

# COURSES AND LECTURES

Spring 2025



# Spring 2025 Lasell Village Course Listings

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## For assistance with any part of the registration process contact

John Dixon, Ph.D., Dean of Education at (617) 663-7055, or  
Blythe Cowen, Educational Programming Specialist at (617) 663-7051

## Village Intranet:

Throughout this booklet, you will see reference to our intranet, [www.lasellvillagenet.com](http://www.lasellvillagenet.com) abbreviated as VillageNet.

## Policy on Course Materials

Residents are responsible for acquiring their own books and materials unless otherwise noted. Please contact the Education Office if you need assistance.

Handouts for courses are emailed to the students. If your vision or computer skills make it difficult for you to view or print the emailed handouts, you can pick up printed handouts in the Education Office.

If you have difficulty viewing slides displayed in class, contact the instructor to request that the slides be emailed to you before class. If you have difficulty reading handouts or slides, contact the Care and Connections Committee to provide further assistance.

# Lasell Village Academic Calendar

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## **Spring 2025**

Dec 20	Course booklet distribution
Jan 6	Registration forms due
Jan 15	Course confirmation distribution
Jan 27	First day of semester
April 26	Expected last day of semester

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## **Summer 2025**

April 16	Course booklet distribution
April 25	Registration forms due
May 9	Course confirmation distribution
May 28	First day of semester
August 16	Expected last day of semester

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## **Fall 2025**

Aug 8	Course booklet distribution
Aug 18	Registration forms due
Aug 29	Course confirmation distribution
Sep 29	First day of semester
Dec 19	Expected last day of semester

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## Registration Process

Registration Schedule:	
Dec	Course booklet distribution
Jan 6	Registration forms due
Jan 15	Course confirmation distribution
Jan 27	First day of semester
Apr 26	Last day of semester

**Registration Form:** The online form link will be emailed to all residents and posted on VillageNet. Paper forms may be picked up and returned to the Education Office.

**Due Date:** Complete and submit your form by noon on **Monday, January 6.**

### **When completing the form:**

- List your choices in **ranked order** of preference. *For best results, prioritize classes in smaller classrooms over classes in the ballroom or 918.*
- Indicate the **total number of courses** you wish to take.
- If you anticipate missing a quarter or more of a course's meeting dates, choose a different course to make room for neighbors who can attend all the sessions.
- Remember to list the courses you take regularly, such as Voices of Experience.

### **Please note:**

- Classes fill up, so listing at least one “extra” choice is recommended.
- Your course choices are reviewed in the order in which you list them, e.g. your second choice will not bump you from your first choice, and so forth.
- This registration is for Lasell Village **numbered courses only**. Do not register for fitness, workshops or University courses on the form.
- If you choose an in-person or Zoom class that has no seats available, and there is a Ch. 918 section for that class, you will be added to the Ch. 918 section automatically. **Please inform the Education Department if you would prefer to drop the course in this case.**
- Residents may not attend classes for which they are not registered.

**Notification of Enrollment:** Residents who submit forms by January 6 will be notified of their courses no later than January 15. You may not receive all your requested classes due to limited class capacity. Enrollment follows an algorithm that incorporates random lottery numbers, the order of each registrant's ranked choices, and priority status (new residents, centenarians, faculty, prior semester waitlist).

**Lasell House Registration Policy:** Residents of Lasell House who are not under a Residency and Care Agreement may submit the same registration forms as other residents. They will be enrolled after other registrations have been completed.

**Add/Drop Procedure:**

**Dropping a Course:**

**If you are dropping a course, please inform the Education Department.** This helps us keep accurate records and it allows residents on course waitlists to take your spot.

**Adding a Course:**

If you would like to add a course after the course registration period has passed, contact the Education Office to complete a late registration. All courses are subject to availability. The Education Office will also post open courses after January 15.

# Zoom Class Etiquette

Please treat a Zoom class as you would an in-person class.

Come prepared with what you need so that you can participate.

- Have your course materials and personal necessities within reach.
- Be punctual: ensure your device is ready for each meeting ahead of time.
- Ensure that your surroundings reflect a neat environment.
- Turn off all distractions on your computer prior to the meeting's start to eliminate the urge to multi-task during the meeting.

During the class:

- Turn the sound off for other devices you may have; smartphone, Ch. 918, etc.
- Introduce yourself before speaking. Speak clearly.
- Limit movement in the background. This is distracting to others in the meeting. If you need to get up or move, simply "stop video." This will allow you to see and hear, but others will not see you moving. Do not walk around with your phone/tablet.
- If you need to eat or receive an important call, please turn off your video and audio.
- Please mute yourself once the class starts; unmute when you wish to speak.

Note to smart phone or tablet users: please hold or place your device horizontally.

If you would like additional instruction on Zoom, please contact the Education Department for training.

# Fitness Facility Information for Spring 2025

*Fitness guidelines are subject to change in keeping with infection control best practices.*

<b>Pool Hours</b>	Monday - Friday	7 am – 1 pm
	Saturday & Sunday	7am – 11:30am
	Weekend Guest	11:30 am – 12:30 pm

<b>Fitness Center: Staffed Hours</b> The Fitness Centers are open 24/7 except for daily cleaning from 6:30-7:15 AM	Monday	8:30 – 2:30
	Tuesday	8:30 – 2:30
	Friday	8:30 – 2:30
	Saturday	10 - 3

## **Reservations**

Reservations are required for a resident to use the pool or the Fitness Centers (note: no reservation is required after 5 PM for the use of either Neill or Pestalozzi). Visit the “Fitness Reservation” section of [lasellvillagenet.com](http://lasellvillagenet.com), to make an appointment for the Pool, Fitness Center, Zumba, or Ping Pong. Appointments are typically 45 minutes.

## **Unsupervised Fitness Center Guidelines**

Each resident takes the responsibility to sanitize the equipment and follow hygiene protocols.

## **Pickleball Equipment**

The pickleball equipment and key are available for checkout at the Welcome Desk.

## Weekly Exercise Classes

This schedule is subject to change.

Changes will be announced in *News and Notes* and posted on [lasellvillagenet.com](http://lasellvillagenet.com).

<b>Monday</b>	10 – 10:45	<b>Zumba*</b> Cathy A.	Ballroom
	11:30 – 12:30	<b>Chair Yoga</b> Ruth L.	Ballroom/Ch. 918
<b>Tuesday</b>	10 – 10:30	<b>30-Minute Easy Strength</b> Lasell House Rehab	Ballroom
	11 – 11:45	<b>Water Volleyball *</b> Lulu Y.	Pool
	11:30 – 12:15	<b>Balance</b> At Home Physical Therapy	Ballroom/Ch. 918
<b>Wednesday</b>	10 – 10:30	<b>30-Minute Basic Stretch</b> Lasell House Rehab	Ballroom/Ch. 918
	10 – 10:45	<b>Water Aerobics*</b> Lulu Y.	Pool
	11:45 – 12:30	<b>Exercise with Britta</b> Britta Z.	Ballroom/Ch.918
<b>Thursday</b>	9 – 9:30	<b>Prerecorded Improving Mobility</b> Paul C.	Ch. 918
<b>Friday</b>	9 - 10	<b>Prerecorded Chair Yoga</b> Ruth L.	Ch. 918
	10 – 10:45	<b>Water Aerobics*</b> Lulu Y.	Pool
	11:30 – 12:15	<b>Exercise with Britta</b> Britta Z.	Ballroom/Ch.918
	1:30 – 2:15	<b>Mat Pilates</b> Khrystyna H.	Ballroom
<b>Saturday</b>	11 – 11:45	<b>Water Volleyball *</b> Lulu Y.	Pool
	11:30 – 12:15	<b>Multi-level Workout</b> Paul C.	Zoom/Ch. 918

\* Pre-registration required for these classes.



