



Celebrating *Fiat Lux*
UCLA'S FRESHMAN SEMINAR PROGRAM

2007-2008

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ART & HUMANITIES

Ancient Near East 19

Aaron Burke, F07

Ancient Warfare and Modern Concerns

This seminar will introduce approaches to the study of warfare in the ancient Near Eastern world and address the relevance of these approaches to understanding warfare in the modern world. Students will consider the causes, effects, and development of warfare over two millennia (ca. 2000 BC to AD 400) and evaluate to what extent these have actually changed.

Willemina Wendrich, * W08

Virtual Karnak: Ancient Egyptian Religion in Stone, Bits, and Bytes

The famous Karnak temple in Luxor has steadily grown over more than a millennium from a small local shrine to an enormous state temple complex. A close study shows that the impressive stone architecture has been built up, taken down, reused, and reshaped in what seems to have been a constant building frenzy. From the stone walls, and the beautiful reliefs inscribed in them, we can learn about not only the religious rituals, but also the politics of the time, the waxing and waning of the worship of gods, and the power of the pharaohs. In order to understand the complicated developments, and the function and meaning of the different modifications, a Virtual Reality model is in development at UCLA. Participants of this seminar will be the first group to work with the model, which will help them prepare an in-depth study of one aspect of the rich and fascinating history of the building.

Applied Linguistics and TESL 19

John Schumann, S08

Cavemen Walking

This seminar will take advantage of the recent publication of two books, *Walking with Cavemen* and *The Journey of Man*, and accompanying videotapes on the evolution of humans and their early migrations. The seminar will begin with the first book and will examine the evolution of humans from early Australopithecines through Homo sapiens with special focus on Australopithecus afarensis, Paranthropus boisei, Homo rudolfensis, Homo habilis, Homo ergaster, Homo erectus, Homo heidelbergensis, Homo neanderthalis, and Homo sapiens. The second book presents genetic research on the Y chromosome tracing human migration out of Africa about 60,000 years ago, first to Australia, then to the Middle East, from there to India, East Asia, and eventually to Europe and the Americas.

Olga T. Yokoyama, * W08

Language and Gender

This seminar provides an introduction to the basic concepts and issues in the field of gender linguistics through lectures, in-class discussion, and out-of-classroom observations of real life situations where male and female language and language behavior differs. Data from different languages and communication genres are considered. Students are welcome to bring data from any language and communication genre to class discussions. We will explore the nature of male and female "genderlects" and gendered language, as reflected in lexicon, language behavior, phonetics and intonation, language acquisition, and language change across generations.

Architecture & Urban Design 19

Diane Favro, * F07

Built Women: Architects in America

Women make up approximately 40% of the students in architecture schools, yet the profession today remains almost 84% male. Few women break the glass ceiling to enter the rarified zone of star architects; Zaha Hadid is today's token exception. Julia Morgan, a California architect who designed over 500 projects, including the famous Hearst Castle in the early 20th century, was largely forgotten until recently. Other professions such as medicine and law have more successfully integrated women and have longer histories tracing women's involvement. Why does architecture lag behind? By examining and documenting the roles of women in American architecture, the nature of "studio culture" in architecture schools, architect-client relations, architectural writings, the canon of great buildings, and other factors, this seminar will consider some possible answers. Each student will research two or more women practitioners and enter their data into a new interactive web-based Timeline of Women in Architecture.

Art History 19

Joanna Woods-Marsden, * F07

Italian Renaissance Portraits

The concept of a portrait of a living person- as distinct from an image of the Virgin or a Saint- was invented in Italy in the 1430s. This seminar will explore the development of this new genre in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, focusing on the works of such famous artists as Piero della Francesca, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and Titian. The last class will be a field trip to the J. Paul Getty Museum to consider the Renaissance portraits in its collection.

Steven Nelson, S08

The World of Mami Wata

This seminar is an extended examination of the worlds of representation and worship informed by Mami Wata, inarguably the best known and most often depicted water spirit in Africa and the Afro-Atlantic Diaspora. In conjunction with the Fowler Museum exhibition, *Mami Wata: Arts for Water Spirits in Africa and Its Diasporas*, opening April 6, 2008, this seminar meets among actual art objects from Africa and the Afro-Atlantic Diaspora. Using the exhibition's objects as guides for inquiry, the issues addressed include the origins of Mami Wata and her representation in Africa, the relationship of Africa to a larger world, the impact of popular culture on art-making, the representation of difference, the complex relationships between art and religious practices, and the politics of making such materials the subject of a museum exhibition.

Asian 19

John Duncan, W08

History Wars in Northeast Asia: The Politics of the Past

A survey of the controversies that have erupted among China, Korea, Japan, and Russia over issues of historical interpretation and historical claims to territory, this seminar considers how the controversies are fueled by nationalist passions and how they complicate efforts toward regional integration.

Chinese 19

Hongyin Tao, W08

Understanding Chinese Cultures through Keywords

If you analyze George Bush's State of the Union addresses over his tenure as president, you will find that the keywords in those speeches were often quite different, for political reasons. Similarly, if you analyze the People's Daily editorials over time, you will also be able to find interesting changes in keywords. How do politicians of the People's Republic of China and Taiwan contrast with each other in their use of keywords? How do we characterize social cultural changes in China over the past three decades with keywords? How can we use the internet to search for keywords as evidence for cultural similarities and differences among the greater Chinese speaking regions (e.g., China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore)? This seminar will explore all of these issues and more. It will combine theoretical discussions with hands-on practices. By the end of the seminar, students should be able to apply basic text analysis techniques to understand Chinese language and culture and to help with research projects in their own fields.

Classics 19

Robert Gurval, S08

The Affairs of Caesar: Sex and Politics in Ancient Rome

This seminar will explore the life and loves of Julius Caesar. Ancient Rome's greatest military general and most famous politician was also one of its most notorious lovers: the seducer of Roman wives, foreign queens, and even one Greek king. The seminar's focus will be the intriguing connections between Caesar's public ambitions and private passions. How did the scandals of Caesar's love life affect his political career? Did they impact his success in Rome, and did his affair with Cleopatra lead directly to his assassination and the end of the Republic? Or did these romances only add to his popularity and contribute to his enduring fame? Readings will include two ancient biographies of Caesar (Roman Suetonius and Greek Plutarch), and one modern biography. The seminar will move from classical antiquity to examine representations of Caesar in later drama, film and television, including Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, an Italian silent film *Giulio Cesare*, the epic *Cleopatra* (1963), and most recently, the figure of Caesar in the first season of HBO's *Rome*.

Comparative Literature 19

Kathleen Komar, * W08

The Short Works of Franz Kafka, or How the Modern World Works

An examination of the short works of one of the world's most famous and puzzling authors, Franz Kafka. Kafka has been labeled everything from Existentialist to Realist, from mystic to comic. This seminar will examine the implications that Kafka's unique perspective has for our own times. Students will write three questions based on readings to shape each class discussion. Readings of several Kafka short fiction pieces including *The Metamorphosis*, *The Country Doctor*, *An Old Manuscript*, *In the Penal Colony*, *Report to an Academy*, *A Hunger Artist*, and *The Judgment*. These pieces help us understand why Kafka remains so timely despite having lived in a context very different from our own.

Ross Shideler, * S08

Poets and Desire

Representations of desire in poetry take many forms, and the object of desire ranges from individuals to the ideal that haunts Stephane Mallarme or William Butler Yeats' *Sailing to Byzantium* and Wallace Stevens' "strain waked in the elders

by Susanna." In addition to these three poets, this seminar is a reading of poems by 19th- and 20th-century European and American poets such as Charles Baudelaire, Paul Valery, Edith Sodergran, Gunnar Ekelof, C.P.Cavafy, T.S. Eliot, and other more contemporary poets ranging from Muriel Rukeyser to Louise Gluck and Alice Fulton. Emphasis on close reading of poetry, some essays will be read to illuminate the problem of desire. Seminar provides a context in which students can do close readings of poetry, which will help them become more perceptive readers in general.

Design | Media Arts 19

Erkki Huhtamo, * W08

What Is Interactive Media?

Interactivity and interactive media have been among the most repeated buzz-words of media culture for more than a decade. Still, their actual meaning is far from clear. There is not a single theoretical book fully devoted to interactivity, exploring its theoretical, cultural and historical underpinnings. In this seminar, we will develop a broader understanding of interactivity, particularly in relation to media, art, and design. We will discuss different definitions of interactivity and explore its relationship to earlier phenomena like mechanization and (full) automation. We will also review a wide variety of interactive applications, ranging from interactive media art and interactive entertainment to cinema and design. The goal of this seminar is to lead participants to a more critical understanding of the concept and its uses.

English 19

Charles Batten, * S08

The Birth of the Comic Strip

Some scholars claim that the great British painter and engraver William Hogarth (1697-1764) is the father of today's comic strip. Often focusing on pressing issues of sex, violence, and stupidity, he used his visual art to tell stories that convey moral, social, and political lessons. This seminar examines some of Hogarth's most famous comic strips- *The Harlot's Progress*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Marriage-a-la-Mode*, and *Industry and Idleness*; and his most famous comic panels- *Credulity*, *Superstition*, and *Fanaticism*, and *O the Roast Beef of Old England*. In addition, the relation of Hogarth's techniques and ideas with those found in such recent comic strips as *The Far Side*, *Calvin and Hobbes*, *For Better or For Worse*, *Dilbert*, *Doonesbury*, *The Boondocks*, and *Opus* will be discussed.

Jascha Kessler, W08

What a Poem Says

This seminar examines the three principal modes of poetry in Western literature and will introduce students to verse by some of the major poets of our tradition. The "art of reading poems" will be discussed and practiced.

Joseph Nagy, * F07

Sequels and Prequels

A seminar that studies how literary works (including traditional epics and popular fiction), folkloric compositions (such as legends and ballads), and modern film and television programs (including cycles such as the *Star Wars* trilogies) often generate narrative chains, profoundly affecting and expanding our sense of the underlying story, the characters, and the themes. Among the questions to be considered are: Can a "sequel" be better than the "original"? Can "prequels" transform our reception of the "original," or do they distract from the original artistic vision? Are "sequels" or "prequels" sometimes variations on a theme, inviting a simultaneous instead of a serial appreciation of related works?

Karen Rowe, * W08

Origins of Identity: History and Memory in Women's Poetry

Who we are or may become originates in history, each unique by virtue of ethnic heritage, gender, sexuality, spirituality, and individual talent. In personal writings and poetry, women voice maternal stories that also recollect communal history replete with images of homelands, political struggle, and ancestral rituals. Whether reading or creating poetry, hearing or crafting stories, or drawing forth dreams, in this seminar students are expected to be contributors and collaborators. By identifying and celebrating personal legacies, students learn how memory and history imprint identity, how past suffuses our present. By heeding truths gleaned from ancestral past, each woman comes to know her self and infuses her poetry with distinctive vision and voice that makes lives, both old and new, into poetic memoirs. Remember, Audre Lorde proclaims, "poetry is not a luxury" but a "litany of survival."

Paul Sheats, W08

John Muir and the High Sierra

In this seminar, we will read the journal this famous naturalist kept in 1869 during his first extended visit to Yosemite and the Sierra. We will also look at maps, and photographs, and read about Muir's harsh childhood in Scotland and his youth on a frontier farm in Wisconsin. Some of the questions will include: Who was John Muir? Why did he go into the mountains? How did he understand nature and its relation to us? How have his ever-growing fame and urgent priorities of modern environmental movement changed the way we see him?

Mona Simpson, * F07

Reading the Work of Visiting Famous Writers

Students will read the work of visiting authors who will come to read at the Hammer Museum, in preparation for private classes and discussions given by the authors.

Reed Wilson, * S08

National Poetry Month--and Beyond!

