
GEORGIAN TRIANGLE LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

2021-2022 Lectures



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GTLII COURSE REGISTRATION 2021 – 2022

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Perspectives (4 independent lectures)	TBD
Fall Course (6 lectures)	TBD
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Spring Course (6 lectures)	TBD

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We look forward to another engaging line up for
2021-22 season!

PERSPECTIVES, 2021

Sep 10, 17, 24, Oct 1

Sep 10: *COMING TO TERMS WITH CHANGING NATURE*

Change is the one ubiquitous constant in our world, yet the world is undergoing unprecedented levels of change in ways never before seen. This change is driven by large numbers of people and changing technologies, and the impact is an altered and impoverished natural world with a reduced capacity to sustain us. However, there are opportunities to utilize change to benefit the natural world.

Marc Cadotte is Professor of Ecology, Department of Biological Sciences, U of T, Scarborough. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *Ecological Solutions and Evidence*, author of more than 150 articles and the book *Phylogenies in Ecology*, published by Princeton University Press. He researches the links between biodiversity and ecosystem function, how to predict and control invasive species, and how environmental changes influence the delivery of ecosystem services.

Sep 17: *WHITHER THE WEATHER? WHAT IS GOING ON?*

What do La Niña and El Niño have to do with our weather, and what is the Pacific Decadal Oscillation? How does global warming fit into these extreme events: severe hurricanes, blistering summers and disappearing ice? Is there any logic to the web of these unsettled events? In this lecture we will attempt to untangle the linkages between climate change and the unusual weather that we have been experiencing. We will address the big questions: How do we try to live reasonably amidst this chaos? Is this our new normal?

Ellsworth LeDrew is Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, University of Waterloo. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the Canadian Remote Sensing Society, and the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. Research interests include climate-cryosphere interactions using passive microwave observations and numerical climate models in polar regions, remote sensing of tropical coral stress, and biodiversity.

Sep 24: *SPEAKING LOVE TO POWER: THE CINEMATIC LEGACY OF FRANK CAPRA*

Frank Russell Capra (born Francesco Rosario Capra, 1897 – 1991) was an Italian-born American film director, producer and writer who became the creative force behind some of the major award-winning films of the 1930s and 1940s. His best films are still popular with audiences, probably because of his simple vision, combined with a mastery of the film form itself.

Stephen Scharper, PhD Religious Studies from McGill, is Associate Professor at the School of the Environment and Department of Anthropology at U of T, a Senior Fellow of Massey College and a Fellow of Trinity College. He is currently a columnist for *The Toronto Star*, and has provided commentary on various TV and radio programs. In 2017, he delighted GTLLI members with the course *The Genius of Alfred Hitchcock*.

Oct 1: *MANAGING CANADA – U.S. RELATIONS IN UNPREDICTABLE TIMES*

Donald Trump might no longer occupy the White House, but the challenges facing Ottawa in its efforts to manage Canada's most important bilateral relationship persist. Whether it be avoiding *Buy American* provisions, navigating a post-pandemic world, or collaborating on shared security interests, Ottawa's political agenda continues to be dominated by the United States. This lecture examines what we can and should do about it.

Adam Chapnick is a Professor of Defence Studies at the Royal Military College of Canada. He is located in Toronto, where he also serves as the Deputy Director of Education at the Canadian Forces College. He holds a BA (Honours) from Trent University, an MA in International Affairs from the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University, and a PhD in History from the University of Toronto.

FALL COURSE, 2021
Oct 15, 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19

**EUROPEAN MEDIEVAL ARCHITECTURE AND ITS REFLECTIONS IN
CANADA**

Major monuments of the western world such as Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Chartres Cathedral in France, and Westminster Abbey in London have been created over the centuries, and then the design elements and details have been both copied and adapted in more recent times. This course will examine the development of these architectural achievements and their interpretation in Canada since the middle of the nineteenth century.

Oct 15: Early Christian and Byzantine Architecture

An examination of the beginnings of early Christian church architecture. We start in fourth-century Rome with the basilica of Old St Peter, and then examine Santa Constanza and Santa Sabina. We travel to the city of Ravenna to investigate buildings from the fifth and sixth centuries with their amazingly well-preserved mosaic decoration. We conclude with Hagia Sophia in Constantinople built between 532 and 537.

