

CREATIVE RETIREMENT INSTITUTE



SPRING 2026

April-June

No grades and no need to apply.

Registration opens March 18 at 8 a.m.



EDMONDS COLLEGE
CREATIVE RETIREMENT
INSTITUTE (CRI)



DID YOU KNOW?

Creative Retirement Institute (CRI) is a volunteer-driven program that currently has over 30 active volunteers who contribute over 3,000 hours a year!

MANY WAYS FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE

Enhance your experience and become an integral part of what makes CRI so dynamic! Your ideas, time, talents, and social support are welcome!

Help plan courses and social events, make new friends, let your voice be heard, and more!

CRI encourages you to become actively involved in the decisions that define our organization. Our committees provide support to our instructors and students; develop and plan quarterly class offerings, schedule, and social events; promote the program; recruit new members; and ensure the financial well-being of CRI.

Our current committees include Audio-Visual (A/V), Classroom Support, Curriculum, Finance, Marketing, Outreach, and Volunteer.

LEARN MORE ABOUT EACH COMMITTEE

edmonds.edu/cri-volunteer

CRI MISSION STATEMENT

CRI is a member-driven, self-supporting organization whose mission is to provide affordable, quality lifelong learning opportunities for adults in a supportive environment.

Registration opens Wednesday, March 18 at 8 a.m.

You can register online at edmonds.edu/cri, by phone at 425.640.1830, or in-person at the CRI office, located at 7020 196th St SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036.

Scholarships Available!

Please contact CRI for details:
cri@edmonds.edu | 425.640.1830

Interested in Teaching for CRI?

We are always looking for instructors and accept proposals for courses.

If you have a proposal for a class, please submit a course adoption form, which can be found on our website. Go to edmonds.edu/cri, then click "Teach for Us" in the right-hand sidebar.

Withdrawals and Refund Policies

Refund requests must be received two or more business days before the class start date. A \$10 drop fee will be retained for each refunded class. No refunds will be issued without proper notice.

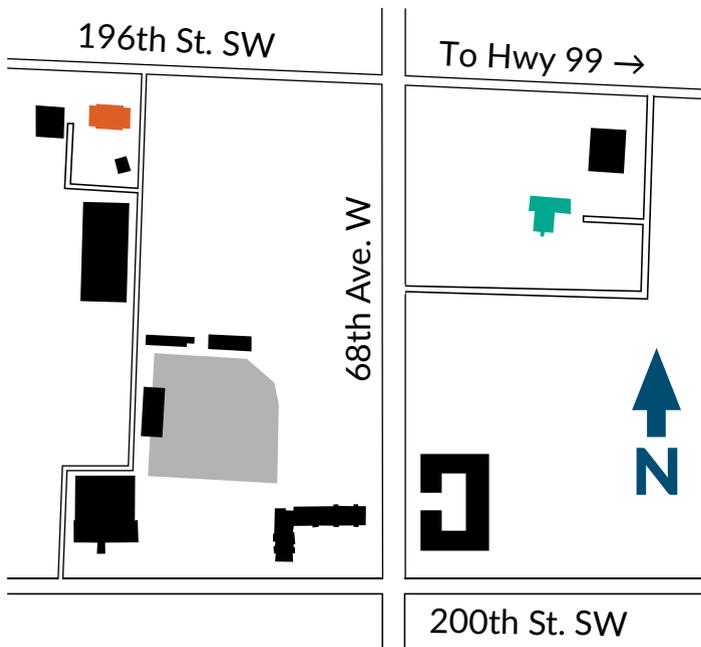
We are unable to issue refunds within two business days of the start date of the course, or after the course has started.

There are no partial refunds.

Students will be notified in advance if a class is canceled or rescheduled for any reason.

We encourage students to check the college website for updates or closures.

Edmonds College Campus



Location Key

MAB: Maltby Building, Edmonds College
(7020 196th St. SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036)

GWY: Gateway Hall, Edmonds College
(6606 196th St. SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036)

ONLINE: Conducted via Zoom (links will be emailed two days prior to class)

Parking

Parking is free for students but a valid permit is required at all times. Permits will be distributed during your first CRI class session. Those who missed the first session, please contact the CRI office to either schedule a time to pick up your permit or request that a permit be emailed to you so you can print it at home.

Check our calendar of courses at edmonds.edu/cri.



ART

DEFINING “MID-CENTURY MODERN” DESIGN PART I

In this course, we will define the design style now called “Mid-Century Modern,” which took place from 1950 to the early 1970s. Due to the extensive subject matter, this course is a two part series. In Part I, we will cover Mid-Century Modern furniture, architecture, interior design, lighting, and textiles. We plan to continue part II in the fall which will feature the Mid-Century Modern designs found in industry, graphic design, glass and ceramics, and the designers behind the design.

Loucinda White has a degree in Interior Design and Merchandising from Western Washington University and a Master of Education. Upon graduating from WWU, she was a sales representative for Knoll Inc. in its textile division. She traveled internationally while working for Knoll, visiting furniture and manufacturing facilities, suppliers, and showrooms around the world. She spent the next 25-plus years teaching various courses in interior design, fashion design, and applied design, including color theory, design fundamentals, and fashion construction at the Art Institute of Seattle. She taught textiles for fashion at Seattle Central College and Beginning Sewing at Seattle Pacific University.

Fee: \$75

4 Tue., 5/5-5/26 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**White, Loucinda
MAB 109**

FROM PILGRIMS TO PLUTOCRATS PART II

As America grew from the first communities in the New World to the fortunes of the Gilded Age, art, architectural styles, interiors, furniture, and decorative objects moved from basic simplicity to elegant, graceful forms. This course will focus on the popular styles and design influences from the Classical Revival, Greek Revival, Victorian, and Beaux Arts eras. The extraordinary influence of designers and craftsmen such as Duncan Phyfe, Charles Launier, John Henry Belter, Stanford White, Henry Hobson Richardson, and many others will be discussed, as well as the social and political influences upon their designs.

Eleanor Schrader is an award-winning educator, lecturer, and author. She lectures worldwide on the history of architecture, interiors, and decorative arts and leads art and architecture tours worldwide. She has been named a distinguished instructor of design history at UCLA Extension. She is also a professor emeritus of art and architectural history at Santa Monica College. She has done graduate work in fine and decorative arts at Sotheby's Institute in London and New York and has served as design review commissioner for the city of Beverly Hills. She is co-author of “Wallace Neff (Master Architects of Southern California, 1920-1940).”

Fee: \$65

3 Thu., 5/7-5/21 | 1-3 p.m.

**Schrader, Eleanor
ONLINE**

PUBLIC SCULPTURE: THE BENEFITS AND THE CHALLENGES

Public sculpture adds visual interest and allows pedestrians, in particular, to develop a relationship with it. Throughout the world, outdoor sculpture is often the centerpiece of public squares and piazzas. It gives the space personality and creates a sense of place. In this course, you'll learn a brief history of Western figurative sculpture in public spaces, followed by the instructor's own experiences in various locales in the Pacific Northwest, including in the City of Edmonds, where his public art is well represented. He will discuss the benefits to the community as well as the challenges of creating commissions that satisfy the decision-makers' requirements without sacrificing the artist's creativity and originality. He will bring an example of his work to class for discussion.