In 1996, the Academy of American Poets established April as "National Poetry Month." During this month, readings, exhibitions, and events occur throughout the U.S. "to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture." In this seminar, we will attend readings and events during April, May, and June, study carefully the work of poets whose voices we encounter, and discover ways to stay tuned to the art of poetry throughout the year. Enrollees must be at UCLA on the weekend of April 26-27 to attend readings at the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books.

Thomas Wortham, * S08

The Public Huck Finn: Why We Misread Mark Twain

In this seminar, we shall examine some of the many "adaptations" of Samuel Clemens' great novel (in print form, as well as other forms of visual and material culture, including film and television) during the last century, asking how and why popular American culture has represented this work in ways that often have very little relation to Clemens' text and imaginative vision.

Ethnomusicology 19

Roger Savage, W08

Music Theory through the Recorder

Would you like to learn music theory while learning to play an instrument? This class is for students who would like to study the rudiments of music theory by playing the recorder. Each class includes practice pieces and exercises related to music notation, keys, melody, rhythm, rounds, and harmony. Students will also have the opportunity to write and perform short compositions. By taking a practical approach to music theory, students will develop a foundation for reading,

playing, and writing music. Students need not have any prior musical experience. Recorders will be available for purchase at a nominal cost on the first day of class.

Film and Television 19

Harold Ackerman, S08

Writing Exercises for the Fit Screenwriter

In this seminar, students will study writing workouts at a "screenwriters gym" designed to stretch and develop writing and screenwriting skills.

Barbara Boyle, * S08

Introduction to Film Making: So You Want to Make Movies?

Three screenplays are read without disclosing the title of screenplay or resulting movie. Analysis and discussion will center on visual style, cast, director, music, and other essential elements used to convey tone and message of a movie made from script. Films actually made from screenplays are then shown so that the relationship between the literary (screenplay) and the visual (film and all its components) is understood. This seminar will also introduce a glossary of basic film industry terms. Three feature length motion pictures will be viewed.

Marina Goldovskaya, * S08

Introduction to Documentary Film

This seminar is an introduction to the rapidly developing genre of documentary film. In the past decade, big changes have taken place in this field: non-fiction films are not only shown on television, but also screened theatrically. It is now evident that the documentary film not only informs and educates, but also is a unique art form that is especially powerful since it tells true stories with real characters. The documentary as an important medium in the exploration of social issues, provoking active dialogue in society. The growth and development of non-fiction as directly connected with the digital revolution. This seminar asks if films matter, can they make a difference, and, if so, in what ways? Five recent documentary films will be screened and analyzed, whereby the students are exposed to the most innovative and inaccessible documentaries, helping to broaden their world view and evoke interest in the exciting world of contemporary non-fiction cinema.

William McDonald, * W08

The Art of Cinematography

Who is responsible for camera and lighting decisions on feature films? The cameraperson? The cinematographer? The director of photography? All of them, for they are the same artist. This seminar will survey the technological and artistic developments of cinematography within the Hollywood film industry. Beginning with silent films and moving toward today's latest developments in digital imagery, it will capture a broad conceptual understanding of one of the most influential art forms in history. Students enrolled will see screenings of clips from films under discussion.

French 19

Dominic Thomas, * F07

Africa in a Global Contexts

This seminar will focus on contemporary politics and social issues in Africa.

German 19

Robert Kirsner, * S08

Science Fiction and Religion

The “father of psychoanalysis,” Sigmund Freud, viewed religion as an illusion, therefore, antithetical to science. Science fiction author Ursula LeGuin characterizes science fiction as a thought experiment: not a prediction of the future, but a description of current reality. This seminar is an exploration of the use of religious motifs and depictions of religion often found in science fiction. What do religion or religious themes contribute to science fiction? What attitude or attitudes toward religion are found in science fiction? What do we learn from the human construction of "lifeways" (such as religions) and the incorporation of, or reference to, these lifeways in human thought experiments constructing possible worlds and possible civilizations? Exploration of these questions and others through readings about religion and readings in important works of 20th century science fiction.

Wolfgang Nehring, W08

Violence, Sex, and Music in Germany's Pre-Nazi Era

The pre-Nazi era was a time of extensive social and political unrest in Germany. This seminar will examine Kurt Weill's and Bertolt Brecht's greatest success, the musical (?) *The Three Penny Opera* (remember *Mack the Knife*?) in relation to its historical and social background and in comparison with its English predecessor, *The Beggar's Opera*.

James Schultz, W08

Writing about Love in the High-Middle Ages

This seminar will focus on two great love stories of the Middle Ages: *Abelard and Heloise*, and *Tristan and Isolde*. The former historical figures struggle over the nature and meaning of their love in a series of brilliantly crafted letters. The latter fictional characters achieve their supreme literary representation in the romance of Gottfried von Strassburg. These two texts—letters of Abelard and Heloise and Gottfried's *Tristan* romance provide an opportunity to consider how medieval ideas of love differ from ours, as well as how medieval writing about love differs from ours.

Christopher Stevens, F07

What is Language and Where Does It Come From?

This seminar explores what language is and how linguists define and describe it. It will contrast human language with animal communication and question whether animals in the wild or the laboratory can acquire language. Another topic to be examined will be the language of our ancestors: How, when, and why did human language occur?

Islamic 19

Ismail K. Poonawala, * F07

The Case of Animals vs. Man Before King of the Jinn

This seminar will explore a tract, translated into English, taken from a 9th century encyclopedia known as “The Epistles of the Society of Sincere Brethren and Faithful Friends.” It is presented as an allegory in which animals complain to a king about the cruel treatment meted out to them by human beings, and refute man's claim of superiority over them by denouncing the rampant injustice and immorality of human society. The debate of “A satire on man and animals,” in addition to theological disputes, reflects fascinating psychological and ecological themes. The fable is a socio-political criticism of Islamic society couched in animal characters to avoid offending its readers. Given the authors' theistic position, the moral concepts that emerge from the story are discussed and debated.

Jewish Studies 19

David Myers and Chaim Seidler-Feller,* F07

Maimonides Between Reason and Faith

This seminar will provide students with the opportunity to encounter through close textual analysis the philosophical and ethical thought of Moses Maimonides (1135-1204), the great medieval Jewish jurist and philosopher. In particular, the seminar will focus on Maimonides' attempts to navigate between the demands of reason and faith, all the while maintaining a deep commitment to ethical probity. Much attention will be paid to his *Shemonah Perakim*.

Jonathan Zasloff and Chaim Seidler-Feller, * F07

Pirkei Avot: Foundation of Jewish Ethics

Pirkei Avot is one of the central ethical treatises of the Jewish tradition, a combination of theology, moral philosophy, legal theory, and Jewish history. It is also the most accessible tractate of the Mishnah, the codification of Jewish law redacted about 200 C.E. In this seminar, we will engage in a close reading and discussion of Pirkei Avot, granting us a window into both ancient Jewish civilization and our own futures. The requirements are careful reading of the text, a willingness to discuss, debate and listen, and maintaining a sense of humor at all times.

Music 19

Juliana Gondek, W08

Opera's Top Ten

A tour through ten of the most popular operas ever written, including such favorites as Handel's *Julius Caesar*, Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, Wagner's *Ring Cycle*, Bizet's *Carmen*, Puccini's *Tosca*, and Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. Background will be given on each composer, his environment, and compositional style. Plots, performers, and audio/video excerpts will bring students closer to understanding and appreciation of opera, the most complex and spectacular of all art forms. An added attraction will be the availability of live performances at UCLA and nearby professional opera companies of four featured works. The seminar also includes Rossini's *Barber of Seville*, Verdi's *Falstaff*, Leoncavallo's *Cavalleria Rusticana*, Mascagni's *I Pagliacci*, and Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*.

Music History 19

Thomas Harrison, * F07

Rock Lyrics

A seminar that examines some extraordinary songs (and some lesser ones) in rock history in an effort to understand the role that words play in a song's overall effect. How lyrics articulate the times in which they were written. How lyrics fit rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic components of musical piece and how large a part they play in song's overall appeal. How they affect us emotionally, and different listeners in different ways, and what makes a rock song great. Weekly assigned listening, two to four per class, distributed in advance. The instructor supplies half the songs; the students, one each. Each student researches a song and is responsible for presenting it in ten minutes to class. Class analysis is devoted as much to the musical structure of songs as to the words serving that structure. The instructor's choices may include works of Jimi Hendrix, Pink Floyd, Bob Dylan, Frank Zappa, Joni Mitchell, and James Brown.

Raymond Knapp, * F07

Idealism in the American Musical

This seminar will explore the ways in which idealism has been expressed in American musicals, both through specific songs and as a theme in particular shows. Selected musicals may include *The Sound of Music*, *Camelot*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Once More with Feeling* (the *Buffy* episode), and *Wicked*.

Mitchell Morris, * S08

Music in the Films of Alfred Hitchcock

Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1980) was one of the most influential directors in the history of film. Specializing in suspense and thriller genres, his work is notable for balancing immense commercial popularity and critical esteem in equal measure. An important part of Hitchcock's success as a director came from his ability to draw upon a huge variety of music resources; the most famous of all was his extended collaboration with the great Hollywood composer Bernard Herrman. In this seminar, students will view and discuss a selection of Hitchcock's most successful films in light of the ways that music (both on- and off-screen) contributes to the brilliant tension of the film's action. No prior knowledge of musical terminology or technical language is required- it will be introduced as part of class work.

Philosophy 19

David Teplow, F07

Quantum Leaps and Quicksand: How Science is Done

The media and the masses often portray science and scientists in a manner suggesting the primacy of dispassion, logic, facts, and certitude. Not! This seminar introduces students to how science actually is done and to a number of important and interesting scientific controversies. Beginning with a brief exposition of "the scientific method," the process of scientific discovery will be examined to understand how scientific "facts" are established and how these facts form the foundations for "scientific paradigms," the frameworks within which scientific exploration is done. Students will study how conflicts between established ideas (current dogma) and novel experimental findings lead to paradigm shifts and why such shifts often are critical for advancing scientific knowledge. The analysis of the philosophical underpinnings of paradigm shifts will be accompanied by practical examples, including "mad cow disease" and the Molyneux Problem, a 300-year old (un)answered question in perception.

Scandinavian 19

Mary Norseng, W08

Short, Short Stories of Scandinavia

Reading and discussion of short fictional texts by Scandinavian writers from the Middle Ages to the present. Topics include the power of "the short."

Timothy Tangherlini, * W08

Strange Things: Folklore, Film, and the Politics of Fear

Ghosts, UFOs, psychopaths, evil corporations, Satanists, serial killers, wild conspiracy theories, unlikely ways to be killed, and even more unusual ways to survive. These are but some topics that come up time and again in both urban legends (contemporary legends) and popular film. Sometimes popular films are based entirely on these legends (*Scream*, *Urban Legend*, *Men in Black*); other times, they simply make use of similar motifs. Although they keep us entertained and frightened, there is more to these stories and their presentation than simple entertainment. An exploration of how the storytelling of legends can be used to endorse ideological positions, this seminar will focus on how this process translates into popular film. Its goal is to develop an understanding of how narratives, particularly those that aim to create fear, can be used for local or global political ends.

Kendra Willson, S08

Runes

This seminar will discuss the origin, development, and use of the runic writing system over time. When, where, and how were the runes invented? How do they relate to other writing systems? Also considered is the transformation of the 24-character elder "futhark" (runic alphabet) to the 16-character younger futhark and its variants and the development of

Anglo-Saxon runes, as well as the nature and purposes of runic writing- what kinds of messages were written in runes on what kinds of objects? What was the significance of writing in the early Germanic world? How and why did runes continue to be used after the Latin alphabet reached Scandinavia? How have modern scholars learned to read runic inscriptions? In addition, students will examine the association between runes and magic and various types of significance which have been ascribed to runes in modern times.

