

THE EVERGREEN FORUM

FALL 2020

The Evergreen Forum provides stimulating daytime study and discussion programs for adults and encourages active participation for those who enjoy learning for its own sake.

Light, Color, & Atmospheric Optics

- Interactions of Light & Atmosphere
- Color
- Optical Phenomena

Model of Constraint

A message is made of signs. The sender selected a sign from the codebook (which is the space of all possible signs). (Codebook usually applies to an alphabet.)

The receiver is uncertain what sign was sent. The task is to decode the sign, eliminating the uncertainty.

How is uncertainty resolved, to select the sign sent?

23



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COURSES BY DAY AND TIME (COURSE GRID)



MONDAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	NUMBER OF WEEKS
Case Studies in Science and Technology Fascism: Theories, Practices, and Reactions Ronald Reagan's America	10:00–noon 10:00–noon	1:00–3:00	6 WEEKS 6 WEEKS 6 WEEKS
TUESDAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	NUMBER OF WEEKS
Adventures in Geology Diplomacy: Impact and Strategies The Forest for the Trees Jane Austen 2: Novels and Films The Supreme Court and Nationalism	10:00–noon 10:00–noon 10:00–noon	1:30–3:30 1:00–3:00	8 WEEKS 8 WEEKS 6 WEEKS 8 WEEKS 8 WEEKS
WEDNESDAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	NUMBER OF WEEKS
Elizabeth Strout's Linked Short Stories Migrations: Continuing Stories More Plays Off the Page: <i>Antony & Cleopatra</i> The Roots of Western Art <i>Swann's Way</i> : Beginning the Search for Lost Time	10:00–noon 10:00–noon 10:00–noon	1:00–3:00 1:30–3:30	8 WEEKS 9 WEEKS 8–10 WEEKS 8 WEEKS 8 WEEKS
THURSDAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	NUMBER OF WEEKS
Finishing School: Two Novels Geographical Links – Highlights The Lady Was A Spy Penelope Fitzgerald's Fiction	10:00–noon 10:00–noon	1:30–3:30 1:00–3:00	8 WEEKS 6 WEEKS 8 WEEKS 5 WEEKS
FRIDAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	NUMBER OF WEEKS
The Art of the Sonnet Reconciling Perspectives: A Study of the Vietnam War Science in the News Voting Rights and the 2020 Elections	10:00–noon 10:00–noon	1:00–3:00 1:30–3:30	6 WEEKS 8 WEEKS 8 WEEKS 8 WEEKS



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The Evergreen Forum uses a first-come, first-served registration system. In order to allow more people to participate, each registrant may initially select only one course. If space is available, you will be automatically registered and receive pertinent course information. Two weeks after registration has begun, registrants may sign up for a second (or more) course as space permits. **If a registrant signs up for more than one class before registration is open for second classes, the registrant will be automatically removed from additional class/es and refunded.**

Registration will open on Tuesday, August 4 at 9:30 a.m. Reminder — all courses will be held on the video conferencing platform, Zoom. Registration for a second or more courses will open on August 18. To register, go to www.princeton senior.org. Telephone and mail applications will not be accepted.

Waitlists: If a class is full, registrants are encouraged to put their name on the online waitlist.

Fees are \$95 for a 6 to 8 week course, and \$70 for a 3 to 5 week course. **Cost should never be a barrier to learning! Senior Scholarships are available to those for whom the fee is a hardship.** To make a request, [CLICK HERE](#). Registrants may also contact the Lifelong Learning Coordinator, Shifra Vega, at svega@princeton senior.org or 609.751.9699, ext. 116 to apply. Complete course information, including reading assignments, class participation, and required texts, will be available on the website in August and will be sent by email (or regular mail) to each registered class member. There may be additional costs for books or materials.

Technology: It is recommended that you download and install Zoom on your device before registration. You will need Zoom to attend your Evergreen course and for technical assistance. If you need help with Zoom, please contact our Tech Lab team **at least two weeks** before the first class session. To request assistance, please [CLICK HERE](#) or email tech@princeton senior.org.

Refunds: A refund will be issued minus a \$10 processing fee up to the second day of class. Refunds will not be issued after the second class.

Please note that course sessions may be recorded by PSRC.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We invite you to make a donation in addition to your registration to help ensure that PSRC has the tools to provide the classes, services, and resources you've come to love and expect. As a community non-profit, over 80% of our budget comes through corporate and annual sponsorships, grants, and from **individual donors like you.**

CREATING A LEGACY

Introducing our Planned Giving Program

Creating your own legacy to PSRC ensures that the passions and values you cherish will continue beyond your lifetime. To learn how PSRC's Planned Giving program makes it easy and affordable to preserve and strengthen programs and services YOU care about for generations to come, and to potentially enjoy tax benefits, contact Barbara Prince at bprince@princeton senior.org or call 609.751.9699, ext. 107.