## Resident Groups

Regular meeting times and locations of Resident Groups are listed below. These are listed here for reference and planning purposes, but do not take precedence over course schedules. This list includes groups which are open to everyone. Committees with limited membership are not listed here.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Date, Time and Location</b>
V.I.P.s (Visually Impaired People)	Mondays at 8am in Margaret's Café
Flower Arranging	Mondays at 9am in the Art Studio
Knit Wits	Mondays at 10:15am in the Great Room
Chess Club	Mondays at 1pm in the Bar
Play Readers	Two Mondays per month at 3pm in the Ballroom
Book Group	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 4pm in Froebel
Movie Club Discussion	Mondays at 7:30pm in the Ballroom
Immigrant Club	Last Wednesday of every other month at 3pm in Froebel
German Conversation Group	Every other Wednesday for lunch
Cribbage Club	Fridays at 1:30pm in the Bar
Shabbat Service	Fridays at 4:30pm in Dewey
Health and Science Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10am in the Ballroom
International Relations Discussion Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 9:45am on Zoom
Sketching Group	4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 10am in the Art Studio
The Friends of Haskell/Lasell Pond	Every few months in Froebel
Ping Pong Club	Date and Time variable, Basement of Building 125A

# Lasell University Intergenerational Learning

The University's Spring semester will run from January 14 to May 5, 2025. Below is the list of designated intergenerational classes for the spring semester.

Course	TITLE	Time	Bldg	Room
ARTS111.A	Ceramics I	W 12:30-3	YAM	109
ARTS207	Figure Drawing	W 2-4:30	YAM	206
PSYC223.A	Media Psychology	TR 3:30-4:45	70	Mead
PSYC328	Cognitive Processes	MW 12:30-1:45	TBA	TBA
HON150.A	Spring Intro Seminar: Revenge, Forgiveness and Human Rights	TR 11AM- 12:25PM	70	Mead
PS923	Spanish for Lasers: Beginners	M 2-3:15	70	Mead
PS924	Spanish for Lasers: Intermediate	W 2-3:15	70	Mead

## Other Options for University Courses

Village residents are also able to register for undergraduate courses without the intergenerational designation. To browse the University course catalog, follow these easy steps:

1. Log into <https://my.lasell.edu/> using your Lasell Village email, password and authentication.
2. On the large blue menu bar, click on Self-Service.
3. Ignore the "Sign-in" box that appears. Instead, in the upper left, click on the search button and choose "course offerings."
4. On the right-hand side, click on Period and choose "Spring 2025".
5. Now enter a search term (e.g. ceramics, sociology or history) and select enter.
6. For more information on any of the courses click on the title, and a pop-up box will display a course description.

To register for any University course, contact the Education Department.

Spring 2025 intergenerational modules (short form IG courses) will be shared when available.

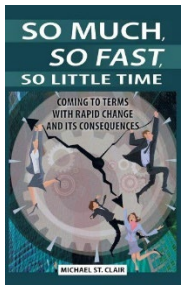
# Spring Lectures and Workshops

## January 2025 Book Talks

Thursdays, January 2, 9, 16, 23  
2 – 3 PM, Ballroom and Ch.918

Join us for this annual four-part winter program that features book reviews by members of our living and learning community of residents, staff and Village course leaders. Our thanks to Mary B., Chris W., and Dave W. for founding this program and to Louise F. and Joan R. for finding this year's speakers.

Registration is not required to attend or to watch on Ch. 918

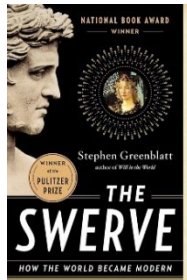


**January 2nd**

Michael S

*So Much, So Fast, So Little Time: Coming to Terms with Rapid Change and its Consequences*

by Michael St. Clair

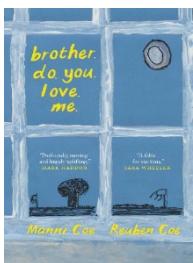


**January 9<sup>th</sup>**

Chris M

*The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*

by Stephen Greenblatt

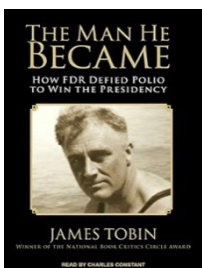


**January 16<sup>th</sup>**

Aileen M

*brother. do. you. love. me*

by Manni Coe, illustrated by Reuben Coe



**January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Tyll v

*The Man He Became: How FDR Defied Polio to Win the Presidency*

by James Tobin

## **Art Talk: Introduction to the Art of Pieter Bruegel the Elder**

Hank B

Mondays, January 6, 13 & 20  
10 - 11AM, Rogers

Four and a half centuries after his death many paintings of Pieter Bruegel the Elder are widely known and popular. But the most famous are only a part of his total oeuvre. These talks will explore a representative sample of his work, from his earliest drawings to his final masterpieces.

Bruegel's approach to drawing and painting and the form and content of his works give rise to important questions about graphic art.

The audience will be invited to consider several such questions. What does the artist expect his viewers to take from his works? How important is an understanding of his life and times for a fuller appreciation of his drawings and paintings? And, most importantly, why do we look at paintings and drawings from any time, but especially from centuries past?

Presenter: Hank B., a Village resident since August 2018, holds degrees from Princeton and Harvard. He has taught on every level from seventh grade English to graduate psycholinguistics. He taught college English and linguistics for 38 years. His upper-level course subjects included English Romantics, History of English, Chaucer, and American Poetry. This is his nineteenth Village course.

***Sign up on [VillageNet.com](http://VillageNet.com) or in the Education Office.***

## **Another Quilting Gizmo Workshop**

Peter S, Laurie H, and Daryl K

Tuesdays and Thursdays, January 7 – January 23  
10:30AM - 12PM, Art Studio, 80B

Join a workshop to play with a new gadget which cuts out exact quilting shapes without the danger of cutting yourself. We will choose fabric, cut out shapes and sew together the shapes for a quilt that will be complete at the end of the workshop. No previous sewing experience necessary.

Workshop Leaders: Peter, Laurie and Daryl are all experienced quilters.

***Limited to 8 people. Sign up on [VillageNet.com](http://VillageNet.com) or in the Education Office.***

## **Lecture: Women, Agriculture, and Climate Change**

Peg S.

Wednesday, January

8 2PM, Ballroom

How does climate change exacerbate existing gender inequalities and hinder women's empowerment? Examples of successful initiatives led by women in the Global South that address climate change and promote gender equity will be presented. Presenter: Peg S. is a researcher at Stony Brook University (BA, University of Minnesota, MA & PhD, American University); specializing in the modernization of scientific and technology in the developing world



## **Social Hour with Lasell University Faculty**

Thursday, January 9

3:30-4:30PM, Bar and Great Room

Lasell University faculty will be coming to the Village for a social hour after their mid-year meetings. Villagers are encouraged to join and mingle with our friends from across campus.

## **Workshop: Sanskrit Fable 2**

M.J. C

Tuesday, January 21

10AM, Froebel

A close reading of yet another fable, in Sanskrit, with a running translation and explanation, from the Hitopadeśa, the Book of Good Counsel, one of the highly respected treatises (śāstṛas) intended to make young noblemen aware of nīṭi.e. proper and virtuous conduct. The genre uses proverbs and maxims which are still current and frequently cited in India. The particular fable that we will read is usually called "The lion, the mouse and the cat". Presenter: M.J. C. retired in 2021 to Lasell Village as Professor Emeritus in Linguistics from the Department of Eastern, Slavic and German Studies, Boston College.

***Please sign up in advance on VillageNet.com or with the Education Office to ensure there are sufficient handouts.***

## Lecture: The History of Identity Politics

Clifford B.