David Varnau's art is informed by a rewarding career of serving amputees in the field of prosthetics for over 40 years, which provided him with an appreciation for the human spirit's capacity to transform loss into triumph. It endowed him with an eye for the wonders of the human body and a heart to sense the essence of the person in front of him, which stimulated his yearning to express those insights in sculpture. He has a passion for making sculpture accessible and relatable to the public, and is particularly gratified when pedestrians stop to view his outdoor sculptures in his hometown of Edmonds. Throughout his career as a sculptor of public art, he has been struck by the degree to which children interact with outdoor art and how it can capture children's imagination. Although adults may not even pay much attention, children usually draw them in and make them interested and open to it.

Fee: \$30

1 Mon., 6/8 | 2-3:30 p.m.

**Varnau, David
MAB 109**

HILMA AF KLINT: THE HIDDEN SPIRITUALITY OF ART

Before Kandinsky, Malevich, and Mondrian, there was an artist who sensed and sought spiritual depth through the art of abstraction. Her purpose was not to render techniques and styles but to create and examine more closely the possible realms of visions and spirits within human consciousness. That person was Hilma af Klint, the creator of abstraction. In a series of two lectures, we examine the impact of 19th-century scientific discoveries and the cultural developments that affected the foundations of society and shifted awareness. We will address her cryptic, challenging symbolism and her mystic belief in representing the invisible through her abstractions. Realizing that the world was not yet ready for the message of spiritual abstraction, Hilma stated that her work was to be hidden for decades after her death. And it was... until now.

Christine Maasdam holds a Master of Humanities and a Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Geography. Her art studies include the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, the Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center in Washington, D.C., and Antiquities Trafficking and Art Crime at the University of Glasgow. She is a graduate of the Art Crime Investigation Seminar led by Robert Wittman, founder of the FBI's National Art Crime Team. Christine is a member of the International Foundation for Cultural Property Protection and holds a certificate from Trident Manor on Protection of Cultural Venues. Christine received Sotheby's certifications on “Determining Value: An Appraiser's Perspective” and on “Art Law.” She has served as a docent at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art for over 17 years and is eager to return to Israel as a volunteer in archaeology at the City of David.

Fee: \$50

2 Wed., 6/3-6/10 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Maasdam, Christine
ONLINE**



BERTHE WEILL: THE “MOTHER DEALER” OF THE AVANT-GARDE

Tiny in stature yet mighty in presence, Berthe Weill proved to be the guiding force behind many of the great artists we revere today. In an arena of academy and salon-sanctioned art, she championed the new, the modern, the extreme: the avant-garde. The Paris of the Third Republic was not a genteel society. The Prussian War and the Dreyfus Affair had a deep impact on artists, art, and its marketplace. Through it all, Weill embraced the change and welcomed Matisse, Modigliani, Rivera, and Picasso. This course will examine the numerous artist relationships that Weill nurtured, supported, and the long-term impact that this woman had on the art world under disastrous conditions of a world at war.

See previous class for instructor bio.

Fee: \$50

2 Wed., 5/13-5/20 | 1-3 p.m.

Maasdam, Christine
ONLINE

A Sámi American researcher, writer and longtime Trekkie, Kaja Gjeldel is pursuing a Ph.D. in Hispanic Literature at the University of New Mexico. Previously, she received an M.A. in Indigenous Studies (2020) from UiT the Arctic University of Norway as a U.S.-Norway Fulbright Grantee. Gjeldel also manages Nordiska's Nordic book club and blog and contributes to Women at Warp's feminist science fiction podcast. Her research interests include Indigenous methodologies, Indigenous futurisms, intersectional feminism and Hispanic and Nordic contemporary literature.

Fee: \$75

4 Tue., 5/5-5/26 | 2-4 p.m.

Gjeldel-Bennett, Kaja
ONLINE



THE OPERA, OR THE OVERTURE: WHICH COMES FIRST?

Which comes first in a composer's mind: the opera or the overture? Which is played before the opera begins? Why are overtures such an important part of the operatic experience? In this rare glimpse inside the complex brains of opera composers, former Metropolitan Opera violinist Erica Miner explores the history of opera overtures, the most compelling reasons for their existence, and the composers' processes in creating them.

Former Metropolitan Opera Orchestra violinist Erica Miner now enjoys a multifaceted career as an award-winning author, lecturer, screenwriter, and arts writer. A lecturer for the Seattle Symphony at Benaroya Hall, Erica regularly presents for CRI, Wagner Societies across the globe, and other educational venues. She received her *MusB, cum laude*, from Boston University and studied at the New England Conservatory of Music and Tanglewood Music Center. An active contributor to arts websites and magazines, Erica balances her reviews and interviews of real-world musical artists with fanciful plot fabrications that reveal the dark side of the fascinating world of opera in her "Opera Mystery" novel series.

Fee: \$50

2 Mon., 6/1-6/15 | 1-3 p.m.

No class 6/8

Miner, Erica
MAB 109



FILM & MUSIC

THE RADICAL POLITICS OF “DEEP SPACE NINE”

Since its television conception by creator Gene Roddenberry in the 1960's, "Star Trek" has represented hope for a utopic future where humanity overcomes all forms of social inequality and conflict, forming the United Federation of Planets. Premiering in 1993, "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" (DS9) takes place on a space station above a planet recovering from a brutal alien occupation. The series became known for its progressive politics as the creators confront viewers with complex topics, including but not limited to feminism, workers' rights, and immigration. We will explore fictional representations of social justice issues that remain relevant today. Through these space adventures, we will investigate the significance of expanding our social imagination and ponder what it means to have a more just society. This course is perfect for those with an invested interest in learning more about this iconic science fiction series, as well as those passionate about philosophy and social justice.

BACH IN LEIPZIG: THE FIRST CANTATA CYCLE PART II

Upon taking the job of Thomaskantor in Leipzig in 1723, Johann Sebastian Bach was finally in a position in his career to realize his aspiration to provide “well-regulated church music” to the city’s main churches. Bach’s church cantata productions in Leipzig can be grouped into yearly cycles; the first ran from late May 2023 to early June 2024 and comprised over 50 pieces. Let’s continue our exploration through Bach’s first Leipzig cantata cycle. We will look at the overall characteristics of these works and select a few for deeper analysis. We will review the occasion for each cantata, analyze its text, and conduct light musical analysis to learn about Bach’s masterful musical language, then listen to the entire cantata in class. Whether you’re a Bach enthusiast already or new to his music, join us to get immersed in the world of one of the greatest composers in history. NOTE: No need to have participated in any of our previous Bach classes to enjoy this one.

Miguel Rodé was born and raised in Montevideo, Uruguay, and moved to the U.S. in 2002 as part of his career in Information Technology. He currently lives in Seattle. A lifelong music lover, Miguel developed a special fascination with the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, and in particular with his cantatas and other vocal works over the years. In 2022, Miguel initiated a series of virtual meetings called “The Cantata Trail” with the intent of sharing this incredibly rich musical universe with some close friends. In addition to hosting his meeting series, Miguel has facilitated online and in-person workshops for Artful Journeys, the Whidbey Island Music Festival, and the Seattle Bach Festival. As a musician, Miguel plays the baroque flute and is a member of several chamber ensembles in the Seattle area, for which he also enjoys transcribing and arranging music.

