The Institute for Learning in Retirement is dedicated for the enjoyment and continued learning of its members. The courses in this Bulletin are the work of volunteer members who organize and facilitate the courses, discussion groups, special events, and field trips as well as social activities involving the ILR. The presenters are also volunteers from the University of Florida, Santa Fe College as well as the Gainesville community. Visit our website at www.ilr352.org or email Sara Lynn McCrea at smccrea@oakhammock.org or Julie Ann Ariet at jariet@oakhammock.org or 352-548-1001.

Contemporary European Culture

Mondays, October 1 through November 5 1:30 p.m.
Oak Hammock Commons
Cost: $10.00
Facilitator: Trudi Di Trolio

A series of talks by faculty and graduate students at the University of Florida on current trends and the context of culture in Europe. This program will explore music, food, theater, street art, and film in today’s Europe. Presented by the Center for European Studies, University of Florida.

October 1  The Art Music of War: Polish Music Responds to WWII
Emily Theobald, MA student in Music
This discussion will explore the numerous ways that Polish composers responded to World War II from the perspectives of both self and nation. We will then ask what this music means to listeners today as we consider whether music can serve as a historical document of human experience.

October 8  European Art Cinema
Peter Gitto, PhD student in English
This session will cover the unique genre that is European art cinema. We consider its style, thematic concerns, and circulation in film festivals such as Cannes.

October 15  What to Eat When Not in Italy
Agata Kowalewska, UF faculty in CES & Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
This presentation will give you a taste of a few European countries from a perspective of food and food customs. Among others, we will talk about the Czech Republic, Turkey, and Poland.

October 22  Mobilizing Paris: Mapping History and Art Through New Media
Shannon Butts, UF faculty in English
This talk examines the art, history, and geography of Paris as part of a digital walking tour that connects the spread of images with the spread of people and protest.

October 29  No Show Business As Usual: European Theatre in the Age of Populism
Ralf Remshardt, UF faculty, College of the Arts
This presentation will discuss the effect the rise of European Populism has on modern theater.

November 5  Victims, Villains or Heroes: Images of Europe’s Black Immigrants in Film
Michael Leslie, UF faculty, College of Journalism
Film is a powerful vehicle for shaping both consciousness and behavior. This talk explores how key films by both African and European filmmakers are shaping our political imagination, and their potential for stimulating social change.
This course examines the meaning of democracy and the state of democracy in the world today. All over the world, alarm bells are going off: “The age of democracy is over;” “Democracy is dying;” “Democracy is dead.” But history shows that democracy is resilient. While authoritarian, xenophobic populist movements have recently gained strength in Europe and the United States, they have not been embraced by the majority of peoples in the affected countries, and, overall, history shows that representative democracy is pushed forward by the forces of modernization, despite backlash movements that ultimately fail. So, while democracy has been and is being challenged, history provides encouragement for the proposition that it will continue to endure, not only as a lofty aspiration, but as an ideal people are willing to fight and die for. Perhaps, this is because democracy is consistent with the human spirit.
Fall Classes

(Continued from page 2)

October 30  Are Democracies Less Likely to Go to War?
  Presenter: Zachary Selden, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Florida
A consistent theme in American foreign policy is that democracy promotion leads to a more stable international environment. Is it really the case that democracies are less prone to violent conflict? This presentation will assess the idea of the democratic peace and its critics, as well as relate those points to specific issues in contemporary American foreign policy.

November 6  The Struggle for Democracy in the American Republic
  Presenter: Donna Waller, Retired Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Santa Fe College
To most American minds, the United States and democracy go hand in hand. It has always been so, is so today and will always remain so. But instilling and maintaining democracy in our Republic is, and has been, a challenge for each generation of Americans from the time of our nation’s founding. In fact, at times throughout our nation’s history, it has been a more than a challenge; it has been a struggle, and to many, it appears so today. This session will discuss democracy in America in the context of our nation’s history and contemporary issues facing our nation and its people today.

November 13  Helping Nations Strengthen Democracy
  Presenter: Rick Gold, Democracy and Governance Officer, U.S. Agency for International Development (Retired)
Many lessons have been learned about the effectiveness of efforts to strengthen democracy. This presentation will review the efforts of national, international and private organizations to share these lessons with democracy activists and governments throughout the world.