Tuesday, January 21

3PM, Ballroom

Clifford B. taught in the History Department of Boston University from 1989 until his retirement. His research examined the relations between Muslims, Christians, and Jews in the Middle Ages, but his teaching portfolio included everything from ancient times to the present. His lecture will discuss his new book-in-progress, on the history of the idea of toleration in the West.

## Author Talk: Is It Racist? Is It Sexist?

Betsy L.W.

January 24

3:00 PM, Ballroom and Ch. 918



Betsy L.W., PhD will share insights from her new book, *Is It Racist? Is It Sexist? Why Red and Blue White Americans Disagree and How to Decide in the Gray Areas*. Learn how to better understand people you disagree with and how we all can approach allegations of racism or sexism in better ways that lead to accurate understandings and constructive solutions.

Betsy L. W., PhD, taught sociology at Lasell University for nine years, and really enjoyed teaching intergenerational courses with Village residents, including *Wealth and Poverty*, *Social Movements* and *Immigrants in America*. She is the author or co-author of 4 books on economic and/or racial inequality. For the new book she will talk about on January 24, she and Jessi Streib spent 2 1/2 years interviewing middle-aged white voters, half working-class and half professional-middle-class, half in the North and half in the South, half men and half women, and half Democrats and half Republicans. Those conversations give her some insight into why Americans are so politically polarized and give her hope that our country can successfully tackle racial and gender inequities. She lives in Arlington with her spouse Gail Leondar-Wright, who often teaches courses on Stephen Sondheim musicals at the Village.

***Registration is not required to attend or to watch on Ch. 918.***

## **Student Resume Review**

Thursday, January 30  
2 – 3PM, Dewey Classroom

Help Lasell University students refine their resumes and set themselves up for career success! Volunteers are needed to assist students in enhancing their resumes, offering valuable feedback, and providing guidance on key skills and formatting. Make a lasting impact on aspiring professionals in our community.

## **Récipes with Elena**

Elena C.  
Thursdays, January 9 to April 24  
3 – 4:00 PM, Zoom and Ch. 918

What could be better than preparing a delicious meal and enjoying it? Preparing it with Elena, Lasell Studios Manager, and the entire Village! Join Elena every week for a culinary delight on Zoom or virtually participate on Ch. 918. Learn to prepare simple meals rich in flavor and nutrients. Please email her at [eceban@lasell.edu](mailto:eceban@lasell.edu) to ask what ingredients will be used so that you can cook it together! Residents are welcome to join the workshop via Zoom (see [lasellvillagenet.com](http://lasellvillagenet.com) for the Zoom link) so that they may ask Elena questions or contribute comments. If you would like to help Elena one week or have a recipe of your own to share, please reach out to her by email or by phone at (617)663-7123.

**Elena C.**, Lasell Studios Manager, has shared her love of cooking with presentations at the Village over many semesters. Elena was born in Moldova and has been in the USA for almost 10 years. Her background is in teaching English with a Master's in Educational Management. She recently received an MBA from Lasell University.

***Registration is not required to watch on Ch.918 via Zoom.***

## **Beethoven's Piano Sonatas**

Lois S.

Lecture: Tuesday, April 29, 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Performance: Thursday, May 1, 7:30pm

Ballroom

Join Lois S., pianist, for the lecture, performance, and culmination of our several year exploration of Beethoven's entire 32 piano sonatas, with Op. 106, the "Hammerklavier" Sonata, the largest, most ambitious of Beethoven's piano sonatas.

When asked skeptically by a friend if "the Op.106 was actually music," Beethoven retorted: "not for YOU, but for future generations." This formidable work takes us all --performers and listeners--to the edges of the future...both of Beethoven's time and of ours!

**Presenter:** Lois S. has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States as well as in the former USSR, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Hungary, Mexico and Canada. Her piano trio Triple Helix, in residence at Wellesley College, was chosen Musicians of the Year for 2003 by *The Boston Globe*. Lois was an instructor of piano at Smith College, the New England Conservatory, and Brandeis University. She is currently on the faculty of Wellesley College, teaches at NEC Prep, and is artist-in-residence at the Rivers School in Weston.

***Registration is not required to attend or to watch on Ch. 918.***



# Lasell Village Courses

## 1. Beginner Ukulele

Shayla M.

**Sundays, March 23 – April 19 (NOTE: last date is a Saturday)**

**4:20 – 4:50 PM, Great Room (Building 120)**

## 2. Ukulele Jam

Shayla M.

**Sundays, March 23 – April 19 (NOTE: last date is a Saturday)**

**5 – 6 PM, Great Room (Building 120)**

### **Beginner Ukulele**

The beginner ukulele course is for music-lovers of all types with little to no previous ukulele experience. This course will serve as an introduction to the instrument and emphasize learning chords and a variety of strumming patterns to play and sing classic and contemporary songs.

### **Ukulele Jam**

This class is a low stress community experience for varying musical interests and abilities to share in the joy of shared music-making or 'jamming.' Join in by singing along, drumming, playing ukulele, bringing an instrument of your own (such as guitar), or attending as a regular listener. Please register for the class if you plan on attending in any of these capacities.

Course Materials: If playing ukulele: Please provide your own ukulele either a Soprano, Concert or Tenor, Not Baritone. A good sounding ukulele is typically between \$50-\$150. Consider a solid wood top and not plastic or laminate; avoid buying ukuleles that are listed as toys. Some common brands include: Lanikai, Donner, Cordoba, and Kala, but there are many great brands. If you are unable to purchase a ukulele, Newton Free Library loans ukuleles; it is a 3-week loan with up to 2 renewals. Please also purchase a Music Tuner or an app on your phone: Highly Recommended – Snark Clip-on Tuner that can be purchased on Amazon.

The course leader will provide sheet music and several sets of drums.

*Please do not let the material requirements hinder you from taking the class, please contact me or Lasell with any concerns.*

### Recommended Course Materials:

- 3-ring binder to hold sheet music
- *The Daily Ukulele Songbook: 365 Songs for Better Living* by Lizz and Jim Beloff, ISBN 9781423477754
- *Ukulele for Seniors* by Joe Carr, ISBN 978-0786691975

Course Leader: Shayla M., MT-BC, is a board-certified music therapist with a BA in Music Therapy from Eastern Michigan University and currently pursuing her Masters in Social Work at Boston University with a specialization in aging. She is the Music Therapy Program Coordinator at Winchester Community Music School providing individual and group music therapy for children and adults. Shayla sings and plays guitar, ukulele, and piano. She is most interested in music's ability to create community.

### **3. Contemporary Ethical Issues**

Maud C

**Mondays, January 27 – March 10 (no class February 17)**

**9:45 – 11:15 AM, Zoom**

If we look with both our eyes and our capacity for thinking, we will find ethical issues almost everywhere. This course will look at some of the issues which have surfaced, in certain cases dramatically in recent times: income and wealth inequality, abortion, physician-assisted suicide, the role of government, immigration, human genetic selection, and climate change.

The viewpoint will be that of the two most influential philosophers of the contemporary world: Peter Singer and John Rawls. Readings will be short, accessible, and provocative. The format of the class will be a combination of lecture and discussion

Course Materials: Required reading will be selections from [\*Ethics in the Real World\*](#) by Peter Singer, ISBN-10 0691237867. Additional handouts will be provided by the instructor.

Course Leader: Maud C. Ph.D. is in the History of Ideas, and she has taught in both the history and philosophy departments at Wellesley for over fifty years. One of her specialties in philosophy is ethics, and she has taught courses in medical ethics, social and political philosophy, and women in science and technology. Since her retirement from Wellesley, she has been teaching courses in these areas for the Councils on Aging in Dover and Sherborn.

#### **4. Introduction to Mah Jongg**

Joan I.

**Mondays, February 24 – April 14**

**9:45 – 11:15 AM, Rogers (Building 85A)**

Welcome to the world of Mah Jongg! Mah Jongg is a tile-based, four-player game that originated in China. Combining strategy, skill, and luck, the object of the game is to be the first player to assemble a hand that matches an eligible pattern on the Mah Jongg card.