Oct 22: Early Medieval Architecture

An investigation into Carolingian, Ottonian and Anglo-Saxon architecture starting with the patronage of the Emperor Charlemagne (d. 814) and his associates. Late tenth- and early-eleventh-century churches in Germany at Gernrode and St Michael's Hildesheim are examined before turning our attention to churches in England before the Norman Conquest of 1066.

Oct 29: Romanesque Architecture

We start by considering the label 'Romanesque' and its application in the history of architecture. First Romanesque churches scattered through western Europe are visited before turning to early eleventh-century large-scale churches and castles in France. Particular attention is paid to construction of large, vaulted churches and to regional variations of Romanesque architecture, sculpture and painting across Europe.

Nov 5: Gothic Architecture

It is generally agreed that Gothic was created for Abbot Suger in his church at Saint-Denis (c. 1135-44) near Paris, France. Just how Gothic differed from Romanesque is something we consider in detail, especially the fusion of the pointed arch, the flying buttress, sculpture and stained glass. We turn to the structural systems of High Gothic at monuments such as Chartres before crossing to England to study several famous buildings there.

Nov 12: Ecclesiastical Gothic Architecture in Canada

We start in New Brunswick with Anglican churches built under the patronage of John Medley, Bishop of Fredericton, 1845-92, and his associates. Medley's architect adhered to the strict guidelines of the Cambridge Camden Society which promoted the Pointed (Gothic) style as the only one appropriate for Anglican church architecture. The 'translation' of English Gothic into wood for New Brunswick is explored before turning to manifestations of Anglican Gothic in other provinces.

Nov 19: Gothic Architecture in Canada in the later 19th century

We begin with an examination of Gothic used by Catholics, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Baptist congregations with particular reference to adaptations required for the worship of these groups. We turn to civic Gothic as in the Town Hall at Paris, Ontario, and the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa before examining Gothic domestic architecture.

Malcolm Thurlby, an historian of medieval art and architecture and Canadian architecture, holds a PhD in the History of Art, University of East Anglia. After coming to Canada he taught at Queen's, Concordia, and Winnipeg Universities before moving to York University in 1984 where he still teaches. Elected as Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1987, he is the author of four books and nearly 200 articles on aspects of early medieval and Canadian art and architecture.

EXTINCT CIVILIZATIONS AND CULTURES

What do historians and archeologists mean by “civilization” and what does it mean when a civilization ends? This series will take an in-depth look at 5 civilizations in particular: Neanderthal, Mediterranean Bronze Age, Indigenous peoples of the St. Lawrence, Ancient Britons and Rome.

January 14: The End of Civilization

This lecture will look at how the idea of civilization came into being and the ways it has been used to organize cultures through time. We will learn that the end of the civilization was often just the end of particular political arrangements which often concentrated people, wealth, and power.

Justin Jennings is Senior curator of Latin American Archeology at the Royal Ontario Museum, and Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Toronto.

Jan 21: From Dumb Brutes to Kissing Cousins: Rewriting Neanderthal Prehistory and Their Relationship to Modern Humans

Neanderthals have been viewed as primitive brutes, but the scientific community’s opinions have undergone a huge transformation. In this lecture we consider claims that they buried their dead, engaged in symbolic behaviour, and had artistic capabilities. We will also review their technological achievements and their relationship with *Homo sapiens*.

Tristan Carter received his PhD from the Institute of Archeology (University of London) in 1999. He taught for six years at Stanford University. He is now an Associate Professor in the Department of Archeology at McMaster University.

Jan 28: The Mediterranean Bronze Age

Prior to the Classical Greeks and the Romans, several civilizations rose, flourished, and fell in the Mediterranean. This lecture will outline the history of these Bronze Age societies (*ca* 3000-1000 BC), focusing on the Egyptians, Minoans and Mycenaeans. Using archaeological evidence, we will examine the influence of the Near East and Egypt on these Bronze Age civilizations, and, following the sudden and nearly complete collapse of Bronze Age society (*ca* 1000 BC), see how the Greeks re-emerged as the vibrant society that left us the masterpieces of the Classical Period as their legacy.

John Walsh is an Assistant Professor in the School of Languages and Literatures at the University of Guelph, in the Classical Studies program. John received his PhD from the University of Otago in New Zealand. His doctoral dissertation conducted a study of the rhetorical and literary techniques of Diodorus Siculus, a first-century BC Greek historian who wrote and lived in Rome during the time of Caesar.

