



“Once the students get their hands on the material, the momentum comes from them. The instructor’s job is to be able to fuel the discussion.”



“We each brought our own ideas to discussion and challenged each other’s views in a respectful and beneficial manner, making me think in ways I don’t usually think.”



Fiat Lux

Let There Be Light!



“This form of teaching is at the very heart of what education ought to be: an opportunity to engage faculty and students in thoughtful and collegial discussions about an array of topics.”



“The quality of intellectual engagement was great—we got to feed on each other’s opinions that opened our eyes to different understandings.”



“I had the privilege of teaching a *Fiat Lux* class on biological chronometry. Students engage in critical thinking, explore new ideas and draw from a broad range of viewpoints. Faculty learn from the fresh perspectives of our youngest Bruins.”

—Chancellor Gene D. Block



The *Fiat Lux* Freshman Seminar Program takes its name from the University of California motto: *Fiat Lux—Let There Be Light!* First-year students participate in stimulating discussions with distinguished faculty on a variety of critical topics in these one-unit seminars.

The program originated from the ashes of September 11, 2001 when UCLA administrators and faculty recognized an urgent need to help the campus community grapple with the complex emotional, intellectual, social and political issues suddenly thrust upon the country and the world. Its fundamental aim—to provide entering students an opportunity to study with ladder faculty in a small seminar setting—is vital to the educational mission of UCLA.

As with all efforts to improve undergraduate education at UCLA, the astounding success of *Fiat Lux* reflects a collaborative effort of widespread participation and support across campus. Participants in *Fiat Lux* include 350 faculty from across the College and all 11 of UCLA's professional schools, who have taught 1,300 seminars to 20,000 undergraduates.

Judith L. Smith

Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

Gary Nash Emeriti Seminars

The Gary Nash Emeriti Seminars were established through a generous gift from Mr. and Mrs. Leiv Blad in honor of Professor Gary Nash, a noted historian and professor emeritus of history.

An award-winning author, Professor Nash is considered one of the most distinguished historians of colonial and revolutionary America in the United States. He co-chaired the *National History Standards* project and has written several books including *Race and Revolution*, *History on Trial* and, his latest, *The Forgotten Fifth*. He is also director of the National Center for History in the Schools, an organization designed to help educators teach U.S. and world history.

A special seminar series in his name is a fitting tribute to the life work and intellectual legacy of Professor Nash, who has been a tireless supporter of seminars for undergraduates and is devoted to improving the undergraduate experience.

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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www.fiatlux.ucla.edu

Beserat Hagos
Director of Special Seminars
(310) 267-5430

Fiat Lux

2009-10 Seminars

Arts & Humanities

Ancient Near East 19

Aaron Burke, ● S10
Ancient Warfare, Modern Concerns

Architecture and Urban Design 19

Diane Favro, ● F09
Mapping Movement in Ancient Rome: Digital Geo-Temporal Analysis

Art History 19

Charlene Villaseñor Black, S10
Frida Mystique: Art and Life of Frida Kahlo

Arts & Architecture 19

John Bragin, ● S10
Rome in Arts: Interpreting Eternal City

Asian 19

William Bodiford, W10
Asian Martial Theory, Fantasy, and Practice

Robert Chi, S10
"I See You": Globalization and Avatar

John Duncan, ● W10
Korea on the Internet

Natasha Heller, F09
Crime and Punishment in China

Chinese 19

Hongyin Tao, W10
Globalization and Chinese Language

Classics 19

Robert Gurval, ● S10
Exploring Ancient Rome

Alex Purves, W10
My Broken Tongue: Reading Sappho's Poetry

Comparative Literature 19

Michelle Clayton, S10
Charlie Chaplin, Planetary Clown

Nouri Gana, W10
Teaching North Africa through Film

Katherine King, ● W10
Women Warriors: Amazons and Others from Ancient Greece to Modern Times

Kathleen Komar, ●● W10
The Short Works of Franz Kafka, or How the Modern World Works

Todd Presner, S10
Web 2.0: Cultures and Technologies of Programmable Web

Ross Shideler, ●● S10
Poets and Desire

Design | Media Arts 19

Erkki Huhtamo, ● F09
What Is Interactive Media?

English 19

Charles Batten, ● F09
The Birth of the Comic Strip

Jascha Kessler, F09
What a Poem Says

Saree Makdisi, ● S10
Reading Poetry and Designs of William Blake

Robert Maniquis, ● S10
Reading and Discussion of Huckleberry Finn

Joseph Nagy, ● F09
Cartoons, Folklore, and Myth

The Vasa cube is awarded for every four seminars taught.