Mah Jongg offers many benefits including friendship, community, fun, a sense of accomplishment, and improved brain health. The absolute best way to learn Mah Jongg is to practice playing, and you should be able to do that after 2 sessions. The first time you see the card and the tiles you may think it is too complicated or difficult, but by the third session it will all start to make sense – it always does! By the end of this course, you will know the rules of Mah Jongg, be able to interpret and follow the card, and be familiar with strategies needed to play defensively. Most importantly, you will have learned a new skill and formed a community that will hopefully continue playing together once the course concludes.

Course Materials: Prior to the first class you will need to purchase a 2024 card from the National Mah Jongg League, [www.nationalmahjonggleague.org](http://www.nationalmahjonggleague.org), and bring it with you to class every week. I recommend the large print card which is \$15.

Course Leader: Joan I. has been playing and teaching Mah Jongg for 31 years. In addition to teaching many friends, family members, and neighbors, she has taught the game to more than 75 older adults at Senior Centers in Lincoln, Carlisle and Weston over the past 5 years. Joan has a Master's Degree in Human Services from Brandeis University and a BA from Dartmouth College, and has held leadership roles in mental health, disability, and aging services throughout her career. Newly retired, Joan is passionate about continuing to share the joy of Mah Jongg through teaching.

#### **5. Writing About Your Life: Finding Your Voice in Turbulent Times**

Cathy M

**Mondays, January 27 – March 24 (no class February 17)**

**11:15 AM – 1 PM, Mervis (Building 120)**

In this continuing writing group, our theme will be “Finding Your Voice in Turbulent Times.” What have you learned and are you learning about responding to adversity? Who has

inspired you? What feeds your creativity? Writing can bring your memories alive, give others pleasure, and lead to unexpected insights. We will draw on resources such as published memoirs, fiction, poetry, art, photographs, prompts, and writing tools including metaphor, word play, humor and our sense for writing about past and current experiences.

In sharing our writing within a group, we hear different perspectives and styles. We build a community of writers who care about one another's progress. Whether you are currently writing a memoir or stepping into autobiographical writing for the first time, you are welcome to join this group. Students who have taken this course are welcome to enroll again and enjoy new prompts and writing strategies.

Course Leader: Catherine has been teaching personal narrative/memoir writing for several years. Since retiring from a career in studying inclusive schools, she has written personal stories in prose and poetry. Her books explore growing up in a "leftist" family in South Dakota and recovering from brain injury. Currently she is writing about dementia in a family. She has taught at Clark University and the Harvard School of Education and holds a doctorate in Language and Literature.

## **6. Generative AI: Transforming Art, Music, and Media**

Varshitha M.

**Mondays, February 3 – March 24**

**11:30 AM – 1 PM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

This course is designed for beginners who are curious about the exciting world of generative artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on creative fields such as art, music, and media. No prior experience with AI or programming is required. This course will provide a gentle introduction to the concepts, techniques, and applications of generative AI, with a focus on hands-on learning and practical examples.

Course Leader: Varshitha M. is a skilled Data Scientist who has enhanced threat detection and developed ETL processes at Cleveland Clinic, mentored students and designed impactful projects at Clark University, and optimized data workflows as a Software Engineer at Mphasis. As an instructor at EdTech start-up WhiteHat Jr, she taught coding to students globally for over 5000 hours. Her passion for mental health and wellness led her to teach stress relief yoga at Clark, providing a nurturing space for mindfulness. Her community service dedication is highlighted by the Dr. Laura Myers Community Service Award 2024 and her active participation in disaster relief efforts and weekly service at Mustard Seed, addressing local food insecurity. She also won the "Business Simulation

Competition" by MAPFRE Group on Management and Decision-Making in Insurance Companies, 2022. Currently, Varshitha is an Assistant Professor and Chair of Cybersecurity, where she continues to inspire and lead in the field of Cybersecurity and AI.

## **7. Voices of Experience sing *Rent***

Jonathan K.

**Mondays, January 27 – April 21**

**1:15 – 2:45 PM, Ballroom (Building 120)**

**Performances: 7:30 PM Tuesday, April 22 and 2 PM Wednesday, April 23**

Loosely based on Puccini's opera *La Bohème*, in New York City's East Village in the early 1990s, we follow a group of bohemians for one year as they strive for success and acceptance while enduring poverty, illness, and the AIDS epidemic. Some loves come and go, but as the song Seasons of Love asks: how do you measure a year? Why in 525,600 minutes, moments so dear, sunsets, cups of coffee, truths, tears, and love, of course!

Course Materials: Please bring a black 3-ring binder and a pencil.

Course Leader: Jonathan K. has been writing, playing, and teaching music for much of his life. Starting at a very young age at the piano, he went on to study film scoring and contemporary composition at Berklee College of Music in Boston. He has worked with and directed choirs, orchestras, marching bands, drum corps, and various other ensembles for many years. He now teaches private music lessons, writes and arranges music, and plays in orchestra pits full time.

## **8. A Whirlwind Tour of Ancient Egypt's History and Culture**

Michael S

**Tuesdays, January 28 – March 4**

**9:45 – 11:15 AM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

The study of ancient Egypt's history and art can initially seem overwhelming—unless this more than 3,500-year history is organized and key figures and sites highlighted. This course, with abundant images, seeks to do that. Egyptian civilization is filled with extremes: Western Culture would have to continue until the year 4500 CE to equal the entire span of ancient Egyptian culture. It was a society that existed before anything remotely modern intruded and without complex technology. But what we know about this ancient society provides us with a measure of how far, and how little, the world has progressed in the last few thousand years.

The first two classes will organize and consider the high points of ancient Egypt's history. The next three classes will examine specific issues of religion, tombs, and surviving "literature," (such as the Book of the Dead and hieroglyphics). Not to be neglected are some of the intriguing characters which we, perhaps, have heard of or read about, such as Akhenaten, Rameses the Great, Nefertiti and Cleopatra. The course will have short readings, abundant PowerPoint images and the opportunity to question and discuss.

Course Materials: There will be five readings (one for each class) of about 10 pages each. These are summaries or quotes from various books on Egyptian art and culture

Course Leader: Michael has advanced degrees in several areas (such as classical languages), and has taught at different levels, ranging from high school to college undergraduate to graduate levels. He has travelled and photographed in Egypt.

## **9. What Should I Believe?: Understanding and Trusting Information About Health**

Laurie H

**Tuesdays, January 28 – March 4**

**11:30 AM – 1 PM, Froebel (Building 130C)**

**NOTE: Does not conflict with course 10**

This course will focus on learning to identify reliable and trustworthy sources of information about health. It will include identification of some common ways health information is misrepresented, especially in the popular press and on social media. It will also include tips on reading scientific literature.

Course Materials: Handouts and links will be provided for each class. Participants will also be asked to identify readings to share with the class.

Course Leader: Laurie H. is a health practitioner (physical therapist) and she has taught physical therapy for many years. Her areas of teaching included research design and the principles of evidence-based practice. She is the co-author of the book, Evidence into Practice: Integrating Judgment, Values, and Research – An Application to Physical Therapist Practice. Laurie also serves on the board of Healthy NewsWorks, a non-profit teaching kids journalism skills (sorting facts from not facts) to write about health.

## 10. Eugene O’Neill at Sea on Page and Screen

Steve B.