Slavic 19

Ronald Vroon, W08

"Are You Saved?" Paradigms of Salvation in the Judeo-Christian Tradition

This seminar is devoted to soteriology, the concept of salvation and its instrumentalities in the Judeo-Christian tradition. We will begin with a survey of the roots of the concept in the sacrificial cult of post-exile Judaism and then take up the way the concept is exploited in the Pauline and pseudo-Pauline epistles to include a wide variety of conceptual frames, including such notions as redemption, propitiation, justification, sanctification, satisfaction, and penal substitution. We will proceed to examine the soteriological paradigms that dominated in the early church, how these were narrowed in Western Christianity through the agency of Augustine and later the scholastics, and how Eastern Christianity developed its own paradigms. The emergence of revised models of salvation in classic (Calvin and Luther) Protestantism will follow. The seminar will conclude with a consideration of some post-modern approaches to the soteriological problem, including a discussion of how soteriology influences political and social thought.

South Asian Languages 19

Gyanam Mahajan and Gregory Schopen, S08

The Languages of India

This seminar will introduce students to the languages of the Indian subcontinent. India is a rich area for languages, and students will study the typological classifications of the languages. There are four language families, and the linguistic features associated with the languages of these families will be examined. Students will be introduced to the notion of "India as a linguistic area," and also study the language contact through the centuries. The seminar will then focus on the Indic languages and trace the development of modern Indic languages from Sanskrit. We will also discuss the concept of diglossia or high/low varieties of South Asian languages.

Theater 19

Shelley Salamensky, F07

Medicine, Arts, and Humanities

Medicine is much more than simple biology. In this seminar, we will explore a wide variety of lively materials concerning patient, doctor, body, mind, and the magic of science.

CULTURE & SOCIETY

Anthropology 19

Paul Brantingham, S08

The Ecology of Crime

Crime thrives in large urban settings, leading one to think of it as a natural and normal feature of modern life. This seminar examines the causes of crime from an ecological perspective, asking questions about the role of environment and the behaviors of criminal offenders, victims, and law enforcement in the generation and control of crime patterns. Specific topics include minimal constituents of crime, criminal foraging, crime niche, crime and competition, and the evolution of criminal strategies. Discussions will emphasize parallels between crime, and examples will be drawn from classical ecology.

Daniel Fessler, * F07

Animals in Translation: An Evolutionary Approach to Animal Thinking and Autism

How do animals experience the world? Adopting an evolutionary psychological approach, this seminar will examine the book *Animals in Translation*, an attempt by noted autistic author Temple Grandin to explore and explain the behaviors, thoughts, and feelings of many nonhuman animals. Along the way, we will discuss the tenets of evolutionary psychology, Grandin's theory of autism, and the insights that cross-species comparisons can provide.

Paul Kroskrity, ** W08; S08

Language Myths: Beliefs about Language That Are Harmfully Wrong

This seminar treats the topic of language myths by examining some popular beliefs about language, specific languages, and communication that appear to be not only wrong but also potentially harmful to oneself and others in our society. In most Western societies, language is often thought of as a neutral vehicle that provides a labeling system for the material world. Sayings such as "talk is cheap" and "actions speak louder than words" reveal a lack of appreciation of the social work that language performs and even a cultural bias against seeing language activity as a form of social action. Thus, even though it can be arguably maintained that our language ability is our most distinctive and important capacity as a species, most individuals engage in linguistic and communicative activity with only a minimal awareness of either the structure of their languages or the explicit and implicit communicative norms of their society. By shedding light on unexamined properties of language structure and language use, this seminar will expose a variety of language myths and increase awareness.

Paul Kroskrity, ** F07

Endangered Languages and You

This seminar treats the topic of language endangerment by identifying a worldwide problem and examining the possible responses that might partially rectify the situation. By some estimates, less than ten percent of the world's languages will survive beyond the present century. Global economic forces and other political economic factors are clearly responsible for a pattern of language shift that threatens most of the world's indigenous and sub national languages that are not identified with particular nation-states or have international currency. But what is the human cost of such language death, both to the speakers of these languages and to us as thoughtful world citizens? In this seminar, we will discuss the consequences of language death and what can be done to provide alternatives for those communities who seek to preserve

their distinctive linguistic resources. By examining case studies of language death and language renewal, we will obtain a ground-level view of the processes that lead to language death and those that are involved with language revitalization.

Monica L. Smith, * S08

National Boundaries: Lines of Identity, Lines of Conflict

We are all familiar with a map as a series of bounded, color-coded spaces. But surprisingly, not all countries have a clearly-defined border. Unsolved border disputes not only flare up as geopolitical issues, but also affect economic and social realms. This seminar is a review of some of these border disputes and what it means to be a territorial nation. What happens when two or more nations claim the same piece of land? What happens when territoriality is exercised by proxy? (For example, who owns the moon? Who owns Antarctica? How much of the sea should any nation control?). What is the tipping point for territorial conflict, and how should those conflicts be resolved? How do cultures transcend borders, and how do borders and boundaries create identity?

Russell Thornton, ** W08

Repatriating Native American Human Remains

Native Americans in the United States recently have been successful in obtaining the passage of federal and state laws not only preventing the further disenfranchisement of human skeletal remains and cultural objects, but also repatriating remains and objects to appropriate tribes and individuals. The seminar will examine this phenomenon. Topics will include a history of federal and state legislation pertaining to repatriation; the role and strategies Native American leaders have used in bringing about this legislation; historical practices of "collection" for museums and scholars; native objections to the study of this material; the various types of scientific and scholarly knowledge obtainable from skeletal remains, etc.; the complexities and difficulties involved in the actual repatriation process; and new relationships which are developing between Native Americans, scholars, and scholarly institutions. Seminar material will be drawn from a variety of sources and disciplines, including recent repatriation cases from the Smithsonian Institution.

Russell Thornton, ** F07

Picturing the Past: Native American Pictographic Calendars

Native American peoples of the Northern Plains developed pictographic calendars - sometimes called "winter counts" - by which they kept track of their past. Each year of the calendar was named after an event of that year and depicted by a picture. Generally, the histories cover the 18th and 19th centuries, but some continue to today. The seminar will examine these calendars and the Native American history they represent. Particular attention will be devoted to those of the Lakota Sioux Indians of the Northern Plains and the Kiowa Indians of the Southern Plains.

Asian American Studies 19

Lucy Burns, S08

Performance, Popular Culture, and the "Vote"

From the U.S. women's-suffrage Movement's use of cartoons, postcards, and "Votes for Women" sewing accessories, to the 2004 "Vote or Die" campaign led by Sean "P. Diddy" Combs, the interplay between performance, suffrage and popular culture has been long and dynamic. This seminar focuses on the use of performance and popular culture in U.S. voting campaigns such as the presidential, women's, and African American suffrage movements. Much of the focus of this seminar will also be on the current presidential election, which many have already noted as "historic." Seminar activities include viewing films, analyzing various campaign ephemera, and discussions of readings and viewings, with the emphasis on student participation in the discussions.

Chicana & Chicano Studies 19

Alicia Gaspar de Alba, F07

Death, Gender, and the U.S.-Mexico Border

Who is killing the women of Juárez? What is killing them? What do their extremely violent deaths signify? Who is profiting from these deaths? This seminar will examine the 14-year crime wave of murders, mutilations, and serial killings of poor brown women in Juárez, Mexico, across the border from the professor's hometown of El Paso, Texas. Looking at some of the different representations of these femicides in literature and film, we will examine the social, political, economic, and cultural context in which those crimes continue unabated and unresolved, including an analysis of the crimes in the context of the North American Free Trade Agreement, and also an analysis of the politics and responsibilities of representation.

Otto Santa Ana, * S08

How Mass Media Immigrant Portrayals Affect Presidential Politics

In this seminar, students will critically compare mass media characterizations (both in the news and in comedy skits) of immigrants and immigration policy in this election year. Then scrutinized will be media language and images to learn what is projected about immigration, citizenship, nationhood, and justice. Questions posed are have these images changed? And will any social and political differences result?

Communication Studies 19

Martie Haselton, W08

The Hidden Side of Female Desire

Theories in evolutionary biology predict that men will be more open to low-cost mating opportunities than will women, and women will be more cautious in mating than will men. Abundant evidence across social and biological sciences supports these predictions. Does this mean that women are monogamous and men are not? Not necessarily. There is another side of female desire that can also be understood from an evolutionary perspective- one that predicts that women will stray from their long-term relationships in predictable circumstances. This seminar will explore the facets of female sexuality that have previously been hidden from view. We will also discuss other hidden aspects of women's desires, including control, power, and food.

Economics 19

Jernej Copic, W08

Bargaining, Haggling, and Fairness Across Cultures

An exploration of the nature of trust and fairness in bargaining situations through the simple ultimatum bargaining game, a game that is useful for exploring how self-interested individuals behave in bargaining situations (and many others). It has been conducted in many countries over the last decade, with the discovery that most cultures appear to have strong norms of fairness (the only exceptions are certain very primitive cultures). That is, rigorous self-interest, even in obviously commercial settings like haggling, is rare. In addition to bargaining, some time is devoted to experimental analysis of public good contributions and wage-setting, and, in general, to the exploration of the extent that motives such as fairness, trust, and reciprocity, versus pure self-interest, play in economic decisions.

Hugo Hopenhayn, * W08; S08

The "Winner's Curse" in Common Value Auctions

This seminar examines the phenomenon of “winner's curse.” Winner’s curse occurs when a person who wins at an auction wishes he or she had not won. Since many other interesting phenomena have the same basic structure as common value auctions, insights learned about auctions in the laboratory have significance in other areas where unhappy winners are important, such as political contests and voting behavior, jury decisions, and companies racing to discover and patent an invention.

Naomi Lamoreaux, * F07; S08

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George Murphy, F07; W08

Was Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406) the "Father of Economics"?

This seminar is a survey of early Islamic economic thought and will place Ibn Khaldun’s writings in the larger context of the history of economic thought and the contributions of early Islamic thinkers.

William Zame, * W08

Risk and Inequality

Inequality- and attitudes toward inequality- have varied enormously over time. Why? Are attitudes toward inequality correlated with attitudes toward risk? This seminar uses the methodology of laboratory experiments to explore these issues.

Education 19

Kristen McKinney, S08

Transfer Talk: Understanding the Transfer Experience

Students who transfer into UCLA make up 40% of the undergraduate population and often have concerns and issues that differ from direct-entry students in areas of intellectual, social, personal, emotional, and career development, among other areas. This seminar will explore the many elements of the transfer experience, both nationally and at UCLA, including transition and adjustment; involvement in the campus community; transfer student development; and balancing multiple demands. Students will consider theory and research on transfer students and relate it to their personal experiences. This seminar provides a space for transfer students to learn about the various issues that impact their curricular and co-curricular experiences, while also building relationships with faculty, staff, and peers in order to enhance their college experience.

Edith Mukudi Omwami, W08

U.S. and Global Development through the Eyes of Hollywood: Environment, Health, Global Security, and Globalization

This seminar explores the position and role of the U.S. in global development through the eyes of Hollywood. Topics include environmental impact of trade and development, access to health care, global security and the world of children, and the impact of economic globalization in poor countries. In order to accommodate the viewing of the films that are central to our session conversation on the development topics, we will have a nontraditional schedule. We will meet for a

total of five times for two hours each, starting the third week through the eighth week. Each meeting begins with a film viewing, followed by an instructor-moderated discussion.

Robert Rhoads, * F07

Student Activism from the Sixties to the Present

A seminar that focuses on student activism at colleges and universities in the United States. This seminar will primarily engage in comparative analyses between activism of the 1960s and contemporary forms of student activism. Students will be challenged to consider student activism and social movements from historical, political, sociological, and cultural perspectives. Two key books will be used: James Miller's *Democracy is in the Streets: From Port Huron to the Siege of Chicago* and Robert Rhoads' *Freedom's Web: Student Activism in an Age of Cultural Diversity*. The seminar will also rely on documentary films, including *February One: The Story of the Greensboro Four* and *Berkeley in the Sixties*.

