
GEORGIAN TRIANGLE LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

2015-2016 Lectures



for people who love to learn

PERSPECTIVES, 2015 Sep 11, 18, 25 Course Fee*: \$21

Sep 11: *Ballet Laughs: the Surprising Comic Side of a Classical Art*

Romance, escapism, beauty, athleticism - those are ballet's acknowledged fortes - but comedy? Surprisingly, there are more hilarious moments in ballet than you might expect.

Katherine Barber, known to legions of fans as "Canada's Word Lady", is also a highly knowledgeable balletomane who teaches ballet appreciation courses and presents "Ballet Talks" for The National Ballet of Canada. She vivaciously communicates her love and knowledge of the art form while demystifying its sometimes intimidating aspects.

Sep 18: *Fighting Fair: Legal Ethics for an Adversarial Age*

Along with used car dealers and telemarketers, lawyers are considered to be among the least trustworthy of all professionals. To gain more respect, lawyers may have to earn it by reframing their ethical responsibilities. In response to law's moral dilemma, Allan C. Hutchinson takes seriously the idea that 'litigation is war'. By drawing an extended analogy with the theory of ethical warfare, he examines the most difficult questions facing practicing lawyers today. Comparing the role of military officers to legal professionals and theories of just peace to legal settlement, Hutchinson outlines a boldly original approach to legal ethics. *Fighting Fair's* recommendation for an honor-based approach to ethics will be a thought-provoking tool for anyone concerned about the moral standing of the legal profession.

Allan C. Hutchinson, LL.B, LL.M, LL.D, FRSC, is a Professor at Osgoode Hall Law School. As a legal theorist with an international reputation for his original and provocative writings, he has published and/or edited 18 books, including *Evolution and The Common Law*, *Is Eating People Wrong?: Leading Cases and The Common Law*.

Sep 25: *The Idiot Box to Smart TVs: the Struggle for Canadian Broadcasting*

Despite the proliferation of communication devices, television remains the undisputed champion for accessing Canadian viewers. This lecture will examine the complex relationship between Canadians and their TV sets, paying particular attention to the cultural implications of how Canadians receive their television: from rabbit ears, to the arrival of cable, to the current explosive growth of Netflix.

Gregory Taylor, PhD, teaches at Ryerson University. He is the author of the book, *Shut Off: The Canadian Digital Television Transition* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013) which was shortlisted for the 2014 Donner Prize for outstanding book on Canadian policy. His book is the basis for today's lecture.

FALL COURSE, 2015 Oct 16, 23, 30, Nov 13, 20, 27 Course Fee*: \$42

History of the Modern Middle East Sara Farhan

This course will look at the history of the Middle East, concentrating on Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Israel-Palestine, and the Arabian Peninsula.

Oct 16: *End of Regional Empires*

This lecture discusses the events from the 18th Century and onwards. We will discuss the Ottoman and Safavid Empires' impact on the Middle East, as well as Mohammad Ali Pasha's Egypt. We will conclude with the rise of national movements in Turkey, Iran, and Egypt.

Oct 23: *WWI, Partitioning Empires, and Mandates*

With the end of WWI, the Middle East was partitioned and dominated by the West. Arab nationalism developed amidst divided and mandated territories as the concept of a Jewish nation was imposed on mandated Palestine. Mass uprisings against foreign intervention erupted in Egypt, Iran, and Iraq as Arab nationalists looked to Turkey for ideals of nation-building.

Oct 30: *Independence, Nationalism, and Revolutions*

As the Middle East gained formal independence, the West continued to impact the region, politically and economically. Arab nationalism emerged as a counter-weight to foreign intervention, leading to revolts against perceived pro-European governments, thereby facilitating the rise of military regimes.

Nov 13: *Rise of the Syrian and Iraqi Ba'athists*

The turbulent fifties inaugurated modernization and development efforts of various military regimes. Socialist ideals impacted political arenas evidenced by the implementation of domestic, regional and international policies. The "Arab Cold War" shaped political thought. Nationalization occurred at the cost of the private sector. Socialist ideas unfolded in the form of revolutions, redefining Arab Nationalism.

Nov 20: *Warring Neighbours: Iran-Iraq & the Gulf Wars*

Following the Islamic Revolution in Iran, the efforts of foreign intervention manifested in total war between Iran and Iraq, rearranging the political, religious, cultural, and social dynamics of the region. The annexation of Kuwait further disrupted the region, ending the remnants of Arab unity while the Gulf War sanctions imposed on Iraq strengthened the incumbent Ba'athist government.