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INTRODUCTION

THE EVERGREEN FORUM

The Evergreen Forum is a volunteer organization under the auspices of the Princeton Senior Resource Center (PSRC). Course fees cover administrative services and overhead costs. The Evergreen Forum is an affiliate of the Road Scholar Institute network. **Please note that this fall, all classes will be held on the video conferencing platform, Zoom, and that technology help is available.**

ADVENTURES IN GEOLOGY

The four to five topics will include the adventures in overcoming exceptional logistic constraints in order to accomplish scientific objectives. Topics include (1) the Apollo explorations of the moon; (2) the geology of Princeton; (3) the discovery of a new form of matter, the quasicrystal; (4) the formation of continental crust in British Columbia and Alaska; and (5) the origin of the Himalayas.

Leader: Lincoln Hollister is professor emeritus of geosciences at Princeton University, where he taught geology from 1968 until 2011. He received a BA from Harvard University in 1961 and a PhD from Caltech in 1966.

Tuesdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 22 through November 10

Maximum: 30

THE ART OF THE SONNET

The sonnet remains one of the most vigorous poetic forms. What gives the sonnet its power? This course will first analyze the basic elements of the sonnet and their importance. Next, we will review the many mysteries surrounding Shakespeare's sonnets and will study the best of these sonnets for content and meaning. We will discuss the history of the sonnet through some of the greatest sonnets written from Donne, Milton, Wordsworth, and Browning, to the modern sonneteers such as Millay and Yeats. Our emphasis will be on developing an appreciation for the art form. The format will be informal and interactive, with participation and readings encouraged. Finally, class participants will be encouraged to discuss their own favorites, which may be their own originals.

Leader: Dr. Peter M. Smith (retired from IT and Pharma) has been studying sonnets for many years and has written over 100.

Fridays: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 6 weeks: September 25 through October 30

Maximum: 18

CASE STUDIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

This course focuses on how science and technology can go wrong. Ideally science is a self-correcting process, but like all human processes it is subject to pressures of political influence, self-promotion, and outright fraud resulting in pseudoscience, bad science, and ignoring contradictory evidence. Examples can be seen in Lysenkoism in Soviet agriculture, and Velikovsky's catastrophism. Technology, too, has the self-correcting mechanisms of professional standards and past experience. Examples of technology gone wrong include cold fusion (promoting bad ideas), the Chernobyl disaster (political control of technology), the Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse (extending design past experience), and the Haber-Bosch process (unintended consequences). Science and technology have been successful because of learning from, and the understanding of, their failures. These are fascinating stories.

Leader: Stuart Kurtz has an engineering/research background and studies philosophy of science and technology implications.

Mondays: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 6 weeks: September 21 to November 2 (no class on September 28)

Maximum: 20



DIPLOMACY: IMPACT AND STRATEGIES

The first half of the course will focus on five key diplomatic negotiations that will show how the Western world evolved from a universal state and universal religion at the time of Charlemagne's coronation in the year 800 into today's global political and economic system. The five key negotiations are the Peace of Augsburg (1555), the Peace of Westphalia (1648), the Congress of Vienna (1815), the Versailles Treaty (1919), and the Atlantic Charter (1941). Each agreement is associated with a major advance in the world order. The second half of the course will first analyze the distinct diplomatic strategies of four countries: Britain, France, Russia, and the United States. Second, we will review three non-traditional diplomatic initiatives with which the lecturer is personally familiar. Finally, the last class will give each participant the opportunity to propose what America's foreign policy priorities should be for the next generation based on what has been learned in the course. The course will be based on lectures with active class discussion. Reading assignments will include Wikipedia articles, which will provide a short historical background for each lecture.

Leader: Robert Ross was raised in a diplomatic family. His career involved the Cold War and the economic development of the Third World. He has lived, studied, worked, or hiked in 90 countries.

Tuesdays: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 8 weeks: September 22 through November 10
Maximum: 18

ELIZABETH STROUT'S LINKED SHORT STORIES

This discussion course for avid readers will explore Pulitzer Prize-winner Elizabeth Strout's use of inter-related short stories to create complex novels of character and place. Her voice is compelling and her themes (love, marriage, infidelity, terrorism, aging, art, depression, poverty, anger) diverse. In *Olive Kitteridge*, *Olive Again*, *Anything Is Possible*, and *I Am Lucy Barton*, Strout creates her versions of Sherwood Anderson's *Winesburg Ohio*: Crosby, Maine, and Amgash, Illinois. She treats her complicated and difficult characters with compassion, understanding, and humor.