**Tuesdays, March 11 – April 8**

**11:30AM – 1PM, Froebel (Building 130c)**

**NOTE: Does not conflict with course 9**

Eugene O’Neill is best known for his later works, such as *Long Day’s Journey Into Night* and *The Iceman Cometh*. Before he wrote those plays, however, he won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1936 (still the only American playwright to win the Nobel Prize) in recognition of the transformative impact of his plays from 1916 until that time on American drama. Many of his earliest works were based on his youthful experiences at sea. In this course, we will consider four of his one-act sea plays, known as the “Glencairn plays” (1916 – 1918) – “The Long Voyage Home,” “The Moon of the Caribees,” “Bound East for Cardiff,” and “In the Zone” – and the second of his four Pulitzer-Prize-winning plays, “Anna Christie” (1921). In 1940, John Ford directed *The Long Voyage Home*, a compilation of the four Glencairn plays, and in 1930, Greta Garbo spoke her first words on film in *Anna Christie*. After reading and discussing each of O’Neill’s plays, we will watch and discuss the film adaptations.

### Course Materials:

All plays are available for free online; they are also available for purchase on Amazon:

- Eugene O’Neill, “[Anna Christie](#),” Independently published, May 5, 2021; ISBN-13 : 979-8748851091
- Eugene O’Neill, [Seven Plays of the Sea](#), Random House, 1972; ISBN-10 : 0394718569
- The 2 films will be shown on Channel 918; which are also available on Kanopy or Amazon Prime Video. Dates and times to be announced.

Course Leader: Steve B. is Professor Emeritus, English, at Lasell University, where he was Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs when he retired in June 2020. Steve earned his Ph.D. (and M.A.) in English and American Literature from Brandeis University and his B.A. in English from the University of Rochester. Steve has published two books and many articles and reviews on Eugene O’Neill, spoken frequently at Boston-area theatres and other forums on O’Neill and other modern dramatists. Steve has taught regularly at Lasell Village since 2000.

## 11. Major Novelists of Tropical Africa

Claude W

Tuesdays, January 28 – March 4

1:15 – 2:45PM, Dewey (Building 130D)

Writers from Tropical Africa remain largely unknown. This course focuses on the most significant authors born between the Sahara and South Africa, and whose novels date from the early 1950s to the present. The class starts with a lecture on changes in Africa, from roughly 1770 to the present. The next four weeks will be devoted to discussion, each based on a different writer and novel. The final class will focus on emerging writers and current issues in Tropical Africa, including suggestions for future reading.

Course Materials: Assigned reading includes three novels written about different eras in distinct parts of Africa. The first book is *Things Fall Apart*, by the Nigerian author Chinua Achebe. Set in West Africa in the 1850-1900s, it has been regarded for over 50 years as the quintessential African novel. *A So Long Letter* [Une si longue lettre], by Mariama Ba, takes place in late 20th c. Senegal. Senegal was the first colony that France established in sub-Saharan Africa, their contact having started in the slave trading era. The final novel comes from Tanzanian writer Abdulrazak Gurnah, who received the Nobel Prize in 2021 for, among others, *Paradise*. This book takes place in (then) German East Africa and the Congo Free State around 1895-1915

All materials available on Amazon:

- Chinua Achebe, [Things Fall Apart](#) May 1, 1995, ISBN-10: 1565841638
- Mariama Ba, [A So Long Letter](#) May 20, 2012, ISBN-10: 1577668065
- Abdulrazak Gurnah, [Paradise](#) May 1, 1995, ISBN-10: 1565841638

Course Leader: Claude has followed events in Africa for more than 60 years, starting as an undergraduate. He has published extensively about human rights in Africa, military coups d'état in Africa, Pan-Africanism, and other Africa-related subjects. He has consulted for the US Institute of Peace, the Department of State and DOD about human rights and challenges to democratization south of the Sahara. Claude received six teaching awards at the University at Buffalo, including a State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.



## **12. What Makes Sondheim Great: Act II**

Gail L. W.

**Tuesdays, March 11 – April 8**

**1:15 – 2:45PM, Rogers (Building 85A)**

The late Stephen Sondheim is commonly thought to be the most important musical theater composer and lyricist of the past fifty years, and the single most influential force in bringing the Broadway musical into the modern era. This lively and interactive course will explore how Sondheim has elevated the genre, ushering in the musical's modern era. We'll focus on *West Side Story*, *Company*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *Into the Woods*.

Join other musical lovers for this fast-paced course, full of things to look at, watch, listen to, and think about. You need not have taken "Act I" to enjoy this class. We will focus on all new shows. Participants will be encouraged to watch full-length performance videos and listen to music.

Course Leader: A frequent instructor at Lasell Village, Gail L. W. has taught about the works of Stephen Sondheim for a number of lifelong learning communities connected with universities and religious congregations. She has supported the Pasadena Playhouse and The Lyric Stage Company of Boston productions of Sondheim musicals with virtual lectures, was a guest instructor for San Diego State University MFA in Musical Theatre program and was a panelist at the 2023 BroadwayCon session: "I Know Things Now: Remembering Stephen Sondheim." Gail holds an MA in Performance Studies from New York University and a BA in Drama from The University of California at Berkeley.

## **13. Your Art Journey: Learning to See**

Susan K.

**Tuesdays, February 4 – March 25**

**3 – 4:30 PM, Washington Art Studio (Building 80B)**

Making art means different things to different people. Together students will explore many possibilities for making art -- drawing, painting and picture making. Our focus will be on learning to see objects so that we can represent them better, that is through seeing, and comparing relationships of shapes, values and color and using your eyes to make the decisions. The teacher will work individually with students on the use of color, planning and executing from a photo or from real life, and learning to use the art style that speaks to them as individuals.

Course Materials: Returning students can continue a previous project or start something new. New students to the class can bring a sketch book, pencil, and any materials they already have.

Course Leader: Inspired by working from life in oil, pastel, and charcoal, Susan K. paints landscapes, portraits, and still life. She is an active plein air painter throughout New England including the North Shore / Cape Ann, Rhode Island, and Maine. In 2005 she began teaching classes for educational institutions and organizations, including Rockport Art Association and Museum, North Shore Art Association, JCC Newton and private instruction. She has painted with passion and a commitment to executing works each better than the last. Susan studied six years with three noted teachers of the Boston School tradition: Master Landscape Painter David Curtis, Master Portrait Artist Robert Cormier and Master Boston Painter Thomas Dunlay. She currently maintains a resident studio in Franklin and works and teaches in the Thomas Dunlay studios/Atelier, continuing the Boston school tradition. For more information on Susan: [www.susankelleyartist.com](http://www.susankelleyartist.com).

#### **14. Three Short Novels**

Hank B

**Wednesdays, January 29 – March 5**

**9:45 – 11:15AM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

We will explore three works strikingly different in their forms and in their themes. Each challenges the reader in a different way.

*Billy Budd*, Melville's last work, unfinished when he died and not published until 1924, challenges the reader to determine what Melville really thought about the right use of authority and the obligations of duty in time of war. Confronted with Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, his most famous work, the reader may consider it a fable, or an allegory, or a grotesque comedy—all three of these things, or something else altogether. Before the reader can determine what Faulkner was trying to say in *As I Lay Dying*, s/he must first construct a coherent narrative out of the individual short narratives spoken/thought by each of many different characters.

Class meetings will consist of discussion of the assigned reading with an occasional short lecture by the instructor.

### Course Materials:

- Melville, Herman. [\*Billy Budd, Sailor\*](#). Dover Publications. Any Hayfort-Sealts based edition will do.
- Kafka, Franz. [\*The Metamorphosis and Other Stories\*](#). Dover Publications. Any translation will do. (A more recent translation has the title “The Transformation,” which is a more accurate translation of Kafka’s title “DieVerwandlung.”)
- Faulkner, William. [\*As I Lay Dying\*](#). Any edition will do.

Course Leader: Hank B., a Village resident since August 2018, holds degrees from Princeton and Harvard. He has taught on every level from seventh grade English to graduate psycholinguistics. He taught college English and linguistics for 38 years. His upper-level course subjects included English Romantics, History of English, Chaucer, and American Poetry. This is his nineteenth Village course.