Nov 27: *The 'Arab Spring' and the Rise of ISIS*

Social unrest spread as young, educated, and under/unemployed youth confronted their governments, resulting in violent retaliations. Syria's unrest festered into total war. The ruthlessness of Al-Assad's regime, the increased instability and corruption of Iraq's post-2003 governments, the impact of

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regional and international intervention, the increasing economic inequality and the failures of incorporating uprooted elements back into the social structure inevitably led to the rise of the Islamic State.

Sara Farhan is an Iraqi-Canadian who grew up in Ba'athist Iraq. She is pursuing a PhD in History at York University. Her research considers the history of the Hashemite Kingdom of Iraq.

WINTER COURSE, 2016

Jan 15, 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19

Course Fee*: \$42

The Future of Food: Sustainability, Trends & Challenges

Jan 15: *What is a Sustainable Food System?*

Food and land use (including agriculture) are central to any society-wide approach to sustainability. The concept of sustainability has become widely accepted across political, social, and economic groups, resulting in an increasing divergence in meanings of the term. This lecture will introduce the new field of "resilience" thinking as a way to understand sustainability of food systems.

Harriet Friedmann is Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Fellow of the Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto, and also Visiting Professor at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague (Netherlands). She has completed extensive research in several aspects of food and agriculture, and her work has been published in American, European and Canadian journals.

Jan 22: *The Ecological Hoofprint*

The world consumption of meat has risen dramatically and is expected to continue to increase rapidly in the coming decades. The industrialization of livestock production is the driving force in this growth. This lecture will consider why this is a pivotal issue for sustainability by examining the impacts on land, freshwater supplies, energy, climate change and animal life.

Tony Weis is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at Western University. He is the author of two books, *The Global Food Economy: The battle for the Future of Farming* (2007) and *The Ecological Hoofprint: The Global Burden of Industrial Livestock* (2013). This lecture will develop some of the major themes of the latter.

Jan 29: *Food Security*

Food security was adopted as a global priority in mid-1970s to address concerns about availability and accessibility of food for all at all times. While some progress has been made since the 1996 World Food Summit, there are increasing concerns about food security in the 21st Century. This talk will look into competing definitions and priorities of food security for Canada and globally.

Mustafa Koç is a Professor in the Sociology Department at Ryerson University, and was among the founders of the Ryerson Centre for Studies in Food Security, Food Secure Canada, and the Canadian Association for Food Studies.

Feb. 5: *Genetically Modified Organisms: GMO's*

GMO's have become a popular topic and yet the general public understanding of the topic is limited. This presentation will explain the technology that allows for the creation of GMO's and will present the current status of GMO's in our food systems, their benefits, their risks and what the future of GMO's may be.

René Van Acker is Professor and Associate Dean (external) at The Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph. He has studied GMO's for more than 15 years and has collaborated and consulted on this topic with colleagues, governments and companies around the world. René has published over 100 peer-reviewed works to-date and has made a further 250+ professional contributions.

Feb 12: *The Industrial Diet*

A combination of technological changes, population growth, and political and economic factors helped transform mass diets from the nineteenth century to the present day. This lecture will discuss how the economics of pushing product for profit has resulted in the systematic degradation of food leading to nutrient poor edible commodities. Globalization of this 'industrial diet' has now led to emerging health issues in the developed and the developing world.

Anthony Winson, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Guelph, has researched and written extensively on agriculture, food and rural development issues related to Canada and the Third World. More recently he has completed an in-depth exploration of the political economic determinants of diet and nutrition. His most recent book is *The Industrial Diet: The Degradation of Food and the Struggle for Healthy Eating* (2013)

Feb 19: *Retention of Cognitive Function with Aging: The Role of Diet*

People are increasingly aware that good lifestyle choices are important contributors to the retention of cognitive function with aging. This lecture will briefly introduce lifestyle factors associated with cognitive health and then address the importance of a high quality diet. Also addressed will be the many misconceptions and misunderstandings about the role of nutrition and nutrients in brain health.

Carol Greenwood PhD, is Senior Scientist at the Rotman Research Institute and Department of Foods and Nutrition, Baycrest Centre, as well as Professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Toronto. Throughout her career she has examined the relationship between diet and brain health, with a particular focus on dietary factors which modulate cognitive function with aging. In 2014 a national initiative was announced by the Government of Canada to accelerate the scientific understanding of dementia and other neurodegenerative diseases. Dr. Greenwood will be leading one of the research teams.