Leader: Lois Marie Harrod's 17th collection *Woman* was published by Blue Lyra in February 2020. Her *Nightmares of the Minor Poet* appeared in June 2016 from Five Oaks; her chapbook *And She Took the Heart* appeared in January 2016; *Fragments from the Biography of Nemesis* (Cherry Grove Press); and the chapbook *How Marlene Mae Longs for Truth* (Dancing Girl Press) appeared in 2013. A Dodge poet, she is published in literary journals

and online e-zines from *American Poetry Review* to *Zone 3*. She teaches at the Evergreen Forum in Princeton and at The College of New Jersey. Links to her online work: loismarieharrod.org.

Wednesdays: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 8 weeks: September 23 through November 11

Maximum: 15



FASCISM: THEORIES, PRACTICES, AND REACTIONS

Fascism: its roots, ideas, practices, and the opposition to it have been the subjects of intense controversy for over a century. Theories about fascism and its support also continue to be debated. An exploration of these issues is by no means out of date, given the growth of forces that some associate with fascism around the world. Each session will begin with a short presentation providing background on some aspect of the topic. Leads to several books and articles available online will be provided, and some films may be recommended for home viewing.

Leader: Martin Oppenheimer is professor emeritus of sociology, Rutgers University, where his field was political sociology; his MA from Columbia University was on the Hitler movement; his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania was on the Southern Student Sit-In Movement.

Mondays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 6 weeks: October 5 through November 9
Maximum: 16

FINISHING SCHOOL: TWO NOVELS

Jane Gardam's novel *Old Filth* was published in 2004. Elizabeth Strout's novel *Olive*, *Again* appeared fifteen years later, in 2019. The first is British, set in England and Asia. The second is American, set in rural Maine. They have in common two vividly memorable characters nearing the end of their lives. They are in one sense finishing school as they absorb life's final lessons. They are also in the finishing school of life. Poetry and excerpts from memoirs will round out the education.

Leader: Lynne Cullinane is a former English teacher who has taught several literature courses for the Evergreen Forum.

Thursdays: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 8 weeks: September 24 through November 12

Maximum: 15



THE FOREST FOR THE TREES

The focus of this course will be a study of the science behind the discovery of the social network (the “wood wide web”) between trees in the forest. How does this network allow trees to develop survival strategies that can be passed on to their offspring? Should the forest be considered a super organism? Who are the hackers of the web? How do trees help each other to survive? The text for the course will include discussions of parts of *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben in addition to other readings provided by the instructor. The course will be a blend of lecture and discussion. Due to COVID-19 there will be no field trip to local forests.

Leader: Kay Widmer is an award-winning science teacher who specialized in ecology and environmental issues and has taught science at all grade levels.

Tuesdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 6 weeks: September 22 through October 27
Maximum: 25

GEOGRAPHICAL LINKS – HIGHLIGHTS

This course will be the last in the series “Geographical Links” which started in 2004. It will feature highlights from previous courses interwoven with new material. Highlights will be taken from continents, oceans, and islands, incorporating physical and human geography with some history thrown in. The aim is to enhance understanding of and interest in our global environment. Participants will be invited to submit their own highlights: whether a local phenomenon, or something curious or spectacular seen on their travels. Geography is very visual, and given the lack of suitable textbooks, a power point presentation is essential.

Leader: Helen Goddard has a degree in geography from Cambridge University, United Kingdom. She taught mainly 16- to 18-year-olds for several years, in the United Kingdom and briefly in Switzerland. She has done a lot of coaching of individuals and small groups for exam preparation. In 2004 Helen came to Princeton because of her husband’s job and has enjoyed leading a group of keen geographers at the Evergreen Forum since that time.

Thursdays: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 6 weeks: September 24 through October 29
Maximum: 25

JANE AUSTEN 2: NOVELS AND FILMS

This course will cover Austen’s *Northanger Abbey*, *Pride & Prejudice*, and *Mansfield Park*. The course will trace Austen’s take on “the disinherited daughter,” a story she inherited from eighteenth-century predecessors and updated. Course members will ask how the novels address and seek to resolve anxieties about the entailed paternal estate, the financial precarity of daughters, and the necessity of marriage. Participants will ask how the films “faithful” to the novels (Andrew Davies’ *Northanger Abbey*, 2007; Simon Langton’s *Pride and Prejudice*, 1995; and Patricia Rozema’s *Mansfield Park*, 1999) engage twentieth-century audiences. Class work will be literary, cinematic, and historical, considering how the history of marriage—and Austen’s own feelings about wedding—shaped these narratives.