Fee: \$75

4 Thu., 4/30-5/21 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Rodé, Miguel

MAB 109

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD: A CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE BEATLES

We all ‘know’ that the Beatles reshaped popular music in the 20th century, but their impact on fashion, film, politics, and popular culture is sometimes taken for granted. This course explores the Beatles’ extraordinary journey from postwar Liverpool to worldwide stardom and a legacy that reaches to the present day. We will trace their evolution from early Beatlemania to the innovative studio years to the parting of the ways, considering how their work reflected and transformed the turbulent 1960s. Along the way, we’ll examine the social and historical forces that shaped their rise, their impact on youth and identity, and the ways their image and music continue to resonate today. The course combines lecture, discussion, music, and video clips, but it is not a technical music appreciation class. No prior musical knowledge is required—just curiosity about the phenomenon that was, and is, the Beatles and the world they helped shape.

Kris “Pepper” Hambrick has a degree in English Literature and Film History from Brandeis University and a background as an informal educator through various local museums and non-profits. In recent years, she’s written and presented about film history on podcasts, through SIFF, and at community and retirement centers. In addition, she has been a Sherlockian since the age of 9 and, since then, has written and presented about Holmes in an academic, fan, and community context.

Fee: \$65

3 Wed., 4/8-4/22 | 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Hambrick, Kris “Pepper”

GWY 352



HEALTH & SCIENCE



GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY

In 2021, Saul Griffith presented what we will learn is one of the simplest roadmaps to stop global warming: replacing all fossil-fuel-burning machines with electric devices and switching all electricity generation to renewable sources, primarily solar, wind, and hydro. In this course, we will examine current global and national energy use; the amount of electricity required to perform the same work; progress and trends in renewable electricity generation; and realistic timelines for future progress. We will learn what solar energy is; how wind farms and agrivoltaics work; the electrify-everything strategy; the roles of hydroelectric power and batteries; whether new technologies are necessary; the level of investment required to transition to renewable electricity; the advantages and disadvantages of nuclear energy; the challenge of intermittency; and the importance of maintaining adequate energy supply throughout the transition to fully clean energy.

Nick Maxwell works full-time as a climate educator. Maxwell earned his Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology and taught Psychology and the Philosophy of Science at UW Bothell, where he wrote an introductory textbook in Statistics, before a 20-year career as a data scientist at Zillow, Weight Watchers, and Facebook. Maxwell now works full-time on speeding up the end of global warming. He writes a monthly column on climate protection for MyEdmondsNews.com, engages all comers in dialogue in the comments section, educates government leaders about solutions for climate change, and leads seminars for congregations and organizations to promote EVs, heat pumps, divestment from fossil fuels, and climate activism.

Fee: \$75

4 Wed., 5/27-6/17 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Maxwell, Nick

MAB 109

POWER, (IN)JUSTICE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Did you know that toxic waste facilities are often located in or near low-income and minority neighborhoods and that this is not a coincidence? Did you know that the resulting health outcomes are unequal? Were you aware that countries most impacted by climate change are the ones that contribute least to greenhouse gas emissions? In this environmental justice course, we will explore how race, gender, age, socioeconomic class, and systems of oppression shape how societies conceive of and address environmental challenges. Throughout the course, we will share stories about successful community actions and inspirational examples of diverse leadership on environmental (in)justice issues.

Dr. Fran Solomon is an environmental science professor at Western Washington University, College of the Environment on the Peninsula. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Rochester, and a master's degree in environmental health and Ph.D. in aquatic and fishery sciences from the University of Washington. She has 25 years of professional experience in state and local environmental agencies, focusing on the biological impacts of water pollution, prevention and control of water pollution, and salmon habitat protection and restoration. In addition to her academic teaching, she enjoys teaching continuing education courses for environmental and healthcare professionals and diverse general audiences, including several courses for CRI.

Fee: \$75

4 Tue., 4/7-4/28 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Solomon, Fran
MAB 109**

DNA MAKEOVERS: THE POWER OF GENE EDITING

Have you ever wondered what it really means to “edit genes?” In recent years, headlines have been filled with stories about scientists curing diseases, creating disease-resistant crops, and even exploring the possibility of bringing extinct animals back to life, all thanks to powerful new tools like CRISPR. But what does gene editing actually involve, and what could it mean for the future of medicine, food, and even society itself? This online class is designed for those who want to better understand one of the most exciting scientific breakthroughs of our time. Together, we'll take a guided tour through the fascinating world of DNA, learning how scientists discovered the “instructions of life” and how they can now make precise changes to that code. Each session will combine basic biology with real-world examples and plenty of time for questions and discussion. You don't need a science background, just a sense of curiosity and a willingness to explore the big questions of our time.

Lisa Johansen has a Ph.D. in Microbiology and teaches biology at the University of Colorado Denver. She has been teaching for over 20 years and specializes in molecular biology and virology. In addition to her research background, she teaches a wide range of courses, including introductory biology, cell biology, biotechnology, and virology. Lisa is especially passionate about making biology and biotechnology accessible and engaging for all learners. She believes that science is not just for scientists, but for anyone curious about how life works and how discoveries shape our world. Her teaching style emphasizes clarity, real-world connections, and sparking curiosity—qualities that make complex topics like gene editing approachable and exciting. She is delighted to share the fascinating world of genetics and biotechnology with lifelong learners in this course.

Fee: \$75

4 Thu., 4/9-4/30 | 1-3 p.m.

**Johansen, Lisa
ONLINE**



OUR MOON

The moon is our nearest celestial neighbor, the source of Earth's tides and eclipses, and the constantly changing illuminator of the night skies. It likely formed by a giant asteroid impact in the early eons of the solar system and is said to be geologically “dead”, but it may be a source of outer-space resources and may become the first human outpost in space. Along with the Apollo missions, all these and more are features of our moon and will be the topics to study as we look out at our solar system and join our closest companion in the grand celestial dance.

Linda Khandro is a geologist with a bachelor's degree in geology, a master's degree in teaching earth science, and a Washington State Teaching Certificate. She has taught geology, astronomy, oceanography, meteorology, and environmental science at the college level since 1991. She has taught seniors throughout the Puget Sound region, British Columbia, Canada, and for CRI since 2010. She is an accomplished harpist and has been playing for over two decades

Fee: \$75

4 Tue., 5/26-6/16 | 1-3 p.m.

**Khandro, Linda
MAB 109**

ONE BILLION YEARS OF WASHINGTON GEOLOGY

This class will piece together our state's geology from the late Proterozoic onward. Simply put, we will learn how Washington's geoscape evolved by tracing its history back through geologic eons, eras, periods, and epochs. We will put together the sequence of events that led to the geologic wonderland we explored in the first two courses. Not to worry, you will enjoy this class even if you were unable to attend the first two courses in the series (we will review as we go along). Join us as we explore the timing of our earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, natural disasters, and intriguing glacial landscape!

Dale Lehman is the president of the Puget Lobe Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute, a member of the Geological Society of America, and a member of the Northwest Geological Society. Lehman retired in 2021 after teaching geology for 36 years as an adjunct geology instructor at the University of Washington and Central Washington University and as chairman of the science department at Tahoma High School.

