

Tuesday

Judaism, Jesus, and Christianity (VC)

The affects of the Roman occupation of Palestine and the destruction of Jerusalem will be examined. The emergence of Judaism and its clash with emerging Christianity will result in irreparable divorce and bitter denunciation, especially in the writings of both new religions. These four lectures in March will focus on the complicated relationships between Judaism and Jesus, Jesus and Christianity, and Christianity and Judaism.

Facilitator: *Jim Morris*

Jim Morris retired as the Associate Vice Chancellor for External Relations at UMass Boston. He taught biblical literature at the University for 16 years. His educational background includes graduate work in Semitic languages at Catholic University and biblical studies at the Biblical Institute in Rome and Fribourg University in Switzerland.

Date: 4 Tuesdays, March 6 to March 27

Time: 10:00-11:30 am

Locations: UMass Boston and Cordage Park, Plymouth, specific room will be announced

Immigrants in Boston

This course will explore the histories of the major immigrant and in-migrant groups that settled in Boston. These groups include the original English settlers, the Irish, Italian, Jews, African-Americans, Asians, and Latinos. A number of questions will be raised about these groups. Why did they leave their country or area of origin? Why did they choose Boston? What were their employment and settlement patterns? What were their movements as groups? How did groups get along with each other in the city? An attempt will be made to compare these experiences.

Much of the course will cover the twentieth century and members of the class will know at least something about their own groups

Facilitator: *Thomas McMullin*

Thomas McMullin has a PhD in American History specializing in urban history. For many years he taught courses on Boston history at UMass Boston. He has also published several essays on Boston history.

Date: 5 Tuesdays, March 13 to April 10

Time: 1:00-2:30 pm

Location: UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

Tapping into Experience: The Civic Engagement of Older Adults

This course will cover the theoretical and political descriptions of civic engagement activities of older adults at national, state, and local levels with emphasis on the benefits for both older adults and their communities. Each class will involve participants in active discussion of the following: What is civic engagement? Why is it important in our society today? What are the benefits and obstacles for older adults to participate? & How can

people become involved with civic engagement? Participants will be asked to research civic engagement activities in their communities and their findings will be presented to the class for discussion. A panel of individuals and representatives of organizations that provide opportunities for older adults will describe their projects and what they have learned.

Facilitators: *Helen Garretson & Kathryn Klister*

Helen Garretson oversees all of Generations Incorporated's programming with the other Director of Programs. She has over 20 years of experience in management and administration, including experience overseeing a \$2 million budget and a department of 60 individuals at the Children's Hospital in Boston. She served as a program manager for Bird Street Community Center for nearly five years. Helen holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from the Boston University School of Social Work.

Kathryn Klister maintains, manages and executes strategies for volunteer recruitment, retention, and recognition. Previously, she served at Generations Incorporated as an AmeriCorps Lead. Before joining Generations Incorporated, she served as an early childhood teacher at the Martin County Child and Family Development Center as a full-time volunteer with the Christian Appalachian Project in Kentucky. She received her B.A. degree in Family Studies from St. Olaf College. Kathryn has traveled extensively in Latin America where she focused her studies on community development and sustainability in Guatemala and Cuba.

Date: 4 Tuesdays, March 27 to April 17

Time: 10:00-11:30 am

Location: UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

Tai Chi

Tai Chi (Tai Ji Quan) is an ancient Chinese form of movement which, originally, was a formidable martial art, operating on several levels of awareness. It embodies Taoist philosophy, and accordingly is extremely beneficial for good health. It is also a method of relaxation, used for increased focus and concentration. Benefits include stress reduction and better concentration, as well as improved flexibility, strength, enhanced immune system, balance, memory, circulation and coordination. This course is cosponsored by the Confucius Institute located at UMass Boston.

Facilitator: *Ngai Kwan*

Ngai Kwan is a Doctoral student in the Gerontology Department at UMass Boston. He received a B.A. in Physical Education and Recreation Studies from Hong Kong Baptist University. He then worked for four years as a Coordinator for Elderly Recreation Activities in the Hong Kong Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Ngai also worked as a Graduate Assistant in the Community Center for Vital Aging run by Ball State University. His major duties included organizing outreach wellness programs for older adults, coaching Senior Net classes and leading Tai Chi classes.

Date: 10 Tuesdays, March 6 to May 8

Time: 9:30-10:30 am

Location: UMass Boston, Beacon Fitness Center, McCormack Hall, 1st floor

Current Events and the Role of the U.S. in the New Global World

How should we, in the most powerful nation in the world, react or respond to the problems presented by the following: Internet and economic globalization, the fragile environment, pollution, over-population, starvation and poverty, disease, energy use, dictators, territorial conflicts, ethnic and religious conflicts, terrorism and defense. We will emphasize discussion and encourage opinions.

Facilitator: *Roger Prouty*

Roger Prouty is Professor Emeritus of History at UMass Boston. He taught *World History*, *Western Civilization*, *Boston History*, and *Britain and the Empire* and has been interested in international relations. He has taught many OLLI courses since the program's inception in 1999.

Date: 5 Tuesdays, March 27 to April 24

Time: 10:00-11:30 am

Location: UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

Basic Gardening

This course will cover the basics of gardening. Topics to be covered include trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, the basics of a good garden, and gardening resources. Slides will be shown. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions and discussion will be informal.

Facilitator: *Kristen Kleiman*

Kristen Kleiman has an M.S. in Environmental Science. She has taught gardening at the OLLI Program and Milton Adult Education since 2005. She has lectured about gardening to various social clubs and has her own garden design company, Prachie-Dunete Design.

Date: 4 Tuesdays, March 27 to April 24 (No class on April 17)

Time: 9:30-11:00 am

Location: UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

Introduction to Computers

This Course will help participants in familiarizing with the basic computer functions. We will begin with how to turn a computer on, names for computer components, and how to use the mouse and keyboard. Specifically, we will focus on the exposure to World Wide Web and word processing programs. By the end of the five weeks, participants should be able to write a letter on the computer, using Word, a common word processing program, and perform a search on the Internet. If you have no computer experience or feel intimidated by it, this "hands on" course may be just what you are looking for! Limit: 10 participants.

Facilitator: *Archana Prakash*

Archana Prakash is a doctoral candidate in the Gerontology Department at the University of Massachusetts in Boston. Her research interests lie in the assimilation process of elderly immigrants to the United States of America. She is also working as a research assistant in the Gerontology department.

Date: 5 Tuesdays, March 27 to April 24

Time: 1:00-2:30 pm

Location: UMass Boston Computer Lab, specific room will be announced

China: Culture & Society

In collaboration with the Confucius Institute located at UMass Boston, this course introduces participants to various aspects of contemporary Chinese society, including geography and population, ethnic and regional diversity, travel and tourist attractions, holidays and food, and current affairs. The course helps participants broaden their world view by comparing Chinese cultural products, practices, and perspectives with those of their own society.

Presenter: *Shixian Sheng*

Shixian Sheng came from China in 1995 as a visiting scholar, first at Boston University's English Department and then at Harvard University's Women's Studies. Teaching English as a Second Language has been her career for the last 25 years, almost half the time has been spent teaching new immigrants. Currently, she is a tutor at the multimedia, multipurpose language lab at Bunker Hill Community College, assisting students in locating software and websites that address their diverse language-improvement requirements, including bilingual interpretation.

Date: 8 Tuesdays, March 27 to May 15

Time: 1:00-2:30 pm

Location: UMass Boston, specific room will be announced