## **15. Strong Queens in Medieval History**

Jennifer H

**Wednesdays, March 5 – April 9**

**9:45 – 11:15AM, Froebel (Building 130C)**

“Well behaved women seldom make history!” wrote historian Laurel Thatcher Ulrich in 1976. Our study will examine four queens who were definitely not well-behaved by the standards of their day!

In chronological order, we will examine the lives of three queens of England, and one of Scotland, who defied the social norms of their day. Eleanor of Aquitaine 1122-1204 (married to Henry II); Margaret of Anjou 1430-1482 (married to Henry VI); Mary, Queen of Scots 1542-1587 (married twice), and Elizabeth I 1533-1603 (never married).

What did it take to survive as a woman in an age when all the power belonged to men? When royal or well-born women were simply pawns in the chess game of international politics? We will search for what common characteristics they shared; what challenges each faced; how history, literature, and art have defined them; and much more. We will attempt to sort out where propaganda merges with history, and fact with fiction.

The course will consider how geography, history, national and international politics and alliances were woven together in those long-ago centuries, and how these four queens did, or did not, fit into the tapestry of their times. Please join me for a trip back in time to learn more about how these definitely not well-behaved women made, and shaped, history.

Course Materials: Readings, maps etc. will be given out before each class. Class members should be prepared for active discussions and some individual research.

Course Leader: Jennifer H. loves history and stories about people in history. She has read extensively about this period of medieval history in Europe and has travelled there in the footsteps of each of these four queens. She has taught several courses at Lasell including War Poetry, History of Ireland, The Grapes of Wrath, Burma/Myanmar, and Justice Blackmun.

## **16. Learning to Read Music Notation**

Jonathan K.

**Wednesdays, January 29 – March 19**

**1:15 – 2:45 PM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

Learning to read musical notation is like learning a new language. Knowing the basic vocabulary will help you communicate with other musicians and will make learning new songs much easier. In this class we will begin to demystify the language that is musical notation by first learning the rhythmic vocabulary before expanding into the notes on the staff. If you do not currently read music or do not feel confident with it, this workshop is for you!

Course Leader: Jonathan K. has been writing, playing, and teaching music for much of his life. Starting piano at a very young age, he went on to study film scoring and contemporary composition at Berklee College of Music in Boston. He has worked with and directed choirs, orchestras, marching bands, drum corps, and various other ensembles for many years. He now teaches private music lessons, writes and arranges music, and plays in orchestra pits full time.

## **17. Rethinking Disabilities**

Judith T

**Thursdays, January 30 – March 13**

**9:45 – 11:15 AM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

This discussion-based class will start with a historical overview of the move from eugenics in the 1800s and 1900s to the disability rights movement and the passage of the Americans with Disability Act in 1990. We continue with a discussion of the language and ethics of disability followed by an examination of the disability rights critique of prenatal genetic

testing. We then spend three classes learning about the lives of adults with hearing loss, autism, physical challenges, and/or physical differences. The class will conclude with a discussion of the future: the values and attitudes that might guide our views of persons with disabilities in the 21st century and beyond.

Course Materials: [\*About Us\*](#) edited by Peter Catapano and Rosemarie Garland-Thomson. ISBN 978-1-63149-585-4. The text will be supplemented by videos available online.

Course Leader: Judith T., retired from the Brandeis faculty after 42 years of teaching undergraduate biology and 25 years of training graduate students to become genetic counselors, has a long-standing interest in genetics and the ethical issues that often arise when new genetic tests and technologies are introduced. Judith's involvement in the training of genetic counselors as well as her active role in a number of patient advocacy groups derive in great measure from her own experiences as the parent of a child with Canavan disease, a rare and progressive neurological genetic disorder.

## **18. The Beginning of the Strategic Air Command (Froebel, Building 130C)**

## **19. The Beginning of the Strategic Air Command (Ch.918 or Zoom)**

Dr. Lawrence C.

**Thursdays, January 30 – March 6**

**10 -11 AM**

The Strategic Air Command began with the work of the 8th Air Force bombardment squadrons of the United Kingdom operating against Nazi Germany. From May of 1942 through May of 1945, the 8th Air Force destroyed the industrial ability of Germany to continue to arm itself and prevented the German Army from properly defending Germany by destroying its anti-aircraft system, its motorized armor, and many of its infantry.

In May of 1945, when Germany surrendered, approximately 70% of the 8th Air Force was transferred to the 15th Air Force on Saipan, within striking distance of Japan. The addition of the 8th Air Force to the 15th Air Force allowed the United States to burn all the cities of Japan down. The commander of the 8th Air Force, Curtis LeMay, became the commander of the 15th Air Force. The 15th Air Force completed the destruction of military operations in the Japanese home islands. The results of the invasion of Iwo Jima and Okinawa and the significant defensive operations by the Japanese caused the decision of the United States to drop the atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, causing Japan to surrender.

The resulting 8th and 15th Air Force became the beginning of the Strategic Air Command, which came to prominence during the Cold War. The Strategic Air Command developed three strategic wings, which were reconnaissance wings that reconnoitered the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, and the communist countries of Eastern Europe. The Strategic Air Command won the Cold War.

Course Leader: Former Village resident Lawrence X. C., Ph.D. is a former senior officer in the United States Air Force and spent over 30 years in military service. He continues to provide consultation within the broad range of the national security enterprise. He has two doctorates, one in clinical and educational psychology from Indiana University and the other in history with a specific focus on Soviet and Military History from Boston College and has several years of teaching experience in both disciplines.

## **20. Creative Writing Poetry Workshop**

Sara L.

**Alternate Thursdays: January 30, February 13 & 27, March 13 & 27, April 17 (no class Apr 10)  
11:30AM – 1PM, Mervis (Building 120)**

**Poetry Reading Showcase: Thursday, April 24, 2 PM**

The Creative Writing Poetry Workshop is designed for intermediate and advanced writers and provides students with an opportunity to compose and revise original poems in a supportive environment. We will choose a book of poetry to read with selections due each week. The course leader will also provide students with a prompt for each class session. Students will submit poems for peer review each week and provide feedback on their peers' poems for discussion in class. Participants will submit a portfolio of revised poems at the end of the course for a published booklet. We will also hold a reading of original work at the end of the semester.

Course Materials: A book of poems by a single author, TBA via email before the course starts.

Assignments: Original poems shared for each class, a final portfolio of revised poems

Course Leader: Sara L. has a PhD in Rhetoric & Writing Studies and an MFA in Creative Writing, Poetry. Dr. Large is Associate Professor of Writing at Lasell University, where she teaches courses in the Writing Program and Core Curriculum, facilitates professional

development for new adjunct faculty, and serves as the Director of the Writing Across the Curriculum Program. Dr. Large frequently presents on panels at local and national conferences on writing and teaching. She has taught English and Writing at many institutions across the U.S. and even spent one year teaching in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She has published poems in *New South* and *Redactions*.

## **21. The Wonder of Birds**

Catherine H.

**Thursdays, March 6 – March 27**

**11:30 AM – 1 PM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

Bird-watching has surged in popularity in his decade. It's easy to see and you can do it anywhere--even from inside your home. Since The United States Fish and Wildlife Service estimates more than 45 million Americans are bird watchers, it is clear that birding is the only national sport that is televised! To learn more about birds we look to scientists and artists. Scientists search for facts; artists introduce visual and visceral components; both offer paths for the curious to learn. Contemporary artwork will include illustrations, murals, photography, sculpture and music. You will hear directly from scientists and artists in videos. Topics will include the Evolution of Field Guides, Nests and Eggs, Predation, Extinction and Species Recovery, Birds as Icons, and the Role of Art in Advocacy for Birds.