Oak Hammock Chamber Players

Thursdays, September 6 through December 20
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Oak Hammock Commons Acorn Room
Cost: $10.00

Fall Concert: November 29 at 3:00 p.m. in the Oak Room

The Oak Hammock Chamber Players are a group of instrumental musicians. We welcome all who play or have played orchestral instruments. There are no auditions, and many have not played in over 50 years. If you don’t have an instrument, we can recommend places to rent. Also, you will need a music stand. Most of our selections are from the classical repertoire but we also play traditional pieces, show tunes and seasonal music. Not only do we learn about our music, but also about musical technique, discipline, and the fun of making music as a group.

We are very fortunate in having R. Gary Langford as our music director. Gary is a retired music professor, band director and jazz music expert from UF. The Oak Hammock Chamber Players are members of the New Horizons International Music Association. For information: www.newhorizonsmusic.org.
What do Women in Developing Countries Really Want? A Global Perspective.

Wednesdays, October 3 through November 7  
10:00 a.m.
Oak Hammock Commons  
Oak Room
Cost: $10.00
Facilitators: Doug Merrey and Sandra Russo
This course is being presented by the University of Florida Office for Global Research Engagement

For several decades, “western” countries including the USA have been promoting our understanding of “equality” for women in other countries, especially through our assistance to developing countries. We think we know what all women want. But what if we are wrong? What if women in other societies have very different aspirations? Researchers at the University of Florida have been working around the world with women, asking about the ways they understand empowerment and the ways they go about attaining it. We will introduce the field of women’s empowerment research, then follow with presentations based on fieldwork in Eastern Europe, Africa, Morocco, Kenya, Jordan, Nepal, and Tajikistan. We hope that our audience will participate in this course, as we will have you use some of the tools we use during our field research. Finally, we will try to understand our own definitions of empowerment, and how these resonate with what we learn from the research being presented.

Please note that the order of some presentations may change. We will do our best to keep course participants informed.

October 3  What Do Women in Developing Countries Want and How Have “We” Tried to Achieve This?
Doug Merrey, an anthropologist and consultant on international development issues.
Sandra Russo, Director of the Office for Global Research Engagement
Rick Gold, a rule of law, democracy, gender and development specialist
This session will be an introduction to the field of women’s empowerment research and set the scene for the remainder of the course. The session will demonstrate that our “western” concepts of women’s empowerment may be at odds with how these concepts are understood in other societies. Attempting to impose our concepts through, for example, development programs, may be counter-productive and even harmful.

October 10  Who Empowers, Who is Empowered?
Chesney McOmber, PhD, Political Science, UF
This presentation will draw on the presenter’s experience doing gender research in Kenya and Morocco to introduce “Empowerment Drawing”; and will demonstrate its use through a class exercise.

October 17  Women’s Empowerment in Nepal, Morocco, and Kenya
Katie McNamara, PhD student, UF Dept. of Environmental and Global Health
Lacey Harris-Coble, Masters of Development Practice (MDP) and a Research Assistant, UF Dept. of Animal Sciences
Chesney McOmber, PhD, Political Science, UF
The three researchers will demonstrate how they used “empowerment drawing” in three very different societies and what insights emerged from this.

October 24  Women’s Empowerment in Tajikistan
Nagiza Ludgate, PhD, Interdisciplinary Ecology, UF
Liz Wood, UF Clinical Associate Professor in Global Health
Findings from field research in Tajikistan will be presented. The work is part of the Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services (INGENAES) program, USAID
(Continued from page 4)

October 31 “Other Feminisms”
Sheila Maingi, MDP, based on research in South Africa
Anna Weissman, PhD candidate in Political Science, UF, with field experience in Eastern Europe
The presenters will explain the contrasting understandings of “feminism” in Africa and Eastern Europe

November 7 Emerging Theories and Practice: Letting Their Voices Be Heard
Panel: Katie McNamara, Sheila Maingi, Chesney McOmber, Nargiza Ludgate
This session will reinforce the main insights presented during the course and their implications for American and other programs that seek to “empower” women.

Spanish Conversation and Culture
Mondays, September 10 through November 19 1:30 p.m.
Oak Hammock Commons Multi-purpose Room
Cost: $10.00
Instructor: Cathryn Gregory
Facilitator: Roanne Coplin
This course is a continuing course in Spanish. It is targeted toward those who have a basic knowledge of the Spanish language. Conversation, culture, current events, short stories, drama, literary analysis, advanced grammar, and vocabulary expansion will be included.
Cathryn Gregory has over 40 years of experience in teaching high school Spanish. For 20 of these years, she taught Advanced Placement Spanish Literature. She has a master’s degree in Foreign Language Education from The Ohio State University.