Fee: \$75

4 Wed., 4/8-4/29 | 4-6 p.m.

**Lehman, Dale
ONLINE**



HISTORY & CURRENT EVENTS



U.S. HISTORY: THE YOUNG REPUBLIC

We will cover the period from Washington's election as President in 1789 through the end of Monroe's Presidency in 1825 and the five administrations of the Founding Fathers: Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe. We will discuss Washington's first cabinet, the first acts of the U.S. Congress, and the first key decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court. We will examine the first endeavors in foreign policy and the tension between constitutional protections and national security issues, as well as major land acquisitions. We will see the effect of the Industrial Revolution on the growing urban population and the economic division between the North and South. We will discuss the changing relationship between Native Americans, European Americans, and African Americans. We will survey the political and military evolution of the United States from a fledgling state on the Atlantic Seaboard in the late 18th century to a recognized power in the Western Hemisphere by the end of the first quarter of the 19th century.

Boris Zaretsky is a graduate student in history at Western Washington University, working on his thesis after careers with Boeing and McDonnell Douglas in technical and management training, as well as being a customer engineer and international service sales director. He has taught 8th-grade history in Bellevue, served as a teaching assistant at Western Washington University, and taught in programs for immigrants and English language learners. He holds an MS in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a B.S. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Chicago.

Fee: \$75
4 Thu., 5/21-6/11 | 1-3 p.m.

Zaretsky, Boris
MAB 109

CHASING U.S. PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY

Join instructor Sally Holcomb, who began a "presidential odyssey" in 2021, undertaking visits to the U.S. National Archives' presidential libraries and museums, as well as a wide range of sites important to the personal history of individual presidents. In the first part of this two-session course, you will learn about the evolution of the presidential library system and each of the libraries being overseen by the National Archives today, as well as the future status of the three libraries yet to open (Obama, Trump, Biden). The second part will be about other presidential sites, such as birthplaces, homes, places of death, gravesites, and memorials—places from which one can absorb tremendous insight about the people who have been elected to serve as President of the United States. Combined, the sessions will provide you with interesting facts, fascinating anecdotes, and even trip-planning tips to help you undertake your own "presidential odyssey."

Sally Holcomb graduated from the University of Washington with a bachelor's in Japanese regional studies. She then joined the civil service within the National Security Agency. For the next 18 years, she worked in a variety of disciplines, such as language, security, signals intelligence, technology, and corporate staff/liaison, eventually joining the Senior Executive Service in 2005. When she retired at the end of December 2021 after nearly 35 years of service, she returned to live near family in the Seattle area for the first time since her years at the University of Washington.

Fee: \$50
2 Fri., 5/8-5/15 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Holcomb, Sally
MAB 109

HUMOR IN PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS

Politics is serious business, especially for the American Presidency. The stakes are high, as are the potential consequences for the nation, citizens' lives, and the world at large. Yet humor plays a central role in this political space as a strategy for communication and persuasion, for those in power (or seeking to be), and for those in opposition to the powerful. The current Presidency and the process that led to it are a fascinating case in point. In this course, we will explore the interplay of humor in recent years as competing forces strive to achieve their goals or frustrate each other's agendas. With the assistance of political cartoonists, satirists, late-night comedians, movies, and street theater artists—and with the central players themselves—we will explore what humor does and can accomplish, both for the powerful and the powerless. Bring your questions, your skepticism, and your sense of humor, as we figure out together whether and how political humor is serious business.

Michael Knapp is a retired professor of educational leadership and policy studies at the University of Washington. He has paid close attention to news media and other representations of public events and their basis in verifiable fact and plausible theory. Since retirement, he has taught several courses about political cartooning, fact-checking, media bias, conspiracy theories, and the political divide. His immersion in educational policy research has added various ideas about how one might bring truth to power, a pursuit that political cartoonists and fact-checkers share, while conspiracy theorists flaunt. The effects of their work, and his own, are a testament to the difficulties involved in bridging deep partisan divisions while underscoring the importance of doing so.

Fee: \$75
4 Thu., 5/28-6/18 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Knapp, Michael
MAB 109

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AND 1950S AMERICA

For many years, historians dismissed Dwight Eisenhower as an average president, more interested in golfing than public policy. Today, they rate him as one of the great ones. This class will examine why his reputation has risen so dramatically. We will see how Eisenhower showed great leadership in guiding the nation through multiple foreign crises—the Korean War, the onset of the Cold War, and the Suez Crisis in the Middle East. On the domestic front, the class will look at how Eisenhower responded to the growing demands for racial justice from the Civil Rights Movement and the anti-communist crusade of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

James Rigali has a Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington. He taught history for 20 years at UW, Pacific Lutheran University, and North Seattle Community College. His specialty is 19th-century American History. He has been a lecturer for CRI for several previous classes, including "The Presidency of John F. Kennedy" and America in the 1790s.

Fee: \$75

4 Wed., 5/6-5/27 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Rigali, James

GWY 352

SWIFT SURVEY OF MEDIEVAL HISTORY: ERA OF CALAMITIES 1300-1400S

This course will compare the shift in Europe from the benign era of the 1100s and 1200s to the disastrous period of the 1300s and 1400s at the closing of the Middle Ages; from papal disarray, to the deadliest of plagues, to the horrific Hundred Years War, and even the weather turned against them. It will be the end of the feudal way of life, and with that, the power structures, the ideals, and the very thinking had to change. If you enjoy a good disaster story, this is a class you will relish.

Kristi Busch holds a master's degree in museum studies from George Washington University. She has been a storyteller in both performance and therapeutic settings. Over the past 30 years, her primary focus has been teaching courses in history, civics, philosophy, and mythology to audiences ranging in age from 13 to 93.

Fee: \$70

4 Fri., 4/10-5/1 | 1-2:30 p.m.

Busch, Kristi

MAB 109

SWIFT SURVEY OF MEDIEVAL HISTORY: PHOENIX RISING 1300-1400S

This is the final examination of Medieval history as Europe shifts from a world based on faith and fragmented kingdoms to a more secular, nationalistic world. It was a messy and glorious explosion of science and reason, affecting the practical world with new laws and inventions and opening up the world of art with proportion and perspective. It unveiled the heavens and the earth, promoting the exploration of new lands that delivered unbelievable wealth. All of this was epitomized in the year 1492, when the Muslims left Spain for good, when the Inquisition began in earnest, and of course, when Columbus landed in the West Indies, thus bringing Europe onto the world stage.

See previous class for instructor bio.

Fee: \$70

4 Fri., 5/8-5/29 | 1-2:30 p.m.

Busch, Kristi

MAB 109

SUPERLATIVE SPIES

This class focuses on spies who distinguished themselves from other spies, including the most dangerous spy; the most feared; the most beautiful; the most famous; the most damaging; the world's greatest spy; the spy who saved the world; and the spy who was never caught. We will examine their biographical profiles, motivation, and the impact of their spying, as well as take a brief look at the techniques of their espionage tradecraft.

See page 10 for instructor bio.

Fee: \$45

2 Mon., 6/1-6/8 | 10-11:30 a.m.

Holcomb, Helen

MAB 109



TITANIC: SURVIVAL COMPARISONS

The general perception about the survival of Titanic passengers is that women and children survived at a higher rate than men and that passengers in the upper classes survived at a higher rate than those in the lower classes. Recent research shows that this perception is not true in general. New sophisticated statistical methods are applied to the Titanic passenger data, and the results show that the aforementioned comparisons are an oversimplification of the truth. Note that no prior statistical knowledge is necessary for following this talk. While some statistical terminology and principles that are appropriate for a lay audience will be presented, the talk will focus on the social atmosphere of the time and the end results of the statistical analyses, not on the actual statistical analysis of the data.