Linda Sax, S08

The Gender Gap in College: How and Why Does College Differ for the Two Sexes?

This seminar examines how college women and men differ in terms of their academic backgrounds and self-confidence, health and well-being, connection to their families, career goals, and community orientation. Discussions focus on what impact gender differences in these areas have on student development and campus programming. Students in this seminar are expected to contribute to discussions, drawing from readings and their own experiences. The seminar seeks to create an environment where both women and men feel comfortable sharing a diverse range of viewpoints and experiences.

Geography 19

Stephen Bell, F07

Humboldt, Bonpland, and the Americas

The nineteenth-century American poet and travel writer Bayard Taylor once said he went to Berlin "not to visit museums and galleries...but to speak with the world's greatest living man, Alexander von Humboldt." Humboldt's fame was based mainly on the results of an epic journey through huge portions of Spanish America between 1799 and 1804. Today, the Alexander von Humboldt Research Center in Berlin alone contains records of more than 5,000 bibliographical items on Humboldt. This seminar explores Humboldt and his ideas about the interconnectedness of physical and human phenomena through primary and secondary materials, and through film. Attention is also given to his French-born collaborator, the enigmatic botanist Aimé Bonpland, who had a forty-year career in southern South America separate from Humboldt.

Lawrence Smith, S08

Space Imaging of the Earth's Environment

Exciting new satellite technologies are now being used to study Amazon deforestation, hurricanes, climate change, natural disasters, melting of polar ice caps, and other dynamic phenomena. On other planets, orbiting satellites and landing probes and rovers are also opening our eyes to completely new worlds. Digital images obtained by these technologies represent one of the fastest growing applications in environmental science. This seminar is an introduction to this exciting field. Following an introductory slide show at UCLA, a visit to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena is scheduled.

Stanley Trimble, * W08

American Rivers: History of Environmental Change

The objective of this seminar is to offer students a basic understanding of rivers and how human agency has changed them in the United States.

Hartmut Walter, * F07

The UCLA Ecosystem: Understanding Our Campus Environment

Join a full day field trip of the UCLA campus featuring discussion and site visits of UCLA's energy resources, water and sewage treatment systems, transportation planning, and planning strategies. The field trip includes an ecotour of the astonishing campus fauna and flora from all continents. Discuss how UCLA manages to squeeze more people, cars, and buildings into the smallest area of any UC campus. Learn to apply basic environmental principles to the north and south campus and ponder the question of how to enhance the sustainability of this unique ecosystem.

History 19**Edward Alpers, * F07**

Diversity and Difference in Los Angeles Fiction

Los Angeles is an incredibly diverse community that a number of creative writers have chosen to feature in their works. Using the historical background of race relations in Los Angeles, the four authors whose work will be explored in this seminar have sought to probe these important issues in several different artistic forms. In reading these works (and in one case, viewing the filmed version of a play), this seminar also opens up the possibility for students to discuss these issues as they play out in contemporary Los Angeles.

Scott S. Bartchy, * W08

Honor and Shame in Clash of Civilizations and Religions

Honor and shame are core cultural values for the vast majority of human beings, including most Muslims. Ignoring this fact has led to serious (and avoidable) misunderstandings of world events and mistakes in U.S. foreign policies which have been based most often on the western individualistic values of achievement and guilt. This seminar involves reflection on values with which students were raised, as well as a deeper understanding of the ways in which honor/shame values continue to influence self-perception, gender roles, and group practices of more than five billion people.

Ivan Berend, * F07

The European Union: A New Superpower?

This seminar will analyze the causes of the emergence of the European integration after World War II, and its progress from a customs union via a single market and common currency toward joint military forces. We will also examine the permanent and gradual enlargement process from a community of six to a union of 27 countries. Central problems and controversies at present and the impact of European Union on history will also be examined.

Robin Derby, F07

Interpreting Rumor in Africa and the Caribbean

This seminar will explore how historians and anthropologists have interpreted rumor as a form of vernacular history. As Luise White has proposed, "Rumor reveals wider terrains of belief and theory, of alternate visions of cause and effect." We will consider Whites' methodological insights about how popular narratives about vampires and other beliefs can reveal subterranean anxieties about colonial power and modernity in Africa; we will also examine popular narratives about the state and other forms of authority from Haiti and Cuba. Drawing upon these case studies, students will learn to decipher rumor based on attention to plot, allegory, metaphor, and formulaic elements such as condensed symbols. Each student will then use this methodology to interpret a rumor of his or her choice, either from the UCLA student community or an urban legend, and will present his or her findings in class.

Stephen Frank, * W08

Revolutionary Thoughts: European Radicalism, 19th to 20th Centuries

This seminar provides an introduction to the various strains of radical thought in modern Europe. Beginning with early socialism (Babeuf, St. Simon), students will sample growth, development, and a variety of revolutionary ideas and practice in readings by or concerning anarchist, radical, socialist, Marxist, and Leninist thinkers from the late 18th through the early 20th century- that is, from the French to the Russian Revolution.

Patrick Geary, * F07

Terrorists and Door Kickers: Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Past and Present

Since 9/11, enormous attention has been focused on the ability of small, non-state organizations to inflict tremendous damage on powerful states, but such asymmetric warfare is hardly novel. This seminar looks at a variety of approaches to understanding terrorism, as well as efforts in the past and present to defeat it.

James Gelvin, * F07

Al-Qaida and Jihadi Islam

This seminar will look at the origins, evolution, and doctrines of jihadist groups, such as al-Qaeda. We will examine the reasons for their emergence, their self-conception and stated aims, and the efficacy of the global war on terrorism.

Ludwig Lauerhass, W08

How We Remember the Bomb

The first military use of atomic bombs devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It precipitated the end of World War II, and ushered in the new Atomic Age. Since then, the event has been subject to widely divergent interpretations in the U.S., Japan, and the world at large. This seminar highlights the bombing's remembrance and commemoration from 1945 through its 50th anniversary in 1995, focusing on sources from documentary and feature films to journalistic accounts, and from artistic renderings to museum exhibitions. Analysis will emphasize how debates have continued to this date, without resolution.

Ghislaine Lydon, S08

Arabs, Berbers, and Africans or Politics of Race across the Great Divide

Africa is viewed as a continent divided between the north and regions south of the Sahara Desert. There is an erroneous assumption that Africa is further separated along religious lines, between "Muslim" North Africa and "Christian" Sub-Saharan Africa, while African Jews tend to be ignored. The first Arab geographers described areas south of the Sahara as "the land of the blacks" (Bilad al-Sudan) to discriminate between Africans so as to set apart "Blacks" from "Arabs" and "Berbers." Centuries later, the notion that Africa is peopled by three culturally distinct groups prevails. This seminar is a forum for discussion of how the African continent has been invented and reinvented across the ages. Exploration of dominant discourses about race on either side of the African divide, and consideration, through readings supplemented with documentaries, of how this plays out in the politics of interpretation in certain current events, such as the war in Darfur (Sudan).

Gabriel Piterberg, * W08

The 1948 Palestine War in Arabic and Hebrew Literature

The spring of 2008 marks the 60th anniversary of the 1948 war in Palestine. For Israeli Jews, this has meant independence; for Palestinian Arabs and Israeli Palestinians, this has been the *nakba* (catastrophe). In this seminar, we shall read and discuss literary works that address the events and memories of that war. All pieces will be read in English translation, so knowledge of Arabic and/or Hebrew is not required.

Theodore Porter, * W08

The Scopes Trial: Evolution Debates in America

This seminar is about evolution debates in America, in particular, the famous 1925 Tennessee Scopes trial, and the trial in Dover, Pennsylvania in 2005 about the standing of "intelligent design" in public education.

Teofilo Ruiz, * S08**

Plato's Republic: Property, Equality, and Knowledge

A close reading and discussion of Plato's *Republic*, the first utopian work ever written. Emphasis on issues of property, equality, gender differences, and knowledge as presented in text.

Teofilo Ruiz, * W08**

Los Angeles: Architecture and Ethnicity

This seminar introduces students to the ethnic diversity and architectural eclecticism of downtown Los Angeles and the canals of Venice. The seminar consists of an introductory meeting, followed by a walking tour of downtown L.A., including travel through mid-Wilshire, Hancock Park, and other points of interest. The walking tour will include lectures and discussions about significant downtown buildings: The new Disney hall, the L.A. Public Library, the Biltmore Hotel, the new cathedral, the Bradbury and Oviatt buildings, Chinatown, Olvera Street, and Union Station. The tour will conclude with a walk along the Venice canals before returning to campus.

Robert Wohl, S08

The Spectacle of Flight: How Aviation Transformed Western Culture

It is generally understood today, when the majority of us have access to airplanes as a source of transportation and are condemned to fly whether we like it or not, that powered flight was at first experienced as an aesthetic phenomenon, and that during its first four decades, most people experienced flight vicariously, primarily as a public spectacle. This seminar will explore some of the many ways that powered flight transformed Western culture during the 20th century. It will consider the impact of aviation in literature, visual arts, design, architecture, advertising, music, and mass entertainment, especially radio and film. In addition to assigned readings from two books by the instructor; students will watch and discuss documentaries such as *Lindbergh's Great Race* and William Wyler's *Memphis Belle*; Walt Disney's first Mickey Mouse cartoon, *Plane Crazy*; and feature films such as Howard Hawks' *Only Angels Have Wings*. Students will also listen to excerpts from Bertolt Brecht's *The Lindbergh Flight*.

Honors Collegium 19**Esther Grassian, * S08**

How to Stop Just 'Googling' and Find the Really Good Stuff!

4,890,000 results! This is what you get when you search HUMAN AGING in Google. A search for "HUMAN AGING" brings the results down to 159,000. That helps, but even with just hundreds of search results, important questions remain: Are these items accurate, complete, authoritative, and up to date? What is their purpose and point of view? Who is the intended audience? General web search tools like Google find freely available sites in the "visible web." Some are useful, while others are not. Hiding in the "invisible web" databases are scholarly journal articles, book chapters, and other scholarly materials. The UCLA Library subscribes to many hundreds of databases including "PsycINFO" (licensed/subscription), "MLA [Modern Language Association] Bibliography" (licensed/subscription), and "PubMed" (free), listing scholarly research materials which may support or refute what you find through general Web search tools. This course will help you save time, save money (by learning how to get articles for free), prepare better papers, and become more powerful information researchers

Ann Kerr, * W08

Perceptions of Americans Abroad: Discussions with Visiting Fulbright Scholars

In the post 9/11 world, there is a greater than ever need for Americans to know more about the rest of the world and to understand how we are perceived abroad. This seminar affords students the opportunity to see ourselves as others see us by hearing visiting Fulbright scholars from around the world speak about their countries and the perceptions of America there, and have a chance to ask them questions. The scholars will speak informally for 10-15 minutes and the remainder of the time will be devoted to class discussion.

Larry L. Loehrer, * F07

The Geography of Fire in California

Fire has been a natural part of the California landscape for thousands of years. Sparked by lightning, it's burned through almost all of the state's ecosystems, sometimes becoming an essential part of community establishment and renewal. Fire distribution is influenced by numerous factors including fuel sources, ignition sources, and environmental variables such as topography, climate, and weather. As humans began to occupy natural fire areas, the pattern, scale, and distribution of fire began to change. In the last three centuries, fire has evolved from a beneficial natural phenomenon to one that creates massive social disruption and incurs enormous human costs. In this seminar, we will explore the role of fire in California's landscape, factors involved in its natural distribution, human response to fire, the social cost of conflagrations, and prospects for future modification of fire regimes.

Kelly Lytle-Hernandez * and La'Tonya Rease-Miles, ** W08

The Black Student Experience at UCLA

This seminar examines the social, academic, and political concerns facing Black Bruins, and explores how Proposition 209 has affected the UCLA black student community. It asks the question, how can students affect change at UCLA? The seminar features invited guest speakers from the Office of Residential Life, campus administration, and alumni.