Roundtable Discussion in the Algonquin Genre
Thursdays, September 13 through November 15 10:00 a.m.
Oak Hammock Commons Multipurpose Room
Cost: $10.00
Moderators: Jim Sullivan, Dick Suttor
Class Limit 25
This is a forum for discussion of topics of mutual interest. Participants are encouraged to bring their interests, opinions, and expertise to the table and engage in spirited, though respectful, debate. Topics will be determined jointly by participants.

Conversational German
Tuesdays, September 11 through November 20 1:30 p.m.
Oak Hammock Commons Fireplace Lounge
Cost: $10.00
Instructor: Barbara Johnston
This course is taught using the Total Physical Storytelling methodology. Hand gestures are implemented as an aide in learning new vocabulary, and stories created by the instructor, students, or both together, are used to quickly start using the language. All students interested in this on-going Conversational German group are welcome.
This is an exciting time in our country’s history. The upcoming election has the potential to change a great deal in local, state and national politics. We will examine some of the major issues facing our country and some of the changes that may take place this fall.

October 1 Midterm Elections: Will 2018 Break the Rules?
Ken Wald, Distinguished Professor, UF Department of Political Science

Every four years, Americans have a chance to go to the polls to elect roughly one-third of the U.S. Senate and the entire House of Representatives (plus a lot of state and local offices). These national elections often produce partisan outcomes that differ dramatically from the most recent presidential election. Dr. Wald will discuss why this happens and whether this is likely to happen in 2018.

October 8 Breaking the Barriers: Women Run For Office in Record Numbers
Lyn Leverty, Senior Lecturer, UF Department of Political Science

As the media have noted, a record number of women attended classes on running for office, actually filed and are in the running for public office in many states in 2018. The talk will focus on why this matters, the current status of the women who threw their hats in the ring and the most significant races that will be decided in November. We may even wager a guess on who will win in November.

October 15 The Amendments to the Florida Constitution
Joe Little, Emeritus Professor, Levin College of Law

Joe Little will discuss the referenda to be voted upon in November. These include proposals to amend the Florida Constitution placed on the ballot by the Constitution Revision Commission, by the legislature and by citizens' initiatives. It will also include local referenda including the proposal to remove governance of the City of Gainesville's utility system (known as GRU) from the elected Gainesville City Commission and place it in an appointed board.

October 22 Partisanship: American Politics in the 21st Century
Dr. Stephen Craig, Professor, UF Department of Political Science

This talk will describe the transformation of American politics that has occurred over the past three decades, and consider what other changes might be expected in the years to come. It will focus especially on the defining role that partisanship has come to play among both voters and their elected leaders.

October 29 Where Do We Go From Here?
Donna Waller, Retired Professor, Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Santa Fe College

This session will discuss the forces shaping the election of 2018 in Florida and how the potential outcome might affect the state's government and Congressional delegation.

November 5 Forecasting Models in Political Science
Michael Martinez, Professor, UF Department of Political Science

This talk will introduce a couple of forecasting models in political science, which attempt to predict future election results based on the effects of known factors (such as presidential popularity and economic conditions) on prior election results. These models can offer insight into the fundamentals shaping a midterm congressional election, and explain why it is common for the president's party to lose seats in midterm elections.
Franz Schubert and His Art Songs
Thursday, October 18 10:00 a.m.
Oak Hammock Commons Oak Room
Free for ILR Members
Presenters: David Kushner, Ronald Burrichter
Facilitator: Don McGlothlin

Franz Peter Schubert ((1797-1828) was an Austrian composer of the late Classical and early Romantic periods. Despite his short lifetime, Schubert compositions include 600 secular vocal works, seven complete symphonies and the well-known eighth “Unfinished”, sacred music, operas, incidental music and a large number of piano and chamber music.

Schubert’s song cycle, Winterreise (Winter Journey), completed in 1827, is a set of 24 songs for voice and piano. Conceived as a journey into the cold of winter, Schubert’s masterpiece is a musical setting of poems by the German Romantic poet Wilhelm Mueller. The songs tell the story of a lonely traveler who ventures out into the snow on a journey to rid himself of the memories of his first love.

