author of numerous rock music history books, including volumes on Bob Marley, the Who, and 1960s folk-rock. His book [The Unreleased Beatles: Music and Film](#) won a 2007 Association for Recorded Sound Collections Award for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research. His latest book, published by Taschen in 2022, is [San Francisco: Portrait of a City](#). His next book, [Do What You Fear Most: The History of the Velvet Underground](#), will be published by Omnibus Press in 2025. He has taught rock and soul music history courses at Fromm for about a dozen years.

Real stories from real students.

"Fromm has been one of the highlights of our retirement. The quality of teaching is at a very high level. The staff is welcoming, helpful, and best of all — it feels like a true community. We've met wonderful new friends here."

Thursday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

LECTURE/WORKSHOP: WORDS AND MUSIC

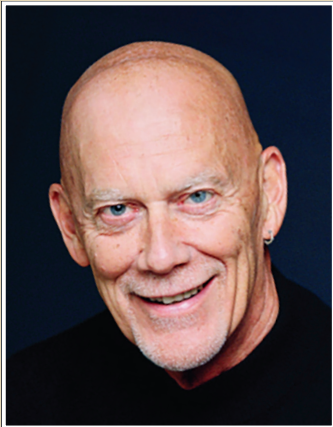
PROF. JONATHAN BAILEY

In Person Only / Not Recorded

In this Lecture/Workshop we explore how text inspires, shapes, and enhances music through the study of vocal and instrumental works influenced by literature, poetry, and the spoken word. As preparation for each session and prior to each class, students listen to and study selected scores and readings. Then, following a presentation by the professor, everyone participates in group discussions

and evaluations of the works. This component is critical to the success of the course.

Enrollment Note: *This class is limited to 30 students on a first come, first served basis - to maintain a smaller class size, an additional academic enhancement fee of \$100 applies - students can expect more involvement and attention. The first meeting (September 11) is required, as is regular attendance. Please do not apply unless you can make this commitment. This class will not be recorded.*



PROF. JONATHAN BAILEY

Education: Northwestern University, UC Berkeley, Stanford University

Expertise: Music, Broadway Musicals

Previous Roles: Dean, Professor, Conductor, Commissioner, Friend

Professor Bailey holds degrees in music from Northwestern, UC Berkeley, and a doctorate from Stanford University. He was dean and professor at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music prior to teaching in the Yale School of Music where he conducted the Yale Concert Choir, the New Haven Chorale and taught courses in the history of music. Currently Jonathan is professor emeritus at Pomona College in Claremont, California where he was chair of the Music Department and conductor of the College's choral ensembles. Twice he won the coveted 'outstanding teacher of the year' award. He has been a

program consultant for National Public Radio, an Arts Commissioner with the city of West Hollywood, and for 13 years, Artistic Director of the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles. A recipient of two Fulbright research grants, he has traveled and studied in Europe and Australia. Professor Bailey has taught at the Fromm Institute since 2012 and held the position of Dean of Faculty from 2017 to 2024.

Real stories from real students.

"After 45 years of teaching, joining Fromm in 2019 was one of the best decisions I ever made. The classes are stimulating, the camaraderie is unparalleled. It's like being in grad school again — but without the stress! Now, I even teach literature classes at Fromm. It truly feels like home and family."

Thursday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

TRUMP'S WORKPLACE REFORMS: CAN HE REALLY DO THAT?

PROF. MARIA ONTIVEROS

In Person & Online / Recorded

President Trump has proposed sweeping reforms that affect the American workplace, from the end of DEI programs to mass firings in governmental agencies. After a brief discussion of executive power and the

constitutional framework, this course will examine the background, policy, and legality of a variety of proposed reforms. Although the list of topics to be discussed may change, likely topics include individual terminations, mass layoffs, DEI and affirmative action prohibitions, reform of the administrative state, elimination of protection for transgender individuals, and employee status of NCAA student athletes.



PROF. MARIA ONTIVEROS

Education: B.A. in Economics, UC Berkeley; M.A. in Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University; J.D., Harvard Law School; JSD, Stanford Law School

Expertise: Law - Employment, Labor Relations, Discrimination

Previous Roles: Professor

Professor Emeritus Maria L. Ontiveros holds a bachelor's degree in economics from U.C. Berkeley; a law degree from Harvard Law School; a Master's degree in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University; and a JSD from Stanford Law School. She retired from USF School of Law after teaching for 23 years, where her courses included employment discrimination law, labor law,

international & comparative labor and employment law, torts, evidence, alternative dispute resolution and negotiation. She has also taught law at Golden Gate and visited at University of Michigan, Santa Clara, U.C. Berkeley and Hastings Law School. Her research and writing focused on workplace harassment of women of color, organizing immigrant workers, workplace discrimination based on national origin, and modern day applications of the 13th Amendment. A second generation immigrant from Mexico, she was born and raised in southern California. Since retirement, she has enjoyed spending time with her granddaughter, visiting with her two adult children, playing golf and practicing yoga.

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Thursday Afternoons 1:00pm - 2:40pm

HOW WE GOT HERE: A HISTORY OF SILICON VALLEY

PROF. LAURA SYDELL

In Person Only / Not Recorded

This class will offer an overview of Silicon Valley history. Until 1971 Silicon Valley was dubbed The Valley of the Heart's Delight because of its abundant apricot and almond groves, and its gentle climate. But a random choice by William Shockley, the Nobel Laureate who invented the transistor, would change the Valley and the world.

Shockley chose to set up shop in the Santa Clara Valley because his mother lived there, and he liked the climate. In 1955, he opened Shockley Semiconductor in Mountain View and hired a group of brilliant scientists.

Shockley was a terrible boss. His team rebelled and launched Fairchild Semiconductor, which made the first silicon chips and became the model for the scientist/entrepreneur, which continues to dominate the tech business.

The course will illustrate how the early startups led to the personal computer revolution, the dotcom boom, and the current



explosion in artificial intelligence. I will draw on my 20 years as NPR's Digital Culture Correspondent and bring in interviews I've done with figures such as Gordon Moore, the co-founder of Intel and Arthur Rock, the venture capitalist who got the financing for Fairchild.

Students will be encouraged to ask questions about the technology they encounter every day.



PROF. LAURA SYDELL

Laura SydeLL began reporting on technology in 2000, at the height of the dotcom boom for public radio show "Marketplaces," as their Senior Technology Reporter. In 2003 she became NPR's Digital Culture Correspondent. Her award-winning journalism was featured on "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered," "Planet Money," and "This American Life." Previously, she covered race, ethnicity, and culture for New York City public radio station WNYC. She has taught journalism courses on audio reporting and covering technology at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism. She holds a J.D. from Yeshiva University's Cardozo School of Law, and BA Magna Cum Laude in history from Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

The Fromm Institute For Lifelong Learning

Where every student is a senior,
every subject is an elective,
and every lesson keeps the mind
active, alive and well.



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