Susan Plann, W08

The Muslim Student Experience at UCLA

This seminar will explore the Muslim experience at UCLA through discussions, readings, and interviews with Muslim students on campus. Students will learn to master the basics of conducting oral interviews. Muslim and non-Muslim students are all welcome- let us learn together.

Laura C. Romero, * F07; W08; S08

Civic Engagement in Los Angeles

This seminar will examine civic engagement in Los Angeles. Invited guest speakers from public and private sectors- including city government, corporations, and community-based organizations- discuss the impact of their work on society. By focusing on different types of civic engagement, this seminar will analyze how individuals contribute to Los Angeles and also encourage students to become civically engaged during their college careers.

Ronni Sanlo *** and Dayna Baker, F07**

Careers in Student Affairs

This seminar will inform students about the many careers in Student Affairs and higher education through active discussion, listening, viewing, and participation. There are currently no undergraduate majors or minors from which students may learn about and prepare for the profession of Student Affairs, yet many of our student leaders are actually doing Student Affairs work. This seminar is designed to assist them with an understanding of the profession and to explore possibilities for future careers. Learning opportunities as members of this class include the 2007 Western

Regional Careers in Student Affairs Day at UCLA on October 19th as well as the regional conference of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators in November.

Ronni Sanlo *** and Suzanne Seplow, *** F07; W08; S08**

LGBT is Not a Sandwich: Straight Talk on the Effects of Silence on Sexual and Gender Minorities in Los Angeles

This seminar informs students through active discussion and participation about the myriad ways in which people and communities are affected by issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. Topics include the history of sexual orientation issues, health and legal issues of sexual and gender minority people, sexual/gender identity development, and legal issues directly affecting UCLA and Los Angeles.

La'Tonya Rease-Miles, ** S08

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Human Complex Systems 19

William McKelvey, * W08

Understanding and Managing Complex Natural and Social Systems

If there is no intelligent designer, how can we account for order in the natural world? Can the human economic system organize itself without someone in charge? How do social systems come into being, grow, and coordinate activities? Can top management arrange things so that bottom-up solutions emerge from other levels of hierarchy? New sciences of complexity address these questions in physical, biological, social, and organizational systems. Complex systems scientists also investigate how systems and institutions can self-destruct in the absence of outside forces (e.g., what stock market crashes, earthquakes, and mass extinctions have in common). Traditional science, such as mathematics and statistics, makes heroic assumptions about averages, sameness of individuals, their independent behavior, and equilibrium dynamics, while complexity science seeks more effective ways to improve organizations and social systems.

Dwight Read and John Bragin, F07

The Strange New Science of Chaos

If a butterfly flaps its wings in China, can its motion really cause a hurricane elsewhere in the world? Is the stock market random, or can you make money by modeling its behavior? Do populations of plants, animals, and humans change without order, or are they patterned? What happens when the regular rhythm of the human heart breaks down? Chaos theory addresses these questions. Chaos is everywhere in physical, biological, and social systems and the computer is a key factor in understanding chaos. Introductory readings will be brought to life by easy-to-use computer simulations run on Macs and PCs. Students will explore what-if scenarios by changing various program inputs with simple on-screen controls that require no programming skills. Students will also learn basic techniques to create their own simulations.

Information Studies 19

Anne Gilliland, S08

Records, Redress, and Reconciliation

An exploration of the concept of records as instruments of power and empowerment, this seminar draws on examples of how records were originally created and used and have been subsequently used as witnesses in redress movements and truth-and-reconciliation commissions. Examples include the Third Reich's meticulous records of Jewish lineage of

peoples in Nazi-controlled countries, as well as transportation and camp activities; the use of racial classifications in recordkeeping to enforce apartheid in South Africa; the maintenance of informant files by the Stasi in Communist East Germany; and the deliberate obliteration in record of identities of indigenous children (the so-called "stolen generation") removed by government from their families and placed in white institutions and homes in Australia. The same documents created to oppress can later be used as evidence to redress genocide, war crimes, and discriminatory practices, and to re-establish identity

Mary Niles Maack, S08

Writing Women's Lives

An exploration of the ways in which women's lives have been portrayed in different times and contexts, this seminar looks at memoirs and autobiographies by women, as well as biographies written about them. We will discuss feminine/feminist identities expressed in these works, and will consider issues such as self-presentation, culture and personality, gender constraints, and the changing nature of biographical narrative. Through discussion and individual readings, students will become more adept at critical thinking as they consider issues involved in writing biography or autobiography. Students also will become acquainted with lives of a few outstanding women and with trends that have shaped nature of biographical writing.

John Richardson, F07; S08

"Just Google It": What It Is and When It's Appropriate

Google, the world's most popular search engine, indexes more than eight billion Web pages. This seminar explores the rise of the Internet and the World Wide Web as important, if not authoritative, sources of information for facts, news, shopping, and geography. Description of Google's features, compared and contrasted with other Web resources. Exploration of the evaluative criteria including issues of authority, believability, and trust.

Virginia Walter, * S08

Voices of Color in Children's Literature

Students in this seminar will read and discuss recent distinguished books by African American, Asian American, American Indian, and Latino authors.

Latin American 19

Kevin Terraciano, W08

Introduction to Nahuatl (Aztec) Language and History

This seminar introduces students to the study of Nahuatl, a major indigenous language of Mexico. In particular, we will study the language and grammar of Nahuatl-language texts and documents that were written with the Roman alphabet in the colonial period (16th-18th centuries), when alphabetic writing in Nahuatl and several other Mesoamerican languages of Mexico was widespread. In beginning to study the language and conventions of these older texts, we will also learn about the history of Nahua culture and writing in this period. The study of the older language and culture is relevant to studies of modern variants of the spoken language and to the understanding of contemporary Nahua culture. Today, about a million people speak more than 20 variants of the Nahuatl language, also referred to as "la lengua Mexicana." In fact, some of these Nahuas live in Los Angeles and other parts of California.

Law 19

Steven Bank, * F07

Financing War

Significant changes in the U.S. tax system over our history have emerged from the crucible of war. Financial exigencies of fighting war combine with a sense of need for shared sacrifice to produce momentum for reform focused on increasing progressivity of a tax system and spreading the burden of wartime expenses across populations. Former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay made a stunning declaration: "Nothing is more important in the face of war than cutting taxes." Exploration of history of wartime finance in the U.S., examining the major innovations in taxation and bond finance that occurred during Civil War, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Korea, Gulf War, and recent conflict in Iraq. Discussion of how war has influenced government finance. This seminar considers the extent to which recent tax cuts may or may not be unprecedented and their possible causes.

Kenneth Graham, * F07

Peace, Nonviolence, and Law

This seminar will examine the question of whether the law furthers peace or violence. This will require us to consider political-economy; court decisions refusing to grant First Amendment protection to nonviolent protests or failing to enforce the Declaration of War Clause; and the role of the media and the military in creating a culture of violence that leads to such things as drive-by shootings, domestic violence, and the casual and causal relationship between sex and violence. Since no one has easy answers to these questions, including the instructor, students will have to come up with their own.

Joel Handler, W08

Law and the Poor

This seminar will discuss the history of aid to poor single mothers and their children (formerly "AFDC") now known as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families ("TANF"). Also examined will be the welfare reform of 1996, "ending welfare as we know it," leading to a decline in the welfare rolls. We will discuss what has happened with poverty and inequality since then, with an emphasis on working mothers and their children in low-wage labor markets.

Frances Olsen, * W08

Law, Morality, and Social Justice: Conflicts between Theory and Practice

This seminar critically examines law-related issues, such as police brutality (including the abuse of taser guns), government surveillance, arrest or detention without due process, racial profiling, and politicization of the U.S. Attorney's office. For many, these practices challenge the traditional image of American justice. What role can and does the law play in perpetrating and/or remedying such abuses? This seminar will examine the relationships between law, morality, and social justice from the sometimes-conflicting perspectives of an academic law professor and civil rights/human rights lawyer. Students passionate about social justice are especially welcome, as are students considering a career in law who want to expand their understanding of limits and possibilities of such a choice.

Frances Olsen, * F07

Political Trials of Visionaries, Reformers, and Revolutionaries

This seminar examines the various roles of law in promoting or impeding social change through the lens of political trials. We will learn about the origin and potential of jury nullification, the uses of courtroom by revolutionaries as political platform, and recent government efforts to suppress these traditional outlets of political expression.

Management 19

Bhagwan Chowdhry, F07

Microfinance: Enabling the Poor to Escape Poverty and Manage Risks

In recent years, a set of unusual institutions labeled “microfinance institutions” have been increasingly visible and influential in helping the poor of the world who have been excluded by the formal banking sector to fight poverty and manage life uncertainties by offering financial services to them. These services include loans as small as \$100, savings products, and insurance products to manage life risks caused by death, illness or weather uncertainties. The goal of microfinance is to reach billions of people who live below the poverty line. What are the difficulties in achieving this goal? What creative and innovative solutions can surmount these difficulties? This seminar will seek to further students’ understand the issues involved.

Sanford Jacoby, * Christopher Erickson, * Samuel Culbert, * Daniel Mitchell, * and David Lewin, * W08

(Team-taught by five faculty from the Anderson School of Management)

An Introduction to Human Resource Management

This team-taught seminar is intended to provide an introduction to managing the employment relationship in modern organizations. Topics include the origins of human resource management; negotiations; diversity; pay practices; and HR and business performance. The seminar will be offered every other week for two hours per session, each session taught by a different professor from the Anderson School of Management.

Martin Greenberger, * S08

History of the Future of Technology

Technology is the application of scientific and engineering knowledge to the world of practical affairs, comprising a totality of tools with which we live our lives. How will technology change in the years ahead? This question should be of concern to almost everyone, especially students now embarking on their most creative and productive years. Imaginative leaps forward to the 2020’s, a time period likely to be as technologically eventful and exciting as the 1920’s were culturally, artistically, and socially. Culture, art, and social interaction are not divorced from technology, but intertwined and ignited by it. Consider the impact automobiles, movies, radios, chemicals, and telephones had in the Roaring Twenties. The digital computer, making its appearance in the mid-20th century, has led to the iPod, iPhone, and much more. This seminar asks what the legacy of these innovations and trendsetters will be, and how we will get from there to here.

Bennet Lientz, * S08

Modern Project Management

Look around you and what do you see? Projects. You cannot accomplish major things without projects. Most graduates become involved in projects and project management as it is a key vehicle for improving work, processes, and organizations. This seminar will explore modern techniques of project management. Topics include examples of project failure and success, and elements of project success; how to define a project; how to establish a project plan; monitoring work in projects; evaluating project milestones; establishing effective project teams; and closing projects. Issues encountered in projects are discussed in teams: work, project leaders, methods and tools, quality, organization involvement, multiple projects, and other areas. Examples considered in engineering, business, medicine, science, construction, real estate, and other areas. No technical background is required for this seminar.

Hans Schollhammer, * S08

The Entrepreneurial Process

This seminar examines the important aspects of starting a new business venture and directing its early development. It will familiarize students with the crucial stages or milestones in the entrepreneurial process, especially identification and evaluation of new venture opportunities, legal structure and organization of new business, development of business concepts and business plans, approaches to venture financing, teambuilding, staffing, and marketing considerations in new venture context. Attention will be paid to the characteristics of successful entrepreneurs and to analytic tools or techniques to establish the feasibility of a venture.

Political Science 19

Richard Baum, F07

U.S. - China Relations at the Crossroads

This seminar examines the post-Vietnam War development of US-China relations from a state of near-total antagonism to one of "constructive engagement." The goal of this seminar is to understand how the rise of China affects the long-term strategic priorities and interests of these two great powers. Special consideration will be given to the question of possible future conflict between them.

Susanne Lohmann, W08

Can't We Make Moral Judgments?