October 18 David Kushner, UF Professor Emeritus of Musicology, will speak about Franz Schubert and his art songs. He will focus on the Winterreise cycle in the context of Schubert’s other song cycles and his lieder in general. Dr Kushner will be joined by UF Professor of Music, Ronald Burrichter, who will talk about the challenges of preparing and performing a major song cycle like Winterreise.

October 22 Members of ILR will have an opportunity to hear a special performance of Winterreise by Professors Steven Tharp and Janice Wenger from the School of Music at the University of Missouri, Columbia. A special feature of this recital will be Professor Wenger’s use of a McNulty Fortepiano, commissioned in 2006 by Mizzou. This Fortepiano, an exact reproduction of an instrument made by Anton Walter in about 1802, has a range of 5.5 octaves and is representative of the instruments in Vienna at the peak of composition by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, and their contemporaries.

Franz Schubert Recital
Monday, October 22 7:30 p.m.
UF Music Building, room 101
Performers: Steven Tharp, Tenor; Janice Wenger, Fortepiano

Please note: Because of the difficulty of parking at UF, bus transportation departing at 6:45 p.m. from Oak Hammock Commons will be provided for those wishing to attend the recital.

Steven Tharp has appeared in concert with orchestras worldwide, including the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Royal Philharmonic. His opera credits include performances with the Metropolitan Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Houston Grand Opera, and the New York City Opera. Recitals have also been a constant and important feature of Mr. Tharp’s career. At the New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art he collaborated with Will Crutchfield in presenting The World of Schubert’s Songs and The World of Heinrich Heine. He has also appeared in recital at the 92nd Street Y, Carnegie’s Weill Hall, the Bard Festival, Carmel Bach Festival, and venues in Europe, Japan and South America.

Janice Wenger has appeared as recitalist on numerous university campuses and as professional accompanist throughout the United States and has performed and taught at the Janacek Academy of Music in the Czech Republic, the Chinese Cultural University in Taiwan, and the Sichuan Conservatory. She has also coached opera at the Eastman School of Music, and the Aspen Music Festival.
Art in Africa

**Art in Africa**
**Thursdays, October 4 through November 8**  
1:30 p.m.
Oak Hammock Commons  
Oak Room
Cost: $10.00
Facilitator: Barbara Herbstman

Africa is a continent with many cultures, languages and traditions. The Art of Africa is, therefore, quite diverse. Each region offers its own special expression of art, music, dance, theater and dress. We will sample a few of these works to get a taste of the wide variety of art Africa has to offer.

October 4  
**Fashion, Fotos and Fabu**  
Dr. Kole Odutola, Senior Lecturer, UF Language, Literature, and Culture
There will be an exhibition of old Nigeria Clothes and pictures from different places against the background of poetry reading and story telling. There is something called a talking drum and it can communicate ideas to those who are able to manipulate it. Along the same lines, there is also talking clothes. The fabrics communicate ideas and speak about the wearer.

October 11  
**Dr. Robin Poynor, UF Professor of Art**
Traditionally, the visual and expressive arts of African communities were closely associated with the practices of living life, not a separate category we refer to nowadays as art-for-art's-sake. Among the many ways art functioned were in the context of religion, leadership, social structure, family cohesiveness and education. Examples of these various purposes will be addressed by looking at examples, many from the Harn Museum collection.

October 18  
**Ghana’s Art Revolution**  
Dr. Susan Cooksey, Curator of African Art, Harn Museum
Ghana's contemporary art scene is exploding as a major art center in Africa, along with Johannesburg and Lagos, and recently burst onto the international art stage as well. Explore the development of emerging artists and the vibrant urban art scene in Accra and Kumasi from 2016 to the present, looking at installations in museums, galleries and in unconventional locations that rival those in the most celebrated venues in Europe and America.

October 25  
**The History of African Hair as Art**  
Dr. Agnes Ngoma Leslie, Senior Lecturer, African Studies Program
African artistic hair styles have been in existence for centuries. This session will capture some of the art of African hair designing from the historic context to the present and provide examples of some of the styles, origins and how they are designed and worn. It will show how the contemporary hair designs are based on the historic art form.

November 1  
**Contemporary African Culture: A Blend of Tradition and Modern Trends in Construction and Clothing**  
Dr. Felecity Atoo, African Studies Program
This will be a two-part presentation on Construction and Clothing in Africa.