Harry J. Khamis is a biostatistician, academic, consultant, and author. He is the emeritus director of the Statistical Consulting Center and an emeritus professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the Department of Community Health at the Boonshoft School of Medicine at Wright State University. Khamis is most known for his research in statistical methodology, with a particular focus on categorical response models, goodness-of-fit tests, geometric probability, and the Cox regression model. He has co-authored a book titled "Applied Calculus for Students in the Biosciences" and is the author of "The Association Graph and the Multigraph for Loglinear Models." Khamis is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association.

Fee: \$35

1 Fri., 5/29 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Khamis, Harry

MAB 109

CROWNS WITHOUT THRONES: UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD'S MONARCHIES

Monarchies are often seen as relics of the past, glittering symbols of tradition in a democratic age. Nearly thirty countries today still maintain some form of monarchy, from absolute royal families to modern constitutional systems. What keeps these institutions alive? What power do they hold? How have they adapted or resisted in the face of revolution, globalization, and public scrutiny? We will unpack what monarchy really is, beyond the crowns and ceremonies, and explore how kings, queens, and emperors continue to shape politics, culture, and national identity. We will examine different models of monarchy (absolute, constitutional, elective, federal, and symbolic) and survey each monarchy, from Europe and the Middle East to Asia, Africa, and the Pacific. Using comparative analysis, students will gain insight into why monarchy persists in some regions but collapsed in others and what its survival tells us about legitimacy, tradition, and human fascination with hierarchy and spectacle.

Darina Regio is an international policy specialist with a background in history, cultural studies, and global development. She holds a master's in international policy studies from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies and a bachelor's in history and Asian and African studies from Saint Petersburg State University. Her work and studies have taken her across Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, Africa, Europe, and South America, focusing on issues such as governance, cultural heritage, and social change. Alongside her academic and professional work, Darina has a deep interest in the history of food. A curious traveler and enthusiastic home cook, she loves exploring how ingredients, recipes, and culinary traditions have moved across regions and centuries. Her teaching brings together historical insight and real-world flavor to show how what we eat is shaped by empire, migration, and cultural exchange

Fee: \$75

4 Tue., 4/7-4/28 | 2-4 p.m.

Reigo, Darina
ONLINE

HOW DID WE GET HERE?: HUMAN MIGRATION FROM THE GREAT RIFT VALLEY TO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

For more than 200,000 years, Homo sapiens have been moving around the planet, sometimes drawn, sometimes driven by a host of natural and man-made forces: from drought to floods, to crop failure, to war, to the quest for survival or the hope of a better future. We will examine the roots and the routes of human migration from our beginnings in Africa and trace our oft-branching journey into the 21st Century. Push and pull factors, and the vast implications of large numbers of our fellow and sister humans on the move, will allow us to understand and appreciate more fully events in the headlines as well as the mosaic of people who have settled in the Pacific Northwest. In the second session, we'll explore the specific impacts of migration on the United States. Bring your own migration stories and all-over-the-map questions and comments!

As an affiliate faculty member at the University of Washington's Jackson School of International Studies, David Fenner's classes focus primarily on the Middle East and the Slavic world. He was the lead presenter for the federally-funded Bridging Cultures program, a series of professional development workshops for K-12 teachers and first responders in communities with large immigrant populations. He was the founding director of the World Learning Center in Muscat, Oman, and from 2000 to 2007 served as the Assistant Vice Provost for International Education at the UW. In 2022, he migrated to Fircrest.

Fee: \$50

2 Wed., 4/22 -4/29 | 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fenner, David
GWY 352



NATURE & CULTURE

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES OF THE NORTHWEST COAST

American Indian cultures of the Northwest Coast are very unique when compared to other American Indian cultures. They were never really displaced from their native homelands, they were among the richest in food supply and natural resources, and they were complex in terms of social, economic, and spiritual practices. In this brief introductory session, you will learn a sampling of interesting characteristics and historical facts that best communicate the wonders of these great "salmon cultures." Totem poles, wood carving, the cedar longhouse, the potlatch ceremony, spirituality, art, and, of course, salmon are subjects which will serve as the focus for this class. You are encouraged to ask questions and participate throughout class presentations. You are invited to bring related artifacts, art, or other object of significance to class and participate in a "show-and-tell" session.

James Tufano has a B.S. in American History from Juniata College (Huntingdon, Pa.), a M.Ed. in School administration from Temple University, and graduate study in American History at Penn State University and the University of Pennsylvania. He had a 35-year career as a teacher, high school principal, and assistant superintendent of schools in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. He made a lifelong study of Native American history and culture and has travelled extensively in the US and western Canada, visiting many Reservations, villages, museums, libraries, and historic sites significant to Native Americans. He served on the faculty of Temple University's Lifelong Learning Program, Arcadia University's Community Scholars Program, and Western Washington University's Academy of Lifelong Learning. James considers himself an advocate for Native American people, their history, and their way of life. He enjoys sharing his knowledge and experiences with others who share his interest in and affection for our Native American heritage.

Fee: \$35

1 Wed., 5/6 | 1-3 p.m.

Tufano, Jim
MAB 109

MARINE LIFE ON THE PUGET SOUND TIDE FLATS

Explore marine life on Puget Sound tidal pools and beaches. You will find out what divers see in the Edmonds Underwater Park, what is living out in the Sound, and what can I see at low tide. We'll be focusing on the Kingston and Edmonds beaches with their abundance of mollusks, sea stars, geoducks, moon snails, jellies, sea anemones, sand dollars, and more. We'll also talk about the marine mammals and birds of prey, including the orca, sea lion, harbor seal, octopus, river otter, eagle osprey, great blue heron, and more.

Helen Holcomb worked in the U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) for 40 years at different agencies and in a variety of capacities. Learning about spies who provided U.S. secrets to foreign governments, their motivations, and what potentially suspicious signs to look for in colleagues' behavior was part of the mandatory, annual operational security training for IC employees. Helen spends most of the summer, every summer, in her cabin on the Puget Sound. She rarely misses a low tide and walks for hours while looking to see and discover the marine life, as it often changes with every low tide.

Fee: \$50

2 Mon., 5/11-5/18 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Holcomb, Helen
MAB 109

A VIRTUAL WALK ALONG THE KINGSTON BEACHES AT LOW TIDE

It is not logistically possible to have a field trip, so I'm bringing the beach to you. This class features pictures of what you would see if you were walking with me at low tide from Apple Tree Cove Point, Kingston, down to Saltair Beach next to the ferry landing. We'll talk about the marine life we see along the way and learn about the dynamics of the environment.

See previous class for instructor bio.

Fee: \$35

1 Fri., 5/22 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Holcomb, Helen
MAB 109



LITERATURE



ART AND OTHER CREATIVE APPROACHES TO JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS

In this interactive online discussion class we will delve deeply into this fascinating Bible story, exploring themes of sibling rivalry, the potential for individuals to grow into better people, the importance of forgiveness, and the concept of free will. We will look at parenting advice from a book on sibling rivalry, and we will discuss how painters, novelists and filmmakers have used creativity and imagination to bring Joseph's story to life. We will be looking at the Bible as literature; no prior knowledge is necessary and people of all religions or no religion are welcome!