This seminar explores normative ethics (how we should reason about right and wrong), empirical ethics (how we actually reason), and meta-ethics (how we can ground moral reasoning). Normative ethics includes standard ethical principles of utilitarianism, rights, and justice-fairness. Empirical ethics relies on evolutionary psychology (just-so stories), social psychology (experiments), anthropology (cross-cultural differences), and history (cultural change over time). Meta-ethics splits into two camps, realist (there are objective values) and anti-realist (there are no objective values). The latter includes moral, or cultural, relativism. Special emphasis is placed on the relationship between religion and ethics (e.g., if God is dead, is anything and everything permitted?)

Kantathi Suphamongkhon, F07

Diplomacy and Modern Globalization

What is it like to be a diplomat in a world that has moved from the Cold War era into the Age of Globalization? This seminar will examine the nature of modern diplomacy and will survey the diverse subjects that a modern diplomat must tackle. This includes the examination of traditional threats to national security, as well as non-traditional ones such as international terrorism, the environment and other human security issues. The relevance of economic issues to modern diplomacy will be addressed. The seminar will also look into the art of negotiations. In addition, students will be introduced to the subject of international law as it relates to the conduct of international diplomacy. Case studies on current events around the world, such as the Middle East, Iraq, the Korean Peninsula, and the new balance of power in the Asia Pacific region will be used to enhance students' analytical skills and understanding.

Public Policy 19

Albert Carnesale, * F07

Rethinking National Security

National security is a prominent concern in the minds of Americans and a dominant issue in American politics. The items leading the national security agenda are the insurgencies in Iraq and Afghanistan, the acquisition of nuclear weapons by North Korea and, potentially, by Iran and others, and the persistent threat of international terrorism. This seminar will address two fundamental questions: What are the near-term threats to America's vital interests; and what strategies are available to meet the challenges the U.S. is likely to face in the decade ahead?

Sociology 19

Adrian Favell, W08

Cool Japan: Exporting Contemporary Japanese Culture

In 2002, "Japan's Gross National Cool", a short article by Wired magazine journalist Doug McGray, launched a scramble by Japanese policy makers to capitalize on the growing global cache of Japanese contemporary culture. Building on the fame of its anime, toys, and games industries, politicians have ever since been promoting Japanese prestige of its contemporary art, architecture, street fashion, pop music, and cuisine as a substitute for its declining industrial and financial might. This seminar will examine this curious new foreign trade policy, as well as successive global waves of Japanese contemporary culture sweeping the planet. California and its Asian American population have played a huge role as principal gateway to the West. Who are the people and businesses behind these trends? What does it tell us about Japanese politics, culture, or society today? What do these new Western obsessions with Japan tell us about popular culture and society in America and Europe?

David Halle, * S08

The Sociology of Cinema: Hit Movies, 1920 to 2007

This seminar is an examination of the relationships between dominant themes in hit movies and features of American society at the time the movies were released. Study of main topics and themes in hit movies and investigation of ways in which these topics and themes resonated with society in that period. Special interest in how central topics/themes in these movies change from one period to next (if they do), and in figuring out how these changes relate to changes in America politics, society, and culture (if they do).

Ruben Hernandez-Leon, * W08

Migration as Business: The Migration Industry in Global Perspective

The burgeoning global migration industry is a complex of profit-motivated services that foster, facilitate, and sustain international migration. Migration industry includes services of smugglers ("coyotes"), labor contractors, transportation companies, travel agencies, communication and remittance businesses, mail-order bride services, false and valid documentation procurement, and legal and paralegal consulting, among others. This seminar looks at the role of the migration industry in a variety of international migratory flows, in the context of Mexico-U.S. stream and, specifically, Los Angeles.

Peter Kollock, * F07

Zen and the Art of Mindfulness: Meditation and Attention in Everyday Life

This seminar examines Zen Buddhism, not in the context of religion, but as a system of social psychology that has evolved over 2600 years. We will examine Zen Buddhist practices for developing cooperation and peace in one's self and one's relationships. A key element of the seminar will be a weekend retreat at a Zen Buddhist monastery.

William G. Roy, * F07

Making Societies: Historical Construction of Our World

The theme of this seminar is an examination of things that we take for granted as 'natural,' but which are actually historically constructed. These include perception (time and space), and hierarchy (race and gender). The way we experience time and space, relate to each other in terms of social characteristics, and organize our affairs is often assumed to lie outside of social explanation, either in physical nature, biological foundations, or human nature. This seminar will try to find the social explanations for these things by probing the variation among different societies. In doing so, our own society's assumptions will be laid bare.

Min Zhou, * S08*Chinese Immigration and the New Second Generation*

Designed as an introduction to contemporary Chinese immigration, this seminar will examine how historical events and cultures in the homeland and American society, patterns of social relations, and ethnic and host social structures, have interacted to affect the process of adaptation and life changes of Chinese immigrants and their offspring. In this seminar, students will become more aware of the social forces that bind Chinese immigrants and their families together, the dynamics of social institutions in ethnic community and in larger society which mediate between individuals and their increasingly complex physical environment, and determinants of status attainment. Through the study of a particular immigrant group, students will understand better the various structural and cultural factors that affect the process of immigrant adaptation. Students will also see more clearly the invisible threads which connect Chinese immigrants with other immigrants.

Urban Planning 19**Randall Crane, * F07***Sprawl: The American Dream, or Nightmare?*

What is sprawl, is it good or bad, and what should be done about it? Many urban areas, in the U.S. and elsewhere, are growing rapidly at their peripheries, with new residential, commercial, and industrial developments gobbling up undeveloped land or smaller towns, often at a startling pace. Even some cities that are losing population are expanding physically as families shrink in size, generating more households per capita, and the demand for space continues to rise with income. Some evidence indicates that this pattern of development is problematic for a host of reasons. Land consumption for urban development is particularly a concern when converted from potentially more valuable land uses, including land devoted to scenic, recreational, and habitat purposes. More city traffic jeopardizes our health, our sanity, and our pocketbook, as well as the environment. There is much to learn about- first, how to think about how communities form and spread and, second, what to do about it.

Women's Studies 19**Christine Littleton, * F07***Sexual Harassment Law and Policy*

What is sexual harassment? Why is it wrong? Who is harmed by it? What can be done to stop it? What's the difference between flirting and sexual harassment? Can men be sexually harassed? These and other questions will be addressed in this seminar, and some of the answers may surprise you.

World Arts & Cultures 19**David Rousseve, F07***Creating Dance/Theater in the Professional World*

This seminar will follow the process of creating a professional dance/theater work from conception to touring. Focusing on David Rousseve's full-length work "Saudade", the seminar will cover all aspects of the artistic and professional processes. The seminar will also cover creative development tools used to generate text and movement for a full-length work and compositional tools for composing a work that layers and braids speaking and moving into an original whole. It will also examine the realities of marketing, booking, and touring, giving students methods that can be used in the current professional world.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Astronomy 19

David B. Cline, * F07; W08

Invisible Universe and Life in the Solar System: From Alpha to Omega

This seminar is a non-mathematical discussion of the current understanding of the dark universe that is mostly made up of invisible dark energy, dark matter, and neutrinos. Normal matter (of which humans are made) makes up less than four percent of the universe; stars, less than half of a percent. Seminar includes a discussion of how invisible dark matter leads to the formation of galaxies and stars. Some stars explode, producing neutrinos and heavy elements that constitute materials from which life originates and complex molecular systems were likely formed. We trace the distribution of heavy elements to the period five billion years ago. They also were incorporated into organic materials that eventually led to the origin of life on earth. This seminar is also a discussion of the search for life elsewhere in the solar system that may involve the very same organic molecules.

Jean Turner, S08

The Final Frontier: Is the Promise of Space Worth the Cost?

"Space exploration is cool, and deficit moaners are nerds." Such is the opinion of Homer Hickam, author and protagonist of *Rocket Boys*. Space and money: how much do we spend on space? What do we get out of it? We live in the space age now, like it or not, and space exploration is a reality. But space exploration costs money. In this seminar, we will examine how much Americans spend on space, manned and robotic exploration, on space science in general, and what we get out of it. We will consider the achievements of Americans in space. We will examine the federal budget to see what Americans spend money on, and how much, and the percentages of the budget allocated to NASA and the National Science Foundation. We will examine the other ways in which Americans spend their discretionary income. By the end of the seminar, we will each be able to address the question, "Are we headed the right direction in space?", or, perhaps, "Where's my jet pack?"

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences 19

Robert Fovell, * W08

"Anything can happen": Science and Lore of the Santa Ana Winds

People in Los Angeles and beyond are fascinated by the infamous Santa Ana winds, which blow in from the desert during winter and are especially noted for starting and spreading fires. In this seminar, we will explore the science and literature of these "devil winds." Why do they blow? What damage do they cause? How have they become incorporated into the literature and culture of Southern California? Are the winds unique to us, or do other places have their own hot, dry and menacing winds? The course title, "Anything can happen," comes from a Raymond Chandler story named "Red Wind," the title being another nickname for the Santa Anas. He wrote that when the red winds blow, anything can happen.

Richard Thorne, F07

Space Weather: Impact of Solar Activity on the Earth

The Sun is a variable star, which periodically develops magnetic active regions leading to solar flares and coronal mass ejections. Such solar disturbances lead to dramatic changes in the Earth's environment, which affect life and modern technology. Important effects such as temporary decreases in our protective ozone layer, enhanced radiation hazards to spacecraft and high altitude aircraft, disruption to radio communication systems and the GPS navigation system, and

potential links to long term climate change, will be discussed in this seminar in elementary terms suitable for students with a high school science preparation.

Richard Turco, W08

Cosmic Evolution: How Everything is Connected by the Arrow of Time

In this seminar we will discuss how matter has evolved over the course of time, since the beginning of the universe to the present. The seminar will emphasize the processes by which complexity and organization arise and grow in natural and manmade systems. We will explore the empirical evidence for inevitable and irreversible transformation of matter, leading toward life and beyond, along the arrow of time.

Bio-Engineering 19

Howard Winet, * F07

Truth and Questions in Orthopaedics

A discussion of topics of current intellectual importance in orthopaedics, taught by faculty members in their areas of expertise. Demands for solutions to difficult fracture healing problems have spawned a wealth of orthopaedic devices and materials, and a rush to application has outrun scientific evidence for their efficacy. Using a class reader, lectures (including a guest surgeon and an engineer), and discussions, we will explore how needs for scientific rigor and clinical demands have conflicted historically, beginning with Bacon's separation of religion from science, through the entrance of science into medicine in the late 1700s. The seminar will end with current FDA requirements for safety and efficacy of orthopaedic implants.

Chemistry and Biochemistry 19

Herbert D. Kaesz, * F07

Serendipity in Science

An inquiry into unexpected discoveries in science that have had significant impact on society and an analysis of the circumstances which brought these about. Serendipitous, i.e., fortuitous, observations become significant only where the observer can recognize or correctly interpret the discovery, as in the case of the mold metabolite penicillin discovered by Fleming in 1928, giving rise to a new class of antibiotics. Discoveries in medicine, which derive from an indigenous oral tradition prior to their entry into Western European practice, will also be discussed. A librarian will address the seminar regarding use of library and computerized search facilities.

Laurence Lavelle, Eric Scerri, Herbert Kaesz, Alex Levine, and James Gimzewski, F07

Chemistry as a Foundation for Research

This seminar will illustrate the important role that all branches of chemistry play in research. Creative research occurs when chemistry, physics, biology and engineering overlap. Five faculty from the UCLA Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry will discuss a topic that can be linked to fundamentals covered in first-year chemistry courses.

David Scott, * W08

Chemistry and Art

This seminar explores how chemistry has been important in the process of making art from ancient times through the present. Lectures, as well as discussions, together with student reports on murals in Los Angeles, sculpture in the UCLA Sculpture Garden, and the making of a few simple pigments.

