

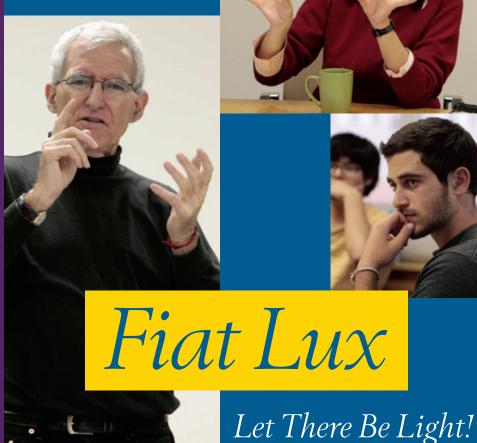
"We each brought our own ideas to discussion and challenged each other's views in a respectful and beneficial manner, making me think in ways I don't usually think."



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



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



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





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

—Chancellor Gene D. Block



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

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

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

Judith L. Smith

Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

Gary Nash Emeriti Seminars

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

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

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

Chemistry and Biochemistry 19

Herbert D. Kaesz,* F08 Serendipity in Science

David Scott,* F08 Chemistry and Art

Civil & Environmental Engineering 19

Ertugrul Taciroglu, S09 Learning from Our Mistakes: Catastrophic Failure of Structures through Ages

Community Health Sciences 19

Jill DeJager, ***** and Rena Orenstein, *** F08; W09; S09 So Cosmo Says You are Fat? Well, I Ain't Down with That: Nutrition and Body Image Life Skills

Dentistry 19

Kathryn Atchison and Michael Shockro, F08 Intellectual Property

Francesco Chiappelli,* W09 Current Issues in Evidence-Based Research in Dentistry

Anahid Jewett, F08 Novel Topics and Discoveries in Oral Biology, Medicine, and Dentistry

Earth and Space Sciences 19 Mark Moldwin.* F08

The End of Modern Civilization: Problems and Solutions

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology 19

Donald Buth,* S09 Parasites: Eating Us Alive

Peter Nonacs,* W09 Evolutionary Medicine: How Natural Selection Helps Us Understand Why We Get Sick

Honors Collegium 19

Mike Gresser,* S09 How Drugs are Made

Mike Gresser,* F08; W09
The Rise and Fall of a Blockbuster Drug

Human Genetics 19

Christina Palmer* and Michelle Fox,* F08 Dinner with Geneticist/Genetic Counselor X

Chiara Sabatti,* S09 Genetic Enhancement and Quest for Perfection

Management 19

Martin Greenberger,* W09 Technology in Time of Obama Richard Saouma, F08 Electronic Entrepreneurship: From e-Bay to Craigslist

Medicine 19

Oleg Melamed, F08 Hot Topics in Medicine: Disease, Politics, and the Bottom Dollar

Microbiology, Immunology, & Molecular Genetics 19

Lawrence Feldman, S09
Bird Flu: What Is It? Is It Dangerous?

Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology 19

John Merriam,*** W09 Read Science Times on Tuesday, Discuss over Coffee on Wednesday

John Merriam,*** F08 Read the New York Times Science Section and Discuss It over Coffee

Neurobiology 19

Edwin Cooper, W09 Links Between the Nervous and Immune Systems

Arnold Scheibel, S09 Thinking and Feeling: Introduction to Your Brain

Neuroscience 19

Scott Chandler,* S09 Shall We Dance? How Brain Controls Movement in Health and Disease

Nursing 19

Diana Lynn Woods, W09 Elders on YouTube

Janet Mentes,* W09 Who Wants to Live to 100? Aging in the 21st Century

Pathology 19

Linda Baum, F08 Thinking Scientifically: How to Evaluate Science in the News

Physics 19

Steven Furlanetto, S09 Everyday Physics: How Things Work

Michael Jura, S09 Energy in Modern Economy

Physiological Science 19

Mark Frye, S09

A Bug's Brain: What We Can Learn from Insects About Our World and Ourselves

Alan Grinnell,* W09 On Human Nature: The Evolution of the Human Animal

James Tidball, F08 The University: What Is It and Why Are We Here?

Physiology 19

Nancy Wayne, F08 The Biology of Birth Control

Psychology 19

Aaron Blaisdell, W09 Tool Use and Causal Cognition in Animals

Seymour Feshbach,* W09 Human Aggression: Issues, Causes, Myths and Management

Carlos Grijalva,** F08 Stress! Causes, Symptoms, and Remedies

Yuen J. Huo, W09 The Diversity Challenge: Understanding and Overcoming Group Conflicts

Richard Marken,* F08 The Psychology of Personal Control

Thomas Minor,* W09 The Psychobiology of Stress Resilience

Letitia Anne Peplau,* W09 Sex and Gender: Current Controversies James Thomas, W09 See the Colors: Glimpses of What We See and How We See Them

Society and Genetics 19

Hannah Landecker, W09
Food and Science

Edward McCabe* & Linda McCabe,* W09 Forensic DNA Searching: Guilt by Association

Statistics 19

Nicolas Christou,* W09 Statistics & Portfolio Risk Management with Stock Market Applications

Frederick Paik Schoenberg,* F08; W09; S09 Hold'em or Fold'em: Poker and