- 2009-10 Vasa cube recipient
- Previous Vasa cube recipient

Karen Rowe, ●● F09
Origins of Identity: History and Memory in Women's Poetry

Jenny Sharpe, ● W10
Fantasy, Fairy Tales, and New Worlds of Possibilities

Mona Simpson, ● F09
Meeting Acclaimed Writers and Studying their Work

Brian Stefans, S10
Playful Forms: Writing Workshop

Robert Watson, ● F09
Great American Movies, 1967-74

Ethnomusicology 19

Roger Kendall, ● S10
Cognitive Psychology of Music in Science-Fiction Film

Roger Savage, ● W10
Music Theory through the Recorder

Film & Television 19

Marina Goldovskaya, ● S10
Documentary as Voyage of Discovery

William McDonald, ● W10
The Art of Cinematography

Richard Walter, S10
Screenwriting: First Two Pages

French 19

Jean-Claude Carron, ● W10
How Tasty is My Little Frenchman

Andrea Loselle, S10
Sound Poetry: What is It?

Sara Melzer, S10
Two Modes Of Knowing and Being in World

Dominic Thomas, ●● F09
Africa in Global Contexts

German 19

Robert Kirsner, ● F09
Science Fiction and Religion

James Schultz, ● S10
Writing About Love in High Middle Ages

Honors 19

Robert Gore, S10
Artists' Books in the UCLA Library and Beyond

Islamic 19

Ismail Poonawala, ●● F09
Islam and West: Making of an Image

Korean 19

Namhee Lee, F09
Beyond Axis of Evil: Changing Images of North Korea in South Korean Popular Culture

Linguistics 19

Pamela Munro, S10
Klinton

Music 19

Juliana Gondek, F09
Creators & Recreators: Great Partnerships of Vocal Music

Music History 19

Thomas Harrison, ● W10
Rock Lyrics: Pink Floyd

Raymond Knapp, ●● W10
Movie Musicals: Does Hollywood ♥ Broadway?

Portuguese 19

Jose Luiz Passos, S10
On Brazil and Good Traveler

Religion 19

Ronald Vroon, W10
Are You Saved? Paradigms of Salvation in Judeo-Christian Tradition

Scandinavian 19

Timothy Tangherlini, ● W10
Scary Things: Folklore, Film and Politics of Fear

South Asian 19

Gyanam Mahajan & Stephanie Jamison, S10
Introduction to Indic Scripts

Theater 19

Shelley Salamensky, ● S10
Law, Arts, and Humanities

World Arts & Cultures 19

David Gere & Bridget Le Loup, W10
Global Summit: Inspiring Activism through Life and Work of Dr. Paul Farmer

Victoria Marks, S10
Beyond Hollywood and Music Video: Dance for Camera

Physics 19

Michael Gutperle, F09
Arrow(s) of Time

Michael Jura, S10
Energy in the Modern Economy

Physiological Science 19

Alan Grinnell, ● W10
On Human Nature: Evolution of Human Animal

Stephanie White, W10
Why Can't Fido Talk? Biological Evolution of Language

Physiology 19

Nancy Wayne, ● F09
The Biology of Birth Control

Psychology 19

Seymour Feshbach, ● W10
Human Aggression: Causes, Myths, and Management

Yuen Huo, ● F09
Psychology of Conflict and Cooperation

Richard Marken, ● F09
The Psychology of Personal Control

Thomas Minor, ● S10
Psychobiology of Stress Resilience

Jane Pizzolato, F09
Thinking Like a Psychologist

Catherine Sandhofer, F09
Where the !@% Am I?: Development of Spatial Cognition*

Christine Dunkel Schetter, F09
Social Support: How Can We Effectively "Help" Others Improve their Health & Our Own in the Process

Statistics 19

Nicolas Christou, ● F09
The City of Los Angeles Through the Eyes of Statistics

Frederic Paik Schoenberg, ●● F09
Hold 'em or Fold 'em: Poker and Probability

Community Health Sciences 19

Jill DeJager, ●●●●● & Rena Orenstein, ●●●● F09; W10
Cosmo Says You're Fat? I Ain't Down with That: Nutrition and Body Image Life Skills

Pam Viele, ●● F09
Boots to Bruins: From Combat to Campus Life

Dentistry 19

Kathryn Atchison & Michael Shockro, F09
Intellectual Property

Francesco Chiappelli, ● S10
Evidence-Based Decision-Making in Health Care

Earth and Space Sciences 19

Jonathan Aurnou, ● F09
Signs of Glaciers Past: Eastern Sierra & Yosemite

David Jackson, ● W10
Environmental Debates

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology 19

Donald Buth, ● W10
Parasites: Eating Us Alive

Greg Grether, W10
Evolution in Galapagos Islands

Peter Nonacs, ●● S10
Evolutionary Medicine: How Natural Selection Helps Us Understand Why We Get Sick