Feb 4: Extinction of Indigenous Peoples: The Supposed Disappearance of the St. Lawrence Iroquoians

History has declared certain Indigenous peoples extinct but contemporary Indigenous peoples have a different perspective, claiming “extinct” groups as their ancestors. In 1535, Jacques Cartier encountered Iroquoian-speaking peoples in the St. Lawrence River valley, living in longhouse villages and growing maize, beans, and squash. In 1608, Samuel de Champlain reported that these people had disappeared. Archaeologists call these people St. Lawrence Iroquoians and consider them an extinct Indigenous group. The question remains: Did St. Lawrence Iroquoians really disappear?

Gary Warrick received his PhD from McGill University in 1990. He is an archaeologist and a Professor Emeritus at Wilfrid Laurier University

Feb 11: Ancient Britons

Successive waves of migrants and invaders—Romans, Angles, Saxons, Vikings, and Normans—have all contributed to shaping today’s modern Britain. Much is known of these groups but less is known about the first Britons. Who were they? How did they live? Where did they come from? And, ultimately, where did they go? This talk will focus on the ‘lost’ civilizations of the British Isles and examine how they also play a role in understanding Britain today.

John Walsh from the University of Guelph returns for the two final lectures.

Feb 18: *Götterdämmerung*: the Final Act

Percy Bysshe Shelley wrote the poem "Ozymandias" in 1817, taking as his inspiration a passage from the Greek author Diodorus Siculus. Shelley’s line, “My name is Ozymandias, king of kings; Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!” reminds us that even the greatest rulers and empires eventually decline, and history proves Shelley’s sentiment correct. This lecture will trace the rise and fall of the ancient Roman civilisation, and speculate on what perspective these examples may shed on our times.

HUMAN MIGRATION AND MUSIC

The desire to emigrate and make a better life seems universal among humans from the very earliest of time. This course will examine why we emigrate, where we go, and what we bring with us. What we find, as well as what is created, will be explored through music.

Mar 25: Shadows in Paradise: The Journey

In this presentation, we explore the effect of exiled composers, musicians, writers, and directors on the American east coast and especially on the young movie industry in Los Angeles during the 1930s and 1940s. Scores of artists, fleeing the upsurge of European fascism, briefly transformed Southern California and New York City into new capitals of world culture.

Apr 1: Shadows in Paradise: The Legacy

This week, we explore the composer Eric Wolfgang Korngold, who left Austria for Hollywood and created what would become the template for almost all future movie scores. We will trace his career and compare his music to John Williams and other leading film composers of today, who all work in the shadow of Korngold's enormous legacy.

Apr 8: The Great British Migration to Canada

By 1850, 95% of Canada's approximate population of 2.25 million was comprised of overseas immigrants, 800,000 of whom arrived between 1815 and 1850 alone. We will explore their culture, and influence on music. Our tradition of community choirs, bands, and orchestras is a result of this emigration. Brass instruments and community parades influenced culture at this time.

Apr 22: Loreena McKennitt and Celtic Music

For this session we are treated to selections from Loreena McKennitt's concert *Nights from the Alhambra*. Loreena amalgamates the wider character of Celtic music which encompassed cultures and countries as widely as the British Isles, Brittany, central Europe, Spain, Portugal, and even parts of Asia Minor. The Alhambra itself is a melding of two great cultures, the Moorish Islamic and the Spanish Catholic.

Apr 29: The Greek Connection and *Commedia dell'Arte*

This week we explore how the *Camarata* in early 17th century Venice re-created Greek drama through the invention of opera, a combination of music and drama. This led to theatre with stock characters known as *Commedia dell'Arte*, which in turn led to Italian *opera buffa*, French *opera comique* and eventually to the American musical.

May 6: The Great African American Migration

African-American music is rooted in the polyrhythmic music of the homeland of American slaves in Sub-Saharan Africa. Their music blended with European hymns to create new forms of music: blues, spirituals, and especially, after their emancipation, jazz, R&B, and Rock and Roll. There will be a jazz soloist to give music examples as well as a short concert.

Barbara Steed Young is an educator, composer and music consultant who worked with the Stratford Festival for 20 years. She holds a BA (Hon) in Voice and Piano from Western University, with Advanced Opera Studies from Guildhall in England. She is currently Music Director Emeritus of the Stratford Symphony Orchestra, Artistic Director of the Music & Opera Appreciation series in Stratford, and is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council for Western University.