Leader: Dianne Sadoff is professor emerita of English and former director of Cinema Studies at Rutgers University; she has also taught at Antioch College, Colby College, the University of Southern Maine, and Miami University of Ohio.

Tuesdays: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 8 weeks: September 22 through November 10
Maximum: 20

THE LADY WAS A SPY: WOMEN IN THE SECRET WORLD OF INTELLIGENCE AND ESPIONAGE FROM WORLD WAR I TO THE PRESENT

From World War I women have played key roles in the clandestine Game of Nations. Gertrude Bell was arguably more important than Lawrence of Arabia, for example, in the shaping of the Middle East in the post-World War I era. World War II saw several women operating spy networks and carrying out missions in occupied France, including Virginia Hall, whom the Nazis called the “Limping Lady of Lyon.” Now a spy novelist, Stella Rimington was the first woman to head MI-6. And secret agent Valerie Plame was at the center of the effort to silence critics of the Iraq War.

Leader: Lloyd Gardner is professor emeritus of history at Rutgers University, who has taught three previous courses for the Evergreen Forum on intelligence agencies, and the spies who bedevil them.

Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 24 through November 12
Maximum: unlimited



MIGRATIONS: CONTINUING STORIES

The Fall 2019 course, *Migrations: More Than a Border Story*, filled up quickly and was deemed a great success. This second *Migrations* series is suitable for new and previous participants. The course will cover a variety of topics related to migrations, including whether we can call the earliest moves of our ancestors “migrations,” the legal and political context of migrations, along with the rich contributions to music, poetry, food, film, and art of current and past migrations. We will also hear about refugee resettlement to the Princeton area. Each week’s topic will focus on one aspect of migration and be presented by different experts in a variety of formats such as lecture, panel discussion, and a virtual field trip to the Princeton University Art Museum.

Organized By: Barbara Kirsh, chair, Lynne Cullinane, Art Firestone, Elaine Jacoby, Sandy Kurinsky, and Judy Walzer

Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 9 weeks: September 23 through November 18

Maximum: 60

MORE PLAYS OFF THE PAGE: ANTONY & CLEOPATRA

Shakespeare wrote *Antony and Cleopatra* at the top of his form dramatically and poetically...a love story between a man and a woman at the pinnacle of power. The play goes from Egypt to Rome, from battlefield to castle, plumbing the depths of these characters through unforgettable poetry. Passion conflicts with rule; exotic Egypt conflicts with practical Rome; past conflicts with present. Participants should be prepared to get up from their seats, put those great words in their mouths and try to see what the playwright is telling them to DO. Neither acting experience nor familiarity with *Caesar* and *Cleopatra* are necessary.

Leader: Barbara Herzberg has an extensive theatre background, has taught English and drama, and directed plays for many years. She has been a course leader for Evergreen since its inception.

Wednesdays: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 8–10 weeks: Beginning September 23

Maximum: 20

PENELOPE FITZGERALD’S FICTION

This course will focus on the English writer Penelope Fitzgerald. We will read and discuss five of her novels as well as dipping into Hermione Lee’s biography *Penelope Fitzgerald: A Life* and reading selections from her letters. The novels will be *The Bookshop*, *Offshore*, *The Beginning of Spring*, *The Gate of Angels*, and *The Blue Flower*. We’ll discuss the sources of her material (autobiographical and historical), how she approaches her subjects and structures her work, the nature of her principal characters, and the way they think and talk.

Leader: Judith Wooldridge is a life-long and enthusiastic reader of novels and short stories in English; she has led five previous Evergreen Forum courses.

Thursdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 5 weeks: September 24 through October 29 (no class on October 15)

Maximum: 13

RECONCILING PERSPECTIVES: A STUDY OF THE VIETNAM WAR

Vietnam. Its war evoked passions that defined our generation. Some fought in Vietnam against communism; many fought simply to survive. As Americans fought, Americans argued about the war’s purpose and whether it justified the killing. Over 58,000 Americans and approximately 2,000,000 Vietnamese died in the war, even as Americans perceived we were not fighting to win. While the killing continued, the enemy offered to accommodate America’s willingness to fight for however long we wanted. Ultimately our government tired of such accommodation and America withdrew, with many questioning what really happened throughout the war, and why. This course addresses these subjects.

Leader: Robert Nolan is an attorney who has a history degree from the University of Scranton, where he is on the adjunct faculty, a law degree from Harvard, and has previously presented Evergreen Forum courses on America’s Revolutionary War, Civil War, and Old West.