Philip Rundel, F09
Conservation Science in Era of Global Climate Change

Charles Taylor, F09
Mosquitoes: Their Biology and Diseases They Carry

Environment 19

David Jackson, ● S10
Environmental Processes in Action

Honors 19

Michael Gresser, ●● S10
How Drugs Are Made

Michael Gresser, ●● F09; W10
The Rise and Fall of a Blockbuster Drug

Human Genetics 19

Christina Palmer, ● & Michelle Fox, ● W10
Genetic Counseling: Making Genetics Real

Medicine 19

Olag Melamed, ● F09
Hot Topics in Medicine: Disease, Politics, and Bottom Dollar

David Teplow, F09
Politically Incorrect Introduction to Current Topics in Science and Medicine

Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics 19

Benhur Lee, F09
Recent Viral Outbreaks: Real versus Perceived Threats

Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology 19

John Merriam, ●●● W10
Read Science Times and Discuss Over Coffee

Neurobiology 19

Edwin Cooper, ● F09; S10
Links between Nervous and Immune Systems

Edwin Cooper, ● F09; S10
Integrative Medicine: Current Topics in Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Arnold Scheibel, S10
Thinking and Feeling: Introduction to Your Brain

Neuroscience 19

Scott Chandler, ● S10
Shall We Dance? How Brain Controls Movement in Health and Disease

Nursing 19

Janet Mentes, ● W10
Who Wants to Live to 100? Aging in 21st Century

Diana Woods, W10
Elders on YouTube: Have You Seen the Woman and the Mercedes?

Pathology 19

Linda Baum, F09
Thinking Scientifically: How to Evaluate Science in the News

Lionel Popkin, F09
Dancing in Proximity: Contact Improvisation

David Shorter, F09
Aliens, Ghosts and their Religions

Culture & Society

Anthropology 19

Daniel Fessler, ● F09
Animals in Translation: Evolutionary Approaches to Animal Thinking and Autism

Peter Hammond, F09
Racism

Paul Kroskrity, ●●● F09
Language Myths: Beliefs About Language(s) that are Harmfully Wrong

Paul Kroskrity, ●●● W10
Endangered Languages and You

Monica Smith, ● F09
Clothing, Culture, and Controversy

Communication Studies 19

Dee Bridgewater, F09
Power Cinema/Cinema Power

Economics 19

Simon Board, W10
Winner's Curse in Common Value Auctions

Matthew Kahn, F09
The Tragedy of the Commons: Economic Behavior and Environment

Naomi Lamoreaux, ●● F09
Bargaining, Haggling, and Fairness Across Cultures

George Murphy, ● W10
Real Adam Smith?

William Zame, ● W10
Tragedy of the Commons: Economic Behavior and Environment

Education 19

Norma Feshbach, W10
Empathy: Politics, Psychology, and Educational Applications

Rashmita Mistry, S10
Civic Engagement in the Classroom: This I Believe

Marjorie Orellana, W10
Global Citizenship: Children and Migration

Robert Rhoads, ●● F09
Student Activism from the Sixties to the Present

Linda Sax, F09
Gender Gap in College: How and Why Does College Differ for the Two Sexes?

European Studies 19

Ivan Berend, ● S10
History of Contemporary Europe: Politics, Society, and Economy

Geography 19

Stephen Bell, ● F09
Land and Society in Latin America

Judith Carney, F09
Food and Its Future

Laurence Smith, ● S10
Space Imaging of Earth's Environment

Stanley Trimble, ●● W10
American Rivers: History of Environmental Change

Health Services 19

Frederick Zimmerman, S10
Of Pathologies and Power: Economic Structure and Health

History 19

Edward Alpers, ●● F09
Diversity and Difference in Los Angeles Fiction

Scott Bartchy, ●● S10
Honor and Shame in Clash of World Cultures and Religions

Robin Derby, ● W10
Paul Farmer's Haiti

Stephen Frank, ●● S10
Romanovs: Europe's Last Autocrats

Patrick Geary, ● W10
Terrorists and Door Kickers: Terrorism and Counterterrorism Past and Present

James Gelvin, ●● F09
Al-Qaeda and Jihadi Islam

Richard von Glahn, W10
China's Modern Youth Culture in Historical Perspective

Vinay Lal, ●● F09
Political Documentaries and American Society

Ludwig Lauerhass, ● W10
Hiroshima: How We Remember the Bomb

Ghislaine Lydon, ● F09
Africa in the Media: Old Images, New Clichés

Kelly Lytle-Hernandez, ● S10
History of Incarceration in Los Angeles

Gabriel Piterberg, ● W10
The First Madoff: Anthony Trollope's "The Way We Live Now"