SPRING COURSE, 2016

Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6

Course Fee*: \$42

Reflections in the Hall of Mirrors: American Movies & the Politics of Idealism **Kevin Courrier**

This course examines how key American movies from the last forty years have soaked up the political and cultural ideals of the time they were made and probes how, within each presidential era, the prophetic voice of American idealism became lobbed between liberal and conservative values. American movies came to echo the secret aspirations and dashed expectations of the country's deeply divisive elements. Many of the movies examined in this course also shape – and reflect – much of American public thinking and discourse.

Examples of movies that will be discussed: *The Manchurian Candidate* (1962) foreshadowed the Kennedy tragedy; *In the Heat of the Night* (1966) reflected the racially troubled Johnson era; *Bullitt* (1968) illustrated the country's ambivalence to the Vietnam War and the growing culture of violence in America; *Coming Home* (1978) attempted to salve the country's wounds over Vietnam; *Fields of Dreams* (1989) reconciled the counter-culture sixties with earnest conservative values of the George Bush era; *Wag the Dog* foreshadowed the Monica Lewinsky scandal in 1997; *Primary Colors* (1998) thoughtfully examined political ambition, as opposed to the idealism, of the Clinton era.

Apr 1: *The JFK Era: 1960-1963*

Apr 8: *The Johnson & Nixon Era: 1964-1974*

Apr 15: *The Carter and Reagan Era: 1976-1992*

Apr. 22: *The Clinton Era: 1992-2000*

Apr. 29: *The George W. Bush Era: 2000-2008*

May 6: *The Obama Era (2008-2016)*

Kevin Courrier, a writer/broadcaster, film critic and lecturer, began his radio career as co-host of *On the Arts* for CJRT-FM. He moved to CBC Radio as a producer and film critic for *Prime Time* in 1989. He currently co-produces and hosts music documentaries for CBC Radio 2's series *Inside the Music*. Over his career, Courrier has written about film and popular culture for *The Globe and Mail* and *The Toronto Star*. He has been teaching film courses to seniors since 2003 at Ryerson University and currently lectures at the JCC Prosserman, and the Miles Nadal JCC in downtown Toronto, and various locations in the GTA area. He is the author of 5 published books and is currently writing *Reflections in the Hall of Mirrors: American Movies and the Politics of Idealism*.

**GTLLI COURSE REGISTRATION
Dates & Information
2015-16**

All Registration is ONLINE: Registrants required to set up a personal account with Username & Password.

Registration starts:

- Wed. Jul 1 for volunteers
- Mon. July 6 for current members from past year - 2014/15 lecture season only
- Mon. July 13 - open to all past members and the public

Two ways to register ONLINE:

- **Without assistance** at www.GTLLI.ca (account login and credit card required)
- **With assistance:** Volunteers will be available in the 2nd Floor IT room, Collingwood Public Library (55 Ste. Marie St.) **10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mon. Jul 6.**
- **Registration questions?** call 705-300-3251 leave a message and phone #

Course Fees*

Perspectives (3 lectures)	\$21
Fall Course (6 lectures)	\$42
Winter Course (6 lectures)	\$42
Spring Course (6 lectures)	\$42

*Course fees include a membership fee of \$2 per lecture.

ONLINE Payment using:

- any major **credit card** OR
- your own **PayPal account.**
- Confirmation and receipt sent via email

Admit-to-lecture Ticket Distribution:

- Personalized tickets will be available for pick-up at the first lecture you attend

Please Note:

- Registrations will be accepted in the order they are received.
- Space is limited. Please register promptly.
- Individual lecture tickets are not sold.

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GTLLI is a non-profit organization sustained by "people who love to learn"; and who believe that learning never stops. It offers a series of university-level lectures and seminars given by professors and experts drawn from various fields of expertise. These thought-provoking lectures on current, thematic and historic topics are designed to expand members' intellectual horizons, stimulate the mind and pique curiosity.

GTLLI was founded in 1995 by a small group of individuals whose vision we honour by presenting an annual **Founders' Lecture and Reception**, featuring speakers of national and international renown.

GTLLI is run by volunteers and funded by annual membership and registration fees. There is no age limit to curiosity; and everyone is welcome!

FOR INFORMATION.....

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**All lectures are held at
New Life Church
28 Tracey Lane, Collingwood
East off Hurontario, north of Poplar SR
Friday mornings, 10 a.m. – 12 noon**

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**2015-2016
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