Sarah Rosenson has a B.A. from Georgetown University, a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and an M.A. in Jewish Studies from the Spertus Institute. She practiced law and then taught ethics and world religions classes at a private high school. She currently teaches adults both in person and on various online platforms.

Fee: \$65

3 Tue, 5/5-5/19 | 1-3 p.m.

Rosenson, Sarah
ONLINE

"FRANKENSTEIN" AND ITS ADAPTATIONS

We can't seem to get over "Frankenstein." Since the publication of Mary Shelley's novel in 1818, novelists, dramatists, filmmakers, and other artists have produced literal and loose adaptations of this story about creation, science, parenthood, revenge, and ambition. In the 20th and 21st centuries, the story has largely been viewed as a monster tale, thanks to James Whale's unfaithful but indelible 1931 movie adaptation starring Boris Karloff. Most recently, Guillermo del Toro's 2025 film adaptation takes almost the opposite approach, vilifying not the creature but the scientist who rashly created a being he could not care for. In this course, we will spend one session discussing the novel itself (prior reading of the novel is encouraged but not required) and two sessions exploring some of the many adaptations, particularly in film. Every age, it seems, has its own Frankenstein, revealing both the timelessness of the story's core themes and its suitability for many new settings and purposes.

Dr. Jessica Campbell is a literary scholar and professor. Her book, "The Brontës and the Fairy Tale," was published in 2024 with Ohio University Press. She currently teaches writing courses at North Seattle College and UW Bothell. In the past, she has taught courses in Victorian literature, film, and other subjects at UW Seattle, McKendree University, and the Washington Corrections Center for Women. A graduate of Middlebury College and UW, she has published articles on Victorian literature, fairy tales, queer studies, and writing pedagogy.

Fee: \$65

3 Fri., 4/10-5/1 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

No class 4/24

Campbell, Jessica

MAB 109

I SAW ETERNITY THE OTHER NIGHT: METAPHYSICAL POETS

In this course, we will explore the work of four metaphysical poets: John Donne (1572-1631), George Herbert (1593-1633), Andrew Marvell (1621-1678), and Henry Vaughan (1622-1695). These poets reflected on themes both sacred and secular in intricate and often astonishing language. It was Dr. Samuel Johnson who labeled them "metaphysical," and he did not intend it as a compliment! We will focus on the sacred poems, and their extraordinary visions of the human and the divine, time and eternity. Optional recommended text: "Metaphysical Poetry," Edited by Christopher Ricks, Penguin, 2006 (available in print and digital editions).

Corinna Laughlin holds a Ph.D. in English language and literature from the University of Washington. She serves as Director of Liturgy at St. James Catholic Cathedral in Seattle, where she shares poetry on a regular basis. She is the author of many books on liturgy and has also written extensively on church history.

Fee: \$65

3 Mon., 4/6-4/20 | 1-3 p.m.

Laughlin, Corinna

MAB 109

Taking Multiple CRI classes?

If you are registering for multiple classes, please check your calendar to avoid any concurrencies.

Please contact the CRI office if you have any questions.

NORDIC CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: TOVE JANSSON & ASTRID LINDGREN

Celebrated internationally, Astrid Lindgren (1907-2002) and Tove Jansson (1914-2001) are two Nordic authors and artists who have crafted some of the most beloved children's books of the twentieth century. Even if you have yet to read one of Lindgren's Pippi Långstrump adventures or Jansson's Moomin stories, you would likely recognize these iconic literary characters by sight if not name. In this course we will read some of these women's most notable works contextualized by a close examination of the authors' lives and craftsmanship. During a period of global upheaval, Lindgren and Jansson were creative contemporaries living in Sweden and Finland, respectively. By juxtaposing their unique works, these talented women infused their children's novels with profound reflections on the human condition that remain relevant today.

See page 5 for instructor bio.

Fee: \$75

4 Mon., 5/18-6/15 | 1-3 p.m.

No class 5/25

Gjelde-Bennett, Kaja

ONLINE

SOCIETY AND THE INDIVIDUAL IN IBSEN'S DRAMA

The 19th century was a time of great change across Europe, as the basis of the economy was shifting from agrarian to industrial, a development that led to urban growth and the rise of the middle class. It was a time when philosophers and scientists questioned deeply held beliefs and when kingdoms ruled by monarchs were challenged by demands for democratic states governed by laws. It is against this background we shall consider Henrik Ibsen, the playwright who revolutionized modern drama by bringing the public sphere, politics and economics, into the intimate sphere of the drawing room. Our focus will be on two plays, "Pillars of Society" (1877) and "Rosmersholm" (1886), which class participants are encouraged to read. We will learn about Ibsen and his times in lecture. The real learning will come from the ideas and observations we share while discussing the plays in class!

Katherine Hanson has offered classes at CRI on Scandinavian culture, literature, and film for over 10 years. She is currently an affiliate associate professor in the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington.

Fee: \$75

4 Wed., 5/27 - 6/17 | 1-3 p.m.

Hanson, Katherine

MAB 109

THREE SIMPLE LINES: WRITING HAIKU POETRY

Haiku is the sole form of poetry that makes nature into a spiritual journey. Originating in Japan, haiku emphasizes being in the moment. Traditional haiku uses 17 syllables (5-7-5). However, we will see that contemporary haiku is a little more free form in style. In this course, the instructor will share photographs online so participants can try their hand at composing haiku during class. It will be a relaxed atmosphere to maximize the fun and enjoyment of writing haiku poems. The course text is "Three Simple Lines: A Writer's Pilgrimage into the Heart and Homeland of Haiku" by Natalie Goldberg.

Robert Stahl has taught previous poetry classes for CRI: Emily Dickinson, Mary Oliver, Rumi, Rilke, Hafiz, Sacred Poetry, Poetry of Grief, Mindfulness and Joy, Zen Poetry, and Haiku. He has lived and taught in Japan. He is also an award-winning photographer and photography teacher.

Fee: \$75

4 Thu., 4/9-4/30 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Stahl, Robert

ONLINE



WILLIAM STAFFORD: A POET FOR OUR TIMES

In addition to being a peace activist, a professor, and a husband and father, Northwest poet William Stafford (1914-1993) famously wrote a poem every day throughout much of his life. He said it was a matter of being alert, of paying attention to "the now-ness of things," and he urged students, readers, and his children to make attention their practice, too. He is truly a poet that we need in these times of distraction and disconnection. In this class we will take a look at a few of Stafford's short essays about poem-making, and read and discuss poems from his posthumous collection, "Ask Me: 100 Essential Poems."

Bethany Reid has an M.F.A. in poetry and a Ph.D. in American Literature from the University of Washington. She taught composition, creative writing, and literature for thirty years at UW, Seattle Pacific University, Edmonds College, and Everett Community College. She has written a number of poetry books and won the Sally Albiso Prize from MoonPath Press. Now retired, Bethany spends her days walking and writing, coaching poets one-on-one, and teaching poetry whenever she gets the chance.

Fee: \$75

4 Thu., 5/28-6/18 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Reid, Bethany

ONLINE

CRI'S EXPANDED BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Join other story lovers as we talk about books, theater, and film. Each week, participants will share what they have been reading or watching. Any genre, fiction or non-fiction, is fine. We will enjoy great discussions as we connect book themes, topics, authors, and books that have found new life on the stage, in movies, and even in opera. You are guaranteed to go home with at least one new book suggestion, a new author to read, or a theme or genre to explore.