Theodore Porter, ●● F09
The Question of Hereditary Madness

Teofilo Ruiz, ●●●● F09
Los Angeles: Architecture and Ethnicity

Teofilo Ruiz, ●●●● W10
Social World of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice"

Teofilo Ruiz, ●●●● W10
Social World of Jane Austen's "Sense and Sensibility"

Robert Wohl, ● S10
Spectacle of Flight: How Aviation Transformed Western Culture

Honors 19

Andras Bodrogligeti, ● W10
Kurds: Ethnic Identity, Cultural Integrity, and Postconflict Reconstruction

Andras Bodrogligeti, ● S10
From Royal Throne to Guantanamo Bay: America: Meet Uyghurs

John Campbell, W10
Novel Introduction to Grand Ideas of Being

Ann Kerr, ●● W10; S10
Perception of Americans Abroad: Discussions with Visiting Fulbright Scholars

Linda Koffman, W10
Legal Aspects of Buying and Selling Commercial Real Estate in the U.S.

Larry Loehrer, ● F09
Will It Burn? Yes, It Will: A Geographic Analysis of Wildfire in California

Daniel Lowenstein, F09
Lincoln in His Own Words

Susan Plann, ● S10
Muslim Student Experience at UCLA

La'Tonya Rease-Miles, ●● W10
Black Student Experience at UCLA

Ronni Sanlo, ●●●●●● F09
Social Justice in Film

Ronni Sanlo, ●●●●●● & Suzanne Seplow, ●●●●● F09; W10; S10
LGBT is Not a Sandwich: Straight Talk on the Effects of Silence on Sexual and Gender Minorities in Los Angeles

Human Complex Systems 19

John Bragin, ● & Dwight Read, F09
Urban Dynamics: Cities as Self-Organizing Complex Systems

William McKelvey, ● W10
Understanding and Managing Complex Natural and Social Systems

Information Studies 19

Johanna Drucker, F09
Type History: Hands On!

Mary Niles Maack, S10
Writing Women's Lives

John Richardson, ● F09; W10; S10
Just Google It: What It Is and When It's Appropriate

Latin American Studies 19

Kevin Terraciano, ● W10
Introduction to Nahuatl (Aztec) Language and History

Management 19

Bhagwan Chowdhry, ● S10
Microfinance: Enabling Poor to Escape Poverty and Manage Risks

Bennet Lientz, ● S10
Project Management

Richard Saouma, F09
Electronic Entrepreneurship: From craigslist to Ebay

Hans Schollhammer, ● S10
Entrepreneurial Process: Starting and Managing New Business Venture

Avanidhar Subrahmanyam, ● S10
Understanding Financial Markets

Political Science 19

Susanne Lohmann, ● W10
Can't We Make Moral Judgments?

Public Policy 19

Albert Carnesale, ●● F09
Future of Nuclear Weapons

Miriam Krinsky, W10
Youth at Risk in Challenging Times: From Foster Care to Juvenile Justice

Social Welfare 19

Lene Levy-Storms, ● S10
Intergenerational Communication across Life Span

Society and Genetics 19

Edward McCabe, ●● & Linda McCabe, ● W10
How to Succeed in Academics

Sociology 19

Phillip Bonacich, W10
Can Your Social Network Make You Fat? A Critical Look at Some Recent Research

Rebecca Jean Emigh, W10
How We Count: Racial and Ethnic Classification on Censuses

David Halle, ● F09; S10
Sociology of Cinema: Hit Movies, 1920 to 2009

Ruben Hernandez-Leon, ● W10
Migration as Business: Migration Industry in Global Perspectives

Ivan Light, W10
Geographical Dispersion of Mexican Immigrants since 1980

William Roy, ●● F09
Making Societies: The Historical Construction of our World

Abigail Saguy, W10
Body Size and Inequality

Undergraduate Law 19

Kirk Stark, ● S10
Inequality and Tax Policy

Jonathan Zasloff, ● W10
Foundations of Jewish Ethics: Pirkei Avot

Jonathan Zasloff, ● S10
Introduction to Rabbinic Law and Literature

Urban Planning 19

Randall Crane, ●● F09
Sprawl: American Dream or Nightmare?

Paul Ong, F09
Then and Now: Neighborhood Change through Photos

Women's Studies 19

Christine Littleton, ● F09
Sexual Harassment Law and Policy

Lucia Re, F09
Women and the Nobel Prize in Literature

Science & Technology

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences 19

Richard Thorne, ● F09
Space Weather: Impact of Solar Activity on Earth

Bioengineering 19

Howard Winet, ● F09
Truth and Questions in Orthopaedics

Chemistry 19

Herbert Kaesz, ●● F09
Serendipity in Science

David Scott, ● F09
Chemistry and Art