**Part 1**
A background study into vernacular building materials used in construction in ancient Africa. A historical background of monumental and historical structures and edifices across Africa and the current structures. A look at famous and outstanding structures across Africa.
Fall Classes

(Continued from page 8)

Part 2

Selected types of fabrics will be described; especially how the fabrics are made. Videos will be shown on how the fabrics are woven. Examples of various ethnic groups across African and the traditional clothing they wear and their meanings will also be shown. The use of African fabrics for contemporary fashion. And finally, some clothes and fabrics will be on display to demonstrate how some clothes are worn. Participants will get the opportunity to see, feel and wear some of the clothes and accessories.

November 8 Functional Music in Africa: Evolution of Cultural and Popular Music to Choral Music
Pazeni Sauti, African Studies Program
This session will explore how various African popular music and cultural songs are evolving into scored choral music. It will look at the functionality of music in Africa with emphasis on evolution of cultural and popular music into choral music. It will involve our speakers’ singing sample songs which were initially solo based but currently rearranged for choirs.

Board of Directors
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Sidney Ives Class in Understanding and Enjoying Opera
Tuesdays, October 2 through November 6  1:30 p.m.
Oak Hammock Commons    Oak Room
Cost:  $10.00
Facilitators:  Forrest Crawford, Coni Gesualdi, David Hickey, Ray Jones

This term we focus on one opera, Giuseppe Verdi’s *La Traviata* (The Fallen Woman), the story of a courtesan in Paris of the early 1700’s. As with many creative endeavors, the opera was based on a play which was based on a novel which was based on the author’s own love affair. It is a story that has stood the test of time and multiple interpretations. Her name changes from Marie to Camille to Violetta as she changes centuries and the changing ideas of morality and the place of women in society.

These classes will be illustrated by film and sound clips and projected images. These will be interactive classes, so be prepared to participate!

October 2 and 9   We begin this journey in grand style with the 1999 Franco Zefferelli film starring Teresa Stratas and Placido Domingo. This exquisitely designed and opulently mounted production was made expressly for the movie medium, yet it retains the vocal and orchestral importance of the more traditionally staged opera.
Facilitated by Forrest Crawford.

October 16   *La Traviata*, the Story and its Long Impact on the Arts
We begin with the novel, the play and Verdi’s own life experience. Ray will take us on an intellectual journey, comparing how different generations adapted this story, and will discuss such issues as: what was a courtesan, and is there a modern equivalent?
Facilitated by Ray Jones.

*After the break:*   David will trace the immense influence *La Traviata* has had on other cultural forms, including theater and dance, and popular films such as *Pretty Woman* and *Moulin Rouge* with major actors like Greta Garbo, Colin Firth, and Isabelle Huppert.
Facilitated by David Hickey.

October 23   The notes and words of Verdi’s opera may remain the same, but each production team shapes what we hear and see. Forrest will briefly discuss the role and impact of the Stage Director and Orchestral Conductor, and hear what several of them have to say, via video.
Facilitated by Forrest Crawford.

Then we will examine how singers (e.g. Callas, Fleming, etc.) interpreted and acted/sang their roles. What does it take to sing the role of Violetta? We will hear what Renee Fleming has to say about this and listen to versions of the same aria by different singers.
Facilitated by Coni Gesualdi.

*After the break:*   ‘*Becoming Traviata*’ is a film that documents the behind the scenes preparations for the 2011 Festival Aix en Provence production which we will see next week.

October 30 and November 6  We close this session with the 2011 Festival Aix en Provence production starring Natalie Dessay, Charles Castronovo and Ludovic Tezier. We will end this session with a general discussion of this Fall Opera Class.
MEMBER/GUEST

Fall Term Preview

Wine & Cheese Social

Sunday, September 16

3:00—4:30 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of socializing with fellow members, hearing more about our upcoming classes and fun, wine, cheese and other refreshments

Oak Hammock Commons - Oak Room
5100 SW 25th Blvd.

RSVP by September 12
jariet@oakhammock.org or 548-1001
The Norm Holland Film Festival
August 17th and 18th
(Reminder for Participants)

Oak Hammock is hosting a two day Film Festival in honor of the late UF Eminent Scholar of English and film essayist Norm Holland. Four films from two directors will be presented and discussed.

The movies selected to be shown are:


For more information, see the flyer at the front desk.

The festival is free and open to the public, but advanced registration is required.