Course Leader: Catherine H. was a museum curator, educator, and independent museum consultant for over twenty years. She received her Bachelor of Arts in History of Art from Cornell University and began her career in the Department of Textiles at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Catherine has a lifelong interest in the connections one can discover while studying art history, science, and culture. Catherine attended camps at Audubon's Hog Island, Bremen, Maine, in 2021.

## **22. Reconstruction and America's Incomplete Democracy**

Dale G.

**Thursdays, January 30 – March 20**

**1:15 – 2:45 PM, Froebel (Building 130C)**

The current political climate raises issues around race, class, labor and citizenship that have plagued America at least since the 19th century. The Reconstruction period can shed some light on the longstanding fissures in American thinking. Scholars and activists during the period saw the work of rebuilding the nation as a second American Revolution. Like the

actual American Revolution of 1776, the Reconstruction period provided an opportunity to break with slavery and fulfill American's democratic promise. In this way, the Reconstruction Era showed America was an incomplete democracy. This course will trace the history of events and ideas from 1860 to 1880. We will look at the goals of the Reconstruction Era and the challenges to its attempts to reframe the American nation as one of equality of person and opportunity. We will be concerned with slavery and the questions of race, labor, voting and freedom.

Course Materials:

- Du Bois, W.E.B. [\*Black Reconstruction in America: An Essay Toward a History of the Part Which Black Folk Played in the Attempt to Reconstruct Democracy in America, 1860-1880\*](#)
- Foner, Eric; [\*A Short History of Reconstruction\*](#)

Course Leader: C Dale G. is an Americanist specializing in intellectual history, religion, culture, race and African American Studies. She holds a master's degree in theological studies from Harvard Divinity School and a master's degree in history from Harvard University. Prior to graduate school, she worked in the corporate and nonprofit sectors.

### **23. Johann Sebastian Bach**

Frank B

**Thursdays, March 6 – April 10**

**1:15 – 2:45 PM, Ballroom (Building 120)**

Johann Sebastian Bach maintains a special niche in the pantheon of western civilization. Within the broad context of the Protestant Reformation and the 30 Years' War in the 17th century, Bach transformed the structure and the expression of music to a degree that has had profound and diverse influence on composition and performance practices over the past three centuries. Our course will begin with a historical and cultural overview that focuses on Bach's remarkable musical ancestry and the vital importance of the Lutheran chorale. In subsequent classes, we will sample some of Bach's most important and beloved secular pieces, suites of Baroque dances, and Bach's mastery of fugue and its impact on the evolution of symphonies and choral works during the last two centuries. The course will end with two sessions devoted to Bach's great sacred works – the cantatas, passions and B minor mass.



There will be no reading assignments for this course, but each week selected relevant YouTube recordings will be emailed to the class. As we explore the enormous range and impact of Bach's sacred and secular compositions, our focus will be primarily on listening experiences in which personal feedback and discussion will be encouraged.

Course Leader: Before he retired, Frank B. was a hematologist and research scientist at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital. He is an enthusiastic amateur pianist and enjoys playing background music for the Village Club and partnering with fellow residents, both instrumentalists and singers. Frank is a lifelong devotee of the music of Bach and has been an enthusiastic supporter of Emmanuel Music, here in Boston, which performs a Bach cantata on Sunday mornings, as part of Emmanuel Church's regular worship service.

## **24. Great Historic Speeches: Rhetoric, Style and Context**

Staci H.

**Fridays, February 7 – March 21**

**9:45 – 11:15AM, Dewey (Building 130D)**

This course is designed to engage the class in in-depth analyses of great historical speeches. From the well-known Lincoln's Gettysburg Address to Audre Lorde's moving talk *The Transformation of Silence into Language and Action*, we will visit different times and places in history, observe the social and political context of the speeches, and employ the principles of Aristotle's philosophy about rhetorical analysis to examine how language is used to persuade.

What makes a speech "good" or memorable? Aristotle would argue that those terms are subjective, and a better question is: what makes the language of a speech effective (or not)? When we understand the tenets of Aristotle's rhetorical analysis—modes of persuasion—we can better understand what moves us, inspires us, or sometimes what causes us to shut down, not wanting to hear more, and why. For the Ancient Greeks, persuasion through language was an art form, and our class will wander the halls of a virtual museum dedicated to this art. The course will have assigned weekly readings to be completed before class and guided discussions on the readings, as well as brief lectures. Some of the speeches we will listen to portions of in and out of class.

Both returning students and newcomers are welcome; you do not need to have taken this course previously to participate. Returning students will also find this course enjoyable as it will follow the same format as Part I but will cover new speeches.

Course Leader: Staci H. is a poet and essayist whose work has been published in The Los Angeles Review, December Magazine, Rattle, Salamander Magazine, Samfiftyfour Literary, Southern Humanities Review, Abraxas Review and others. She is an Idyllwild Arts Poetry Fellow and teaches Writing and Rhetoric at Lasell University. She is a violinist, and obsessed with learning things every day to make her question what she already thinks she knows.

## **25. Appreciating Architecture: The Wright Way**

Izzi and Howie A.

**Fridays, March 28 – April 25**

**11:30 AM – 1 PM, Froebel (Building 130C)**

During the course of his life, Frank Lloyd Wright produced an astonishing range of buildings considered to be the finest examples of American architecture. Wright was a master designer, builder, and worshipper of nature. In this program we will explore the uniqueness of his style, organic architecture, starting from his 1889 debut in Chicago and his development of the Prairie School up to the 1950s, with the creation of the Guggenheim Museum. Wright was a complicated individual, giving us an opportunity to look at his life, his eccentricities, his flaws, and his genius. This program will be enhanced by audio visual presentations and handouts.

Course Leaders: Israella A. received her B.A. from Clark University and her M.Ed. from Wheelock College. Niece of former Village resident Sis Kazis, she is a librarian at Swampscott Public Library. Ms. Abrams facilitates and moderates book groups on the North Shore as “The Reading Woman.”

Howard A., MD is a psychiatrist trained at Clark University (BA), Tufts University School of Medicine (MD) and Harvard University Medical School at Massachusetts Mental Health Center (Psychiatry), going on to obtain subspecialty certification in geriatric psychiatry. He has helped his wife, Israella in multiple prior Lasell Village courses, providing AV support and occasional guest speaking. He shares her passion for the arts and love of teaching.

## 26. Values and the "Good" Life

James L.

**Fridays, January 31 – February 28**

**1:15 – 2:45 PM, Mervis (Building 120)**

In this seminar, we'll explore the challenge of living meaningfully in a world that often conflicts with our deepest values. Together, we'll tackle three fundamental questions: How essential are values to leading a good life? What does authentic value-driven living look like in an unfair world? And when should we compromise, stand firm, or change our values?

Each week, we'll think critically and carefully about what it means to stay true to ourselves and why this might matter for living well. Rather than seeking perfect answers, we'll build a supportive learning community to explore these questions together. Our discussions will be guided by Valerie Tiberius's thought-provoking work "What Do You Want Out of Life?: A Philosophical Guide to Figuring Out What Matters" (2023). Tiberius argues that values must guide our choices and that understanding, adapting, and aligning our actions with what truly matters is key to living well. We'll critically evaluate her framework for 'living well' using our collective wisdom and lived experiences.

The seminar will function like a book club. We hope to build a welcoming space to voice doubts, share life strategies, and collaboratively explore Tiberius's suggestions. Each meeting, we will turn to different folks to guide the discussion and will determine the reading pace as a class at the first meeting. Folks should come to the first meeting having read the "Roadmap" section and Ch. 1, "What We Want and What Stands in Our way."

### Course Materials:

- Tiberius, Valerie, [\*What Do You Want Out of Life?: A Philosophical Guide to Figuring Out What Matters\*](#) Published January 10, 2023; ISBN-13: 978-0691240688

Course Leader: Dr. Lincoln, an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Lasell University, holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Kentucky with specializations in Social Theory and Ethics. They also serve as Lasell's Nancy Lawson Donahue '49 Professor of Ethics. In this role, his research focuses on Moral Perception, Social Ethics, and Marcusean Social Theory. He also leads the Junior Ethics Experience Program, which offers a cohort-style experience for all Juniors at Lasell to study ethical reasoning, values, and values conflicts.