Community Health Sciences 19

Jill DeJager, * and Rena Orenstein, *F07; W08; S08**

So, Cosmo Says You Are Fat? I Ain't Down With That: Nutrition and Body Image Life Skills

This seminar will examine the personal, social, and environmental factors that influence college students' eating behaviors and body image through the lens of social learning theory and PRECEDE model. Students will learn to apply these theories in developing an individualized plan to eat well, be active, and feel good about their bodies. Students will also learn practical skills with application to stress management, positive body image, and nutrition as they participate in critical evaluation of popular diets, healthy body weights, sports nutrition, fitness, supplements, muscle builders, media body ideals, and self-destructive thoughts. The seminar will present this subject matter in an academically rigorous manner, while simultaneously promoting positive developmental outcomes.

Kristen McKinney and Pamela Viele, ** F07

Making the Most of College: Fulfilling Your Potential

Students enter college with multiple expectations about what the experience will be like for them. Some of these expectations may not be realistic, and some may remain unrealized because the bewildering array of options available makes it difficult for students to create a cohesive set of activities that will help them to reach their goals. This seminar will examine ways in which students can get the most out of college, considering the concept of student learning and development from both an institutional and individual perspective. The seminar will present theory and research about making the most of college and what challenges and supports exist. Students will consider the question of what institutions can do to support and encourage development, as well as reflect on their own roles and expectations with regard to utilizing the resources available at the institution to achieve their potential, particularly how to connect their in-class and out-of-class experiences.

Dentistry 19

Kathryn Atchison and Michael Shockro, F07

Intellectual Property

From the early days of trade along the ancient China silk road to current debates at the World Trade Organization; from the rights of performers in the entertainment industry to the fights among titans of high technology; from the discoveries in early laboratories to the frontiers of the internet, rights to intellectual property (“IP”) have been at the core of creative development. IP assets are a cornerstone of our country's position in today's world market, and are at the cutting edge of tomorrow's technology. This seminar will explore the history of developing IP concepts, current IP issues, variations in the protection for patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, geographic differences, and even the development of gender rights for indigenous populations.

Francesco Chiappelli, * W08

Pain and Stress Management in Dentistry

In this seminar, we will discuss research on stress in the context of clinical dentistry. The discussion will focus, for example, on canker sores, psychoneuroendocrine-immune regulation, facial pain (e.g., temporo-mandibular problems),

mind-body interactions, and on the effect of meditation and complementary and alternative medicine in dentistry. Students will be introduced to the research literature, and guided in reading and mastering research on stress and pain management and its implications in dentistry.

Earth and Space Sciences 19

Jonathan Aurnou, * F07

Signs of Glaciers Past: Eastern Sierra and Tuolumne

Since the time of their uplift, the Sierra Nevada Mountains have been carved and re-carved by glaciers. We will spend a weekend studying geological records of past ice ages along the eastern front of the Sierras and Tuolumne Meadows area of Yosemite National Park. Examination of massive glacial moraines of Convict Lake and a hike to the top of the 11,004-foot Gaylor Peak: (http://www.summitpost.org/show/mountain_link.pl/mountain_id/1829) to survey an array of glacial landforms. Each student will become an expert on a topic relevant to the trip and help to educate the class when we arrive at the field area that pertains to their expertise. NOTE: The strenuous hike up Gaylor Peak requires that all participants be in very good physical condition.

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology 19

Don Buth, * W08

Parasites: Eating us Alive

This seminar will introduce students to the parasitological half of the animal kingdom by way of a popular text that emphasizes historical aspects of this biological phenomenon. Topics include how parasites have influenced human evolution and human history.

Ken Nagy, * S08

The Future of Life on Earth

The earth is becoming less able to support life as we know it, and this change is happening faster than expected even just a few years ago. The number of humans on Earth is expected to increase from 6 billion to 10 billion this century, but Earth's resources needed to support these people are not increasing, and some are even declining due to consumption. This seminar is a discussion of a small new book by James Lovelock, *The Revenge of Gaia*, which describes this situation and suggests solutions.

Peter Nonacs, * W08

Evolutionary Medicine: How Natural Selection Helps Us Understand Why We Get Sick

Why do we grow old and die? Why do our own cells sometimes become cancers that grow wildly until they kill us and themselves? Why are plant poisons designed to kill insects- such as caffeine, nicotine, and chocolate- some of our favorite substances to consume? Why are new and deadly diseases appearing in our hospitals? Questions like these have long puzzled medical science. An exciting new approach to these "why" questions involves the application of evolutionary principles. Disease, illness, and human behavior are not seen as constant phenomena, but as having evolved and continuing to evolve through Natural Selection. Evolution is a fundamental concept that unifies all of modern biology and, perhaps very soon, modern medicine as well.

Robert Wayne, S08

Anachronisms, Adaptive Lab, and the Future of Evolution

In this seminar, students will explore the nature of adaptive response to climate change and discuss the presence of "anachronistic" traits in living species. It was first recognized in some tropical trees species that fruits were much too large to be dispersed by extant herbivores, suggesting that large fruit was an adaptation for past epochs when large mega-herbivores, such as mammoths and ground sloths, roamed the New World. Similarly, many species today have not adapted to recent climate changes while others have, suggesting an adaptive lag and the emergence of anachronistic traits. Students will read the seminal book on the subject, *The Ghosts of Evolution*, as well as several recent studies that document the success or failure of species to adapt to changing environments.

Electrical Engineering 19

Jack Judy, * W08

Neuroengineering: Technology that Could Enable "The Matrix"

Brain-computer interfaces portrayed in "The Matrix" movies make use of neuroengineering technologies, many of which already exist. Implantable devices that interface directly with human senses, such as devices allowing the deaf to hear, are a commercial reality. Research efforts are now underway that will enable the blind to see and the paralyzed to move. Direct brain-computer interfaces are a future goal. Topics of this seminar include past, present, and future neuroengineering technologies and devices, and their possible social implications.

Honors Collegium 19

Mike Gresser, F07; W08

The Rise and Fall of a Blockbuster Drug

The focus of this seminar will be on therapeutic drugs, not recreational drugs. Pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies constantly strive to create better therapeutic agents intended to improve the lives of patients and generate profits for themselves. It is very challenging to make a drug which has a sufficiently favorable benefit-to-risk ratio in order to justify making it available to patients. Companies that make such drugs have to promote them vigorously to ensure that they will be prescribed and purchased, while making clear the risks associated with using the drug. We will discuss the roles and responsibilities of companies which create and market drugs, the regulatory agencies which decide whether to approve them, the physicians who decide whether to prescribe them, and the patients who decide whether to take them. At each level, decisions concerning risk and benefits should be made. Various drugs will be discussed, with an emphasis on the cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor Vioxx.

Mike Gresser, S08

How Drugs are Made

This seminar focuses on therapeutic, not recreational, drugs. In spite of dramatic scientific advances, such as sequencing of the human genome, and in spite of increasing investment in research and development by pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, creation of new therapeutic agents has become slower and more expensive. We will examine the process of making new therapeutic agents. Consideration to analysis of competitive landscape to assess market opportunity for new therapeutics to treat target patient population, carrying out meaningful clinical trials, and getting new therapeutic agents approved. The objective of this seminar is to inform students of the opportunity to participate in and contribute to improvement of the process for making new therapeutics, and to acquaint them with some of many skill sets needed by those interested in leading or participating in teams which make pharmaceutical drugs.

Human Genetics 19

Christina Palmer and Michelle Fox, W08

Genetic Counseling: Making Genetics Real

This seminar focuses on the fascinating field of genetic counseling. Genetic counseling combines psychology and science to explain the role of genetic information in the lives of individuals and society. By 'making genetics real,' genetic counselors help individuals to understand genetic information and to make decisions about its use through genetic testing for conditions such as cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and cystic fibrosis. Through the exploration of case histories in each of the areas of genetic counseling specialization, we will discuss the ethical dilemmas facing individuals in approaching their genetic future.

Chiara Sabatti, * W08

Genetic Enhancement and the Quest for Perfection

Thanks to recent progress in biotechnology, a number of science fiction scenarios are becoming closer to reality. Along these lines, in 2008, the UCLA Center for Society and Genetics devoted its annual public symposium to *Babies by Design: Defining Humans?* This Fiat Lux seminar will be devoted to an informed discussion of the same topics. We will review the possibilities presently offered by reproductive technology. We will learn about current knowledge of gene function, reading classical and contemporary works of literature that have to do with human attempts to increase their control on their progeny and their future. We will approach a philosophical text related to the definition of human being in the context of genetic technology. Also, we will examine what one psychologist says about the effects of parental pressure to "be perfect" on modern day teenagers.

Medicine 19

Mary Maish, F07

Introduction to Surgery

This seminar is designed to introduce students to the practice of surgery. There will be five 2-hour sessions, the first hour of which will be devoted to an interactive session where students will learn the basics of surgery, including basic physical examination skills, surgical anatomy, physiology, and pathology. In addition, students will gain an understanding of operating room etiquette, and be given the opportunity to work with a variety of surgical instruments and new technology. The second half of the class will be devoted to a lecture series given by surgeons in a variety of different surgical subspecialties.

Oleg Melamed, F07

So, You Want to Be a Doctor?

Much is known about the challenges in medical practice today, where invisible barriers separate patients from their doctors- lack of insurance, financial disparity, and language and cultural bias are just some examples. Inconsistencies in doctors' training may present additional problems for patients seeking treatment. Students participating in this seminar will take a crack at researching and discussing in class some of the biggest issues in health care today. Current events, journal articles and visual media, as well as concerns raised in class will serve as the foundation for all discussion. The gained knowledge will increase awareness for future physicians, as well as help students decide if they should consider a career in medicine.

Neil Parker, * S08

The Magic of Medicine

Extraordinary discoveries, surgeries, and medical procedures lauded in news media and medical journals frequently occur at UCLA Medical Center. This seminar is an introduction to the faculty, clinicians, and research scientists who are on the cutting edge of research and methods of clinical treatment. Often, their research and methods help shape the direction of medicine and health care. Students meet these illustrious clinicians and research scientists in a setting that allows them to talk about their areas of expertise. Each meeting is a two-hour session with esteemed faculty, clinicians, and research scientists, which can be significant inspiration to students interested in medicine and research.

Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology 19

John Merriam, ** F07; W08; S08

The Joy of Biology- Read The New York Times Science Section and Discuss It over Coffee

"The sheer intellectual joy of finding out how life works is really cool. This is the greatest intellectual revolution and it is happening right now" (Susan Lindquist, interviewed in the New York Times, 4/24/07). The revolution comes from technology which makes direct experiments possible but also brings controversies and concerns. The intellectual joy is available to everyone who wants to find out what's going on or keep up life-long learning; The New York Times Science section is a premier way to get in the habit of reading science developments particularly, but not limited to, life and medical sciences. Once per week, we will review the science section, discuss articles of interest, and identify topics for further exploration on the internet. Coffee will be served.

Neurobiology 19

Edwin L. Cooper, W08

Links between the Nervous and Immune Systems

This seminar explores the links between the nervous and immune systems, presenting information pertaining to various animal models, and with an emphasis on humans. The implications of these systemic links are related to the problems of aggression, stress, and perhaps chronic diseases.

Nursing 19

Janet Mentes, * S08

Who Wants to Live to 100? Aging in the 21st Century

This seminar will explore what is currently known about human aging and longevity and put it in the context of personal and family aging concerns. We will tackle questions such as, When are we old? If it is fine to grow old, do I have to get sick? What about anti-aging medicine? How can I plan for my parents or my own aging? By the end of the seminar, students will have an appreciation of aging trends, stereotypes, common illnesses, and strategies for healthy aging.

Mary Woo, W08

Brain Drain - Why You Are Losing Your Mind (and What to Do About It)

Brain damage occurs daily in almost all of us, from such sources as our diet, stress, sleep disturbances, and oxygen levels. Accumulation of this injury can result in serious disability, including dementia. We will discuss examples of how such factors as diet (gluten), stress, physical inactivity, sleep disturbances, and oxygen (too much and too little) damage brain cells. We also will present activities and interventions which can ameliorate or prevent brain cell damage from these factors.