Nancy Eidemiller is a lifelong learner and reader with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. She is enthusiastic about reading and math education. She has been known to say that there is no such thing as too many books, just too few bookshelves. Nancy is currently a member of the CRI Curriculum Committee.

Fee: \$40

4 Mon., 4/6-4/27 | 1-3 p.m.

Eidemiller, Nancy

MAB 108



SPECIAL TOPICS

FREEWRTING WORKSHOP

We will free-write together for 12-15 minutes at a time, quieting the inner critic, without worrying about grammar, spelling, or sentence structure, since no one will see these quick, rough drafts but ourselves. You will be introduced to different creative writing techniques at the beginning of each workshop, along with prompts focusing on memoir writing. Writers may also write about whatever they wish aside from the prompts, and may read their free-writes to the group. Participants provide only positive feedback on what they liked best, what stood out, or what they remembered most of the writer's freewrite.

Annette Peizer has earned Bachelor of Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees from the University of Washington and University of California, Irvine in English/Creative Writing, as well as a public Teacher's Certificate Program specializing in English from Antioch University, Seattle. Throughout her career, she taught a wide variety of English, writing, literature, and humanities courses in community colleges, private colleges, online, and summer university programs throughout Seattle, Los Angeles, Slovakia, and Jerusalem. She completed a training to facilitate this particular freewriting technique in Malibu, and has been facilitating freewriting workshops on and off for over 10 years, while also teaching tai chi classes. She has published poetry, articles, and, more recently, a book, which she is currently recording for Audible and editing for its second edition.

Fee: \$70

4 Fri., 5/1-5/22 | 3:30-5 p.m.

Peizer, Annette

ONLINE

EXPLORE THE WORLD: THE WHY AND HOW OF TRAVEL AND LIVING ABROAD

The inclination to travel and explore the world dates back to the earliest civilization. This course explores in depth our innate urge to see and know the world around us. Session 1 examines the human instinct to travel and how travel has changed the world we live in. We discuss travel trends, their impacts, and the issue of tourist-site exhaustion. The course helps attendees examine travel options off and on the beaten track and how to travel smart and safely, regardless of their level of experience. Session 2 covers travel tips, destinations, and themed travel that caters to the novice, senior, or adventurous travelers amongst us. It also explores life as an expat, retiring abroad, and living part-time abroad as a "flex-pat."

Don Douglas has traveled since childhood and has lived and worked in public health management in Asia and Africa for over 40 years. His experience focused on the development, introduction, tech transfer, and marketing of appropriate health and contraceptive technologies in developing countries. He has managed large, complex health programs in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and East Africa, working in family planning, reproductive health, Maternal & Child Health, and communicable disease control. His work has been focused on public-private partnerships and social marketing/franchising in collaboration with business, government, and the social sector

Fee: \$50

2 Wed., 4/8-4/15 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Douglas, Don

MAB 109

DRAWING LIFELIKE PORTRAITS

In this course, students will learn how to draw an accurate portrait using the methods of master artists. In a fun-filled, casual atmosphere, people will learn the basics of portraiture to draw friends and family. There will be demonstrations as well as group and individual instruction.

Renee Plevy is a nationally renowned figurative and portrait artist and educator with over 40 years of experience painting many well-known personalities, special families, and well-loved pets. Her work has been in over 65 galleries, museums, and juried shows. She won acclaim as "Artist of the Year" as well as numerous awards for her paintings and philanthropy. Renee is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts (SVA), Boston University, and the Art Students League. Renee has been teaching Painting and Portraiture in NYC at SVA, as well as The Boca Raton Museum Art School, and many other venues, including Cornish and Seattle Central College. Renee gives her students the skills to draw/paint on their own and the knowledge to achieve their goals.

Fee: \$75

4 Thu., 4/23-5/14 | 1-3 p.m.

Plevy, Renee

MAB 109



FIGHTING OVER BARK: UNDERSTANDING SPICES FROM PLANT TO PLATE

What is a spice: a seed, bark, root, or resin? Do soil, rainfall, and harvest methods shape flavor? Is climate change transforming where spices can grow? We will explore spices as living plants, not historical artifacts. Each session focuses on a botanical group of spices defined by their key aromatic compounds, from sweet warming phenols to pungent sulfurous oils, tracing their origins, cultivation, and flavor chemistry. We will learn to recognize quality, use each spice effectively in cooking (whether it should be heated, bloomed in fat, or added raw), and pair them in savory or sweet dishes. We will also examine modern cultivation and trade: how drought and shifting temperatures are changing where spices thrive, what ethical and sustainable sourcing looks like today, and the hidden labor and exploitation that still shadow spice production. This course blends plant science, sensory learning, and mindful cooking, designed for anyone who wants to understand spices from the ground up.

See page 10 for instructor bio.

Fee: \$75

4 Wed., 5/20-6/10 | 2-4 p.m.

Regio, Darina

ONLINE

THE PRESOCRATICS

The history of Western philosophy begins with the Presocratics. The name suggests this set of thinkers came before Socrates, but some were his contemporaries. The label once marked a difference in the kinds of inquiry the Presocratics and Socrates pursued, but scholarship now suggests such differences are inaccurate or misleading. While they would not have called themselves philosophers, these thinkers set themselves apart from their predecessors by seeking naturalistic explanations for the world rather than explanations based on the rule of gods. Some of their views included a world that was fundamentally water, cyclical change, air, fiery logos, or an unchanging, motionless substance. We'll explore the views of these early Greek thinkers (including Pythagoras, of the famed theorem), whose shift in methods of inquiry set in motion the Western tradition of philosophy.

David Phi Nguyen is currently a doctoral student in education at UW. He has a master's degree in philosophy from The University of Texas at San Antonio, and bachelor's degrees in math and music from The University of Texas at Austin. His experiences are varied, and his concerns mostly revolve around leaving a life well lived.

Fee: \$75

4 Tue., 4/7-4/28 | 1-3 p.m.

**Nguyen, David Phi
MAB 109**



TECHNOLOGY

CONNECTED: BUILDING DIGITAL LITERACY AND CONFIDENCE TOGETHER

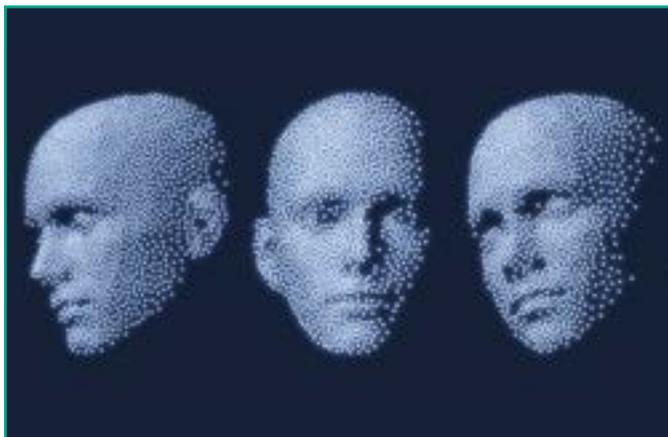
Whether you're new to technology or just want to feel more confident using it, this welcoming four-session course helps you build the digital skills needed for everyday life. Learn how to navigate your device, explore online tools safely, manage files, and communicate effectively through email and the web — all in a supportive, judgment-free environment. Each session combines short demonstrations, hands-on practice, and real-world examples that meet you where you are. You'll gain confidence, independence, and a better understanding of how to use digital tools to connect, create, and thrive in a modern world. No prior experience required — just curiosity, patience, and a willingness to learn together.