## 27. Linocut Printmaking

Lisa G.

**Fridays, February 14 – April 11 (no class March 14)**

**1:15 – 2:45 PM, Art Studio (Building 80B)**

Students will learn the traditional relief linocut printmaking process. Explore the practice of using lino cutting tools, brayers, warming ink, inking the matrix, and how to handprint with a baren. Creatives will create artist proofs, ghosts, a limited edition, and varied editions. Students will create an original stamp, a more complex single block print or a jigsaw print. The subject matter will be chosen by the artist. No prior relief printmaking experience needed.

Course Leader: Lisa G. holds Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in General Fine Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Painting from Cranbrook Academy of Art and a year's study in Florence Italy at Studio Arts Center International. Lisa lectures and instructs studio art courses at Lasell University, the Attleboro Arts Museum School, and throughout southern New England for students of all ages. Her art exhibition record includes galleries and museums on the east coast in the mid-west and in Italy.

### Course Materials:

- [Printmaking Kit: Essdee Lino Cutting and Printing Kit](#)
- 2 Sharpies (Extra fine and fine tip)
- HB pencil - # 2
- Eraser - pink or vinyl
- Pencil sharpener
- Speedball Printmaking Pad - Top view of 20 pg Printmaking pad Size: 8½" x 11"
- Blick Studio Tracing Paper Pad - 12" x 18", 50 Sheets
- Speedball Water-Based Block Printing Ink Retarder - 1.25 oz (or larger)
- Optional: additional colors of Water-Soluble Block Printing Ink, sizes 2.5-5 oz

## SPRING 2025 SUMMARY OF LASELL VILLAGE COURSES

Sat.	Fitness	<b>Multi-level Workout</b> Paul C.	Weekly	11:30 AM–12:15 P Zoom/Ch. 918
Sun.	1	<b>Beginner Ukulele</b> Shayla M.	3/23 - 4/19	4:20 – 5:50PM Great Room
	2	<b>Ukulele Jam</b> Shayla M.	3/23 - 4/19	5- 6 PM Great Room
Monday	3	<b>Contemporary Ethical Issues</b> Maud C	1/27 – 3/10 Skip 2/17	9:45 -11:15 AM Zoom
	4	<b>Introduction to Mah Jongg</b> Joan I.	2/24 – 4/14	9:45 -11:15 AM Rogers
	Fitness	<b>Zumba*</b> Cathy A.	Weekly	10:00 – 10:45 Ballroom
	5	<b>Writing About Your Life: Finding Your Voice in Turbulent Times</b> Cathy M	1/27 – 3/24 Skip 2/17	11:15AM - 1 PM Mervis
	Fitness	<b>Chair Yoga</b> Ruth L.	Weekly	11:30 AM–12:30 P Ballroom/Ch. 918
	6	<b>Generative AI: Transforming Art, Music, and Media</b> Varshitha M.	2/3 – 3/24	11:30AM – 1PM Dewey
	7	<b>The Voices of Experience sing Rent</b> Jonathan K.	1/27 - 4/21	1:15 -2:45 PM Ballroom
Tuesday	8	<b>A Whirlwind Tour of Ancient Egypt’s History and Culture</b> Michael S	1/28 – 3/4	9:45-11:15AM Dewey
	9	<b>What Should I Believe?: Understanding and Trusting Information About Health</b> Laurie H	1/28 – 3/4	11:30AM – 1PM Froebel
	10	<b>Eugene O’Neill at Sea on Page and Screen</b> Steve B.	3/11 – 4/8	11:30AM – 1PM Froebel
	11	<b>Major Novelists of Tropical Africa</b> Claude W	1/28 – 3/4	1:15-2:45 PM Dewey
	Fitness	<b>30-Minute Easy Strength</b> Lasell House Rehab	Weekly	10 – 10:30 AM Ballroom
	Fitness	<b>Water Volleyball*</b> Lulu Y.	Weekly	11 – 11:45AM Pool
	Fitness	<b>Balance</b> At Home Physical Therapy	Weekly	11:30 – 12:15 Ballroom/Ch. 918
	12	<b>What Makes Sondheim Great: Act II</b> Gail L. W.	3/11 – 4/8	1:15-2:45 PM Rogers
	13	<b>Your Art Journey: Learning to See</b> Susan K.	2/4 – 3/25	3 – 4:30 PM Art Studio

\* Pre-registration on VillageNet required for these fitness classes

## (continued) SPRING 2025 SUMMARY OF LASELL VILLAGE COURSES

<b>Wednesday</b>	14	<b>Three Short Novels</b> Hank B	1/29 – 3/5	9:45 -11:15 AM Dewey
	15	<b>Strong Queens in Medieval English History</b> Jennifer H	3/5 – 4/9	9:45-11:15 AM Froebel
	Fitness	<b>Water Aerobics*</b> Lulu Y.	Weekly	10 – 10:45 AM Pool
	Fitness	<b>30-Minute Basic Stretch</b> Lasell House Rehab	Weekly	10 – 10:30 AM Ballroom/Ch. 918
	Fitness	<b>Exercise with Britta</b> Britta Z.	Weekly	11:45 – 12:30 Ballroom/Ch.918
	16	<b>Learning To Read Music Notation</b> Jonathan K.	1/29 – 3/19	1:15-2:45 PM Dewey
<b>Thursday</b>	Fitness	<b>Prerecorded Improving Mobility</b> Paul C.	Weekly	9 – 9:30 AM Ch. 918
	17	<b>Rethinking Disabilities</b> Judith T	1/30 – 3/13	9:45-11:15 AM Dewey
	18	<b>The Beginning of the Strategic Air Command</b> Dr. Lawrence C.	1/30 – 3/6	10-11 AM Froebel
	19	<b>The Beginning of the Strategic Air Command</b> Dr. Lawrence C.	1/30 – 3/6	10-11 AM Zoom/Ch.918
	20	<b>Creative Writing Poetry Workshop</b> Sara L. Alternate weeks: 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/27, 4/17	1/30 – 4/17 Skip 4/10	11:30AM – 1PM Mervis
	21	<b>The Wonder of Birds</b> Catherine H.	3/6 – 3/27	11:30AM – 1PM Dewey
	22	<b>Reconstruction and America’s Incomplete Democracy</b> Dale G.	1/30 – 3/20	1:15 – 2:45PM Froebel
	23	<b>Johann Sebastian Bach</b> Frank B	3/6 – 4/10	1:15-2:45 PM Ballroom
<b>Friday</b>	Fitness	<b>Prerecorded Chair Yoga</b> Ruth L	Weekly	9-10 AM Ch. 918
	24	<b>Great Historic Speeches: Rhetoric, Style, and Context</b> Staci H.	2/7 – 3/21	9:45-11:15 AM Dewey
	25	<b>Appreciating Architecture: The Wright Way</b> Izzi and Howie A.	3/28 – 4/25	11:30AM – 1PM Froebel
	Fitness	<b>Water Aerobics*</b> Lulu Y.	Weekly	10 – 10:45 AM Pool
	Fitness	<b>Exercise with Britta</b> Britta Z.	Weekly	11:30 AM-12:15 P Ballroom/Ch.918
	26	<b>Values and the "Good" Life</b> James L.	1/31 – 2/28	1:15-2:45 PM Mervis
	27	<b>Linocut Printmaking</b> Lisa G.	2/14 – 4/11 Skip 3/14	1:15-2:45 PM Art Studio
	Fitness	<b>Mat Pilates</b> Khrystyna H.	Weekly	1:30 – 2:15PM Ballroom

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