Pediatrics 19

Daniel Levi, * W08

Being a Doctor to Children with Heart Problems: Diagnoses, Treatments, and Physiology

An introduction to the world of pediatric cardiology, this seminar will include the nature of children's heart problems, the technology used to diagnose and treat disease, and what children go through in the process. It will provide a first-hand look at the technology and procedures in echocardiography and catheterization labs, also introducing the profession of pediatric cardiology and the process of medical education through medical school, residency, and fellowship.

Edward * and Linda McCabe, * W08

Babies by Design: Redefining Humans?

Preimplantation genetic diagnosis involves removal of one cell from an embryo at the eight-cell stage. This cell is studied to determine the presence or absence of mutation associated with disease. Selection of embryos without predisposition for disease for implantation is considered to be a benefit to the future child. Some would use this technology to select embryos with a particular characteristic such as gender that may not appear to be beneficial to the future child. Others may select a quality that benefits an existing child such as HLA compatibility to improve the likelihood of success when using cord blood from a future child to treat the existing child. Some may select embryos that have a mutation associated with a disorder. This seminar is a consideration of all these possibilities and their implications for humanity.

Gregory Perens, S08

Being a Doctor to Children with Heart Problems: Diagnoses, Treatment, and Physiology

Led by two UCLA faculty pediatric cardiologists, this seminar is a discussion of, and first-hand on experience with, pediatric heart patients. Examined are the procedures for evaluating and treating children's congenital heart disease, echocardiograms (ultrasounds), catheterizations, patient evaluations, pathology specimens, and intensive care unit visits.

Physics 19

David Saltzberg, F07

Deep in the Heart of Antarctica: Science in the Heroic and Modern Ages

Antarctica is the only continent reserved entirely for peace and science. At once the coldest, windiest, driest place on Earth, Antarctica serves science as a modern international laboratory providing a unique window on Earth and even Space. From the diaries of the early Antarctic explorers to modern newspaper articles, we will investigate science in Antarctica. Although this course is listed as Physics 19, we will explore scientific results from Antarctica equally from the fields of Biology, Geology, Environmental Science, Astronomy, and others. If there is enough class interest, we can emulate Antarctic field work by arranging an (optional) camping trip above the snow line in the local mountains.

Physiological Science 19

Gene Block, S08

Biological Chronometry

This seminar will focus on how organisms generate and employ internal timing signals with periodicities matching major environmental cycles. Such timers, commonly referred to as "biological clocks," create a kind of "day" within, controlling

a myriad of physiological and behavioral functions, from daily sleep-waking rhythm to seasonal reproduction, to molecular and cellular rhythms in neural and non-neural tissues. An exploration of the ways in which biological clocks, synchronized to solar, lunar, and tidal cycles, allow animals to adapt to living in marine, as well as terrestrial environments.

Scott Chandler, S08

Shall We Dance? How the Brain Controls Movement in Health and Disease

When we get up to dance, shake someone's hand, or perform most movements, our brain performs flawlessly, allowing us to perform our task. However, as a result of injury to the brain or spinal cord, or genetic defect, such movements are difficult or impossible to perform. In this seminar, we will investigate how the brain controls movements during health and disease states.

Alan Grinnell, W08

On Human Nature: Evolution of the Human Animal

Humans are peculiar animals, with special anatomical, physiological, behavioral, and cultural adaptations. This seminar considers the evolution of humans from just another large mammal (the third chimpanzee) to its unique status in the animal kingdom. A discussion of evolutionary forces that led to the "great leap forward" to modern man; evolutionary explanations for some of the bizarre physical and behavioral characteristics we have, including sexual behavior, prolonged care of infants, menopause, and prolonged lifespan; and the degree to which we share with animals traits considered uniquely human- language, art, agriculture, addiction, and warfare. We will also discuss why civilizations developed at different rates on different continents. These discussions will be held in the context of reading *The Third Chimpanzee*, the seminal book by one of the most profound thinkers in the field of human behavior and evolution, Jared Diamond

James Tidball, F07

The University: What Is It and Why Are We Here?

The origin of the university in the modern world lies in highly structured institutions in medieval Europe where students pursued formal learning in the arts and sciences, law, medicine, or theology. In the nearly 900 years since that origin, the structure of the university has remained amazingly intact, and now serves as the model for higher education throughout the world. However, the role and rationale for the university in Western society have begun to evolve rapidly in recent years in response to changing economic and social expectations. In this seminar, we will study and discuss the university's origins, its modern functions, and whether or not the university and society serve one another well.

Physiology 19

Nancy Wayne, F07

The Biology of Birth Control

We will begin our understanding of the biology of birth control by investigating how the body normally controls fertility, with a focus on the female menstrual cycle and the underlying endocrine events that control this cycle. We will then discuss a wide variety of frequently used birth control devices (e.g., barrier methods, hormonal manipulations, sterilization), and the effects they have on the reproductive system, either to block conception or to induce abortion of the embryo/fetus. Contraceptive methods that prevent sexually transmitted diseases will be discussed also.

Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences 19

Richard De La Garza, II, W08

Dinner with Doctor X

This seminar consists of bi-weekly dinners with doctors to be named. The doctors are UCLA faculty members whose research focuses in drug abuse (nicotine, alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy, opioids, and marijuana) or neuropsychiatric disorders (ADHD, depression, autism, schizophrenia, eating disorders, body dysmorphic disorder, etc.) Informal gatherings in which participants get a meal first, all going to Hedrick Hall's special dining lounge to eat together as a group. Midway through dinner, the instructor will briefly introduce the individual and will open the floor for questions on the topic of the day. No PowerPoint slides, no lecture, no formal outline of material to be covered- it is simply an open-ended conversation with the goal of providing young people an opportunity to learn from someone who is an expert in his or her medical field.

Psychology 19**Aaron Blaisdell, W08**

Tool Use and Causal Cognition in Animals

There has been a plethora of observations of animals using tools in the wild, from chimpanzees to New Caledonian crows, to leaf-cutter ants. We will review the evidence for tool use in animals both in the wild and in laboratory settings. A primary focus of our exploration will be to investigate the evidence for the cognitive processes that support tool use in animals. In particular, we will evaluate the evidence for the role of causal reasoning processes in tool-use behavior. These investigations can reveal what it means to be a causal agent in the physical world and the role of causal cognition in human society.

Thomas Bradbury, W08

Speaking, Listening, and Connecting: How Humans Interact

As social beings, humans spend a great deal of time in conversation with others: friends, roommates, parents, children, strangers, doctors, intimate partners, and therapists. What happens in these conversations? What are the psychological tasks that social interaction demands of us? What are the verbal and nonverbal cues that people pick up on (and fail to pick up on) in their social interactions? Why is it that we really 'hit it off' in some conversations, but fail to do so in others? What has to happen in a conversation between strangers so that it evolves to a deeper level of connection? How do people communicate respect, support, love, and forgiveness? By viewing and analyzing a variety of examples of social interaction, students will develop a deeper appreciation for these questions and the complex roles of social interaction in their daily lives.

Seymour Feshbach, * W08

Human Aggression: Issues, Causes, Myths, and Management

The role of evolutionary and other biological factors, and social and cultural influences will be considered in this seminar. Specific attention will be given to similarities and contrasts with animal aggression, to gender differences, to mass media influences, to personality factors associated with militant national policies, and approaches to the reduction of aggression.

Seymour Feshbach, * F07

The Virginia Tech Tragedy: Why? and How to Prevent Similar Occurrences

The focus of the seminar will be on the Virginia Tech shootings. To facilitate the discussion, theories of aggression will be briefly reviewed. Other campus shootings will be reviewed, and commonalities among them will be considered. Approaches to preventing or reducing the incidence of such shootings will be addressed.

Carlos V. Grijalva, * F07

Stress! Causes, Symptoms, and Remedies

We all have our perceptions and misperceptions of what “stress” is and the impact that different experiences have on our lives. This seminar is intended to gain a better understanding of “stressors” in our lives and the impact they can have on mental and physical health. The causes and symptoms of stress will be examined and stress management techniques will be highlighted.

Constance Hammen, F07

Disturbed and Disturbing Students: Learning from Virginia Tech

The April, 2007 shooting of students and faculty by an undergraduate at Virginia Tech was a horrible event that affected college campuses around the world. College is supposed to be a safe, protective environment that promotes learning and scholarship, but psychologists and administrators are well aware that every campus harbors disturbed and disturbing students who are a threat to themselves and others. The rate of troubled students appears to be increasing, and students want to know what it means to them and to their friends. The seminar uses this tragic example to explore issues of student mental health and possible causes of disorders, and to talk about the personal and campus resources needed to try to deal with such problems, as well as the historical, social, cultural, and legal/ethical issues that influence the causes and solutions of these concerns. There are more questions than answers, but the course attempts to engage students in thinking about the issues and learning how psychologists approach the topics.

Yuen Huo, F07

The Diversity Challenge: Understanding and Overcoming Group Conflicts

Progress in civil rights and a new wave of immigration have created an unprecedented level of diversity in American schools, workplaces, and communities. As individuals from different cultural, ethnic, and racial groups come together, questions are raised about how this demographic shift will play out. Can people from different cultural backgrounds find ways to live and work together, despite their differences? Or, is social division along ethnic and racial lines inevitable? We will address these and other questions by drawing upon scientific research on the origins and consequences of group conflicts and on strategies for overcoming them. Films and in-class exercises will supplement the readings to stimulate class discussion.

Richard S. Marken, S08

The Psychology of Personal Control

Our human propensity to control the world around us has produced our greatest human achievements (such as Beethoven's 9th) and our worst human failures (such as oppression and war). This seminar will examine human controlling from the point of view of a theory of human behavior called control theory. Why personal control is essential for our psychological wellbeing and why it can also create problems that can actually lead to loss of control. Presentation of a new approach to studying behavior (test for controlled variable) and to answering familiar questions about behavior, such as what is the effect of divorce on children, or how one can reduce the level of stress felt. A consideration of how scientific understanding of personal control might help us find ways to improve the human condition for ourselves, as well as for society as a whole.

Thomas Minor, * W08

The Psychobiology of Stress Resilience

Feeling stressed, fatigued, a bit anxious? Not sleeping well? Suffering from a decreased libido? Have your eating habits changed- eating too much (“hyperphagia”) or too little (“anorexia”)?) These are all symptoms of psychological stress and are common in college students during midterms and finals, and in the face of other challenges. Long-term effects of stress, particularly chronic stress, can be physically damaging. Recent research, however, suggests that you can use life's small stresses to increase your stress resilience, or the ability to resist and recover from stress. This seminar will address brain, endocrine, and autonomic nervous system mediators of stress resilience and recovery, as well as how rest, exercise, and psychological attitude influence hardiness and feelings of well-being.

Statistics 19

Nicolas Christou, * F07

Portfolio Management: Theory and Practice

Holding one stock alone is riskier than holding a number of stocks in a portfolio. Diversification is important in stock market investments because it reduces the risk faced by the investor. Using real stock market data, this seminar will focus on how to build efficient portfolios under different scenarios. The students in this seminar will select their own stocks and build portfolios using a computer spreadsheet, graphically and computationally.

Frederic Paik Schoenberg, * S08

Hold 'em or Fold 'em: Poker and Probability

This seminar explores the fundamental concepts of elementary probability theory and statistics, which are useful in a very wide variety of scientific applications. Students learn the basic foundations of probability, including axioms of probability, addition and multiplication rules, conditional probability, expected values, and combinatorics. We will discuss important statistical concepts such as standard deviation, law of large numbers, central limit theorem, simulation, standard errors, and confidence intervals. All of these topics, which are broadly applicable in the sciences, are motivated by examples of situations and concepts that arise naturally when playing Texas Hold'em, a game of strategy and chance whose complexity is surprising and whose popularity is world-wide.