Douglas has extensive experience teaching digital literacy and employment navigation to justice-involved individuals through Washington State's WorkSource system, where he also worked as a case manager helping community members re-enter the workforce and pursue education. His teaching emphasizes empowerment, accessibility, and practical skill-building — always meeting learners where they are. He believes that digital literacy is more than a technical skill; it's a foundation for independence and belonging in today's world. His courses are known for being welcoming, hands-on, and deeply human-centered, creating an environment where students feel safe to explore, ask questions, and grow.

Fee: \$75

4 Mon., 4/6-4/27 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Evans, Douglas
MAB 109**



AI ROUNDTABLE: LET'S DISCUSS OUR HOPES, FEARS, AND EXPERIENCES!

Let's get together for a two-hour in-person DISCUSSION about the current state of AI. The focus will be on your questions, concerns, and experiences with it... both successes and frustrations! This is not a lecture class, and it will be helpful, though not essential, for participants to have some familiarity with basic AI concepts. To facilitate discussion, class size will be limited to 30, and the class will be offered twice during the quarter to accommodate different schedules.

Terry Gray earned a Ph.D. in computer science from UCLA, and, as a senior technology manager, he spent much of his career at the intersection of technology and policy. After running the Center for Experimental Computer Science at UCLA and working at a Silicon Valley startup, Terry joined the University of Washington in 1988 as director of networks and distributed computing. When he retired in 2014, he was associate vice president for technology strategy and chief technology architect, as well as an affiliate professor in the computer science department at UW. In a previous life as a young electronics officer, Terry was perhaps best known for commuting to Naval Station San Diego in his dune buggy with a "flower power" paint job.

Fee: \$35

1 Mon., 5/4 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

OR

1 Fri., 6/5 | 1-3 p.m.

**Gray, Terry
MAB 109**

MAB 109

GOOGLE DOCS: CREATING, SHARING, AND COLLABORATING

In this introduction to Google Docs, we will show you how to create documents and share work "in the cloud." We will also discuss how Google Docs can fit into and simplify workflow across devices and operating systems. This class is intended for desktop/laptop computer users but will include information for mobile device users. The Chrome web browser is recommended. This class will use recorded and live demonstrations as well as written materials.

See page 15 for instructor bio.

Fee: \$35

1 Fri., 5/22 | 1-3 p.m.

**Schwarz, Kate
ONLINE**

GOOGLE DRIVE: GETTING TO KNOW THE BASICS

We will dive into the free Google Drive services found in your Google account, which will simplify your life and make you more productive. We will show you how cloud-based apps work within the Google universe. We will cover the advantages of using Google's office productivity apps — and the pitfalls. Touching on security and privacy, we will show how Google's products can work with — and sometimes better than — the business software you might be familiar with. This class is for desktop/laptop computer users and will include information for mobile devices. The Chrome web browser is recommended. This class will use recorded and live demonstrations as well as written material.

Kate Schwarz worked in the Edmonds College Technology Resource Center, helping faculty with e-learning, instructional technologies, and course design. She also worked for many years as a computer resource manager at the University of California. Since moving to the Northwest, she has worked as an independent educational technology consultant for nonprofits.

Fee: \$35
1 Thu., 5/21 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Schwarz, Kate
ONLINE

GOOGLE SHEETS: GETTING STARTED

Google Sheets allows you to organize, edit, and analyze different types of information using spreadsheets. In this introductory class, we will explore ways to use Google Sheets and navigate the Sheets interface. We will show you the basics of entering your information and basic formatting, including trying out some basic charts. If you are a dedicated Microsoft Office user, Sheets and Microsoft Excel can work together, and we'll show you how to move between them. This class is intended for desktop/laptop computer users who are familiar with spreadsheets, and will include information for mobile device users. The Chrome web browser is recommended. This class will use recorded and live demonstrations as well as written materials.

See previous class for instructor bio.

Fee: \$35
1 Fri., 6/12 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Schwarz, Kate
ONLINE

GOOGLE KEEP: ORGANIZE (ALMOST) EVERYTHING

We will introduce you to the app and suggest ideas for using it for organizing yourself and others. Since an important feature of Google Keep is synchronization across devices, we'll show you how to accomplish basic tasks in both the desktop and mobile versions. We will explore what Keep is (designed to, similar to, dissimilar in) across devices and accounts, what the key Keep features are, some examples of use, and things to watch for. This class is intended for desktop and laptop computer users, but will also include information for mobile device users. The Chrome web browser is recommended. This class will use recorded and live demonstrations as well as written materials.

See "Google Drive" for instructor bio.

Fee: \$35
1 Mon., 6/15 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Schwarz, Kate
ONLINE

GOOGLE CALENDAR & TASKS: TRACK AND STAY CONNECTED

Stay on schedule and never miss a moment with our Google Calendar and Tasks class. We will demonstrate how to navigate the Calendar app, create and manage multiple calendars, and organize your days with events and reminders. We will show you how to share events with others, integrate Tasks to keep track of to-dos, and sync everything across your devices for seamless planning. This class is intended for desktop and laptop computer users, but will also include information for mobile device users. The Chrome web browser is recommended. This class will use recorded and live demonstrations as well as written materials.

See "Google Drive" for instructor bio.

Fee: \$35
1 Thu., 6/18 | 1-3 p.m.

Schwarz, Kate
ONLINE



RUNNING ON FEAR: IS MY COMPUTER SAFE ENOUGH?

Fear sells—especially in the computer security industry. With pop-up warnings, pricey protection plans, and edgy advertising, it is easy to feel overwhelmed by threats that may not even apply to everyday users. But it's possible to separate the need from the noise, focus on what's worth worrying about, and build confidence in your own digital habits. Join us to explore how clarity, curiosity, and a few smart strategies can replace fear with a reasoned sense of safety.

Offering technology classes at CRI since 2011, Brian Boston has been a mainstay for technical topics and believes that technology can work for you, support your interests, and enable connections with family and friends. Through Boston LegacyWorks, he educates and works with individuals and small businesses, advising on tech purchases, usage, maintenance, and security. After decades of teaching computer support, he has also started offering classes in film music appreciation, rooted in his original educational background and lifelong joy for the genre. Whether it's music or tech, Brian offers a thorough but accessible approach to understanding the nuances of each topic.

Fee: \$35
1 Fri., 4/24 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Boston, Brian
MAB 109

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ENJOY A MEAL, OR A TREAT, AT THE COLLEGE CAFÉ

The College Café is the student-run restaurant for the Culinary Arts Department and offers full-service lunch to the public. Students design the menus as part of their capstone projects.

The Pastry Corner offers breads, pastries, and desserts created by Edmonds College Baking and Pastry Arts students.

Open most Tuesdays to Thursdays, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Located in Brier Hall 105

edmonds.edu/cafe | 425.640.1405

Reservations are optional but recommended due to limited quantities.



EDMONDS COLLEGE
CREATIVE RETIREMENT
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