Fridays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 25 through November 13

Maximum: unlimited



RONALD REAGAN'S AMERICA: THE CONSERVATIVE REVOLUTION AND THE WELFARE STATE

The current pandemic crisis has dramatically underscored the vulnerability of a majority of American citizens to economic insecurity. The New Deal and the Great Society were the most recent attempts to lay the groundwork for a welfare state in the United States. But with the election of Ronald Reagan, the Republican party did its best to destroy what existed of a welfare state. This course will study how and why that story unfolded as it did.

Leader: Stanley Katz recently retired as a Princeton University professor of public policy (Princeton School of Public and International Affairs), trained in history and law.

Mondays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 6 weeks: September 21 through November 2 (no class on September 28)

Maximum: unlimited

THE ROOTS OF WESTERN ART: FROM CAVE PAINTINGS OF 35,000 BC TO CONSTANTINOPLE IN 350 AD

Ever wondered how or where art began? Come explore the roots of art from the prehistoric cave paintings of the hunter-gatherers of more than 35,000 years ago to the mosaics of Constantinople. Discover the earliest writing in the Mesopotamian Valley and the hieroglyphs of ancient Egypt. Look at the monumental architecture of the Ziggurat of Ur and the pyramids of Egypt. See art as reflected in the myths of prehistory in Crete and continue to the heroic culture of classical Greece and its imitator Rome. Then stop at Constantinople in 350 AD. Trace how artists struggled to represent reality throughout time with art historian Wendy Worth, who taught last year's popular "Understanding Contemporary Art."

Leader: Wendy Worth is an art historian and has an MA in conservation biology.

Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 23 through November 11

Maximum: 50

SCIENCE IN THE NEWS

Science in the News is a course designed for all those who wish to become more informed about current scientific and medical topics. It covers a wide range of fields while striving to remain easily accessible to people of varying backgrounds and current knowledge. A variety of sources are used, and pertinent references are provided for each of the topics covered. All are welcome, regardless of experience. Presentations by class participants are encouraged, but not required.

Leader: Bob Robinson, a retired chemical engineer who worked in R&D and management in the pharmaceutical industry, and a panel of physicians and scientists with wide experience and interests.

Fridays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 25 through November 13.

Maximum: 50

THE SUPREME COURT AND NATIONALISM

The rise of nationalism is a part of the fabric of American history. What is nationalism, and how does it manifest itself? In exploring the answer to these questions, this course focuses on United States Supreme Court decisions that reflect nationalism and its impact on the body politic. The course will use Harvard professor and *The New Yorker* contributor Jill Lepore's book, *This America*, as an important resource. The issues of immigration, eugenics, slavery, birthright citizenship, religion, and patriotism prove relevant to the inquiry, and the course will explore Supreme Court decisions in these areas.

Leader: Philip Carchman is a retired New Jersey Superior Court Judge.

Tuesdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 22 through November 10

Maximum: unlimited



SWANN'S WAY: BEGINNING THE SEARCH FOR LOST TIME

In Search of Lost Time (1912–1928) by Marcel Proust (1871–1922) is one of the lasting artistic achievements of the twentieth century. The course will concentrate on *Swann's Way*, the first volume, which sets out many of the characters, ideas, and subtle templates of human behavior that make the *Search* so rewarding. *Swann's Way* contains the desperate need for Mama's kiss, the famous madeleine scene, the cautionary tale of Swann's love for Odette de Crecy, and some delicious social comedy. This course should equip readers to scale a Mount Everest of twentieth-century literature.

Note on the text: There is only one required text. The course will be using the new translation of *Swann's Way* by Lydia Davis (Penguin Classics Deluxe, ISBN 978-0-14-243796-4). It is important that all participants have the same edition, with the same words and page numbers.

Leader: Lee Harrod taught Joyce and modern literature at The College of New Jersey for many years.

Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. to noon, 8 weeks: September 23 through November 11

Maximum: 30

VOTING RIGHTS AND THE 2020 ELECTIONS

Voting rights have been a hot issue for several years, especially in the 2018 mid-term elections and now during the Covid-19 pandemic. After briefly reviewing the history of voting rights in the United States, this course will focus on current issues such as the vote-by-mail movement, voting restrictions facing whole categories of citizens, and the continuing role of gerrymandering. The course will also follow developments in the Presidential campaigns and identify and track the progress of some key Senate and House races. The active involvement of class members will be important to this process.

Leader: Elaine Jacoby is a retired attorney who leads courses on civil rights, women's issues, and politics.

Fridays: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 8 weeks: September 25 through November 13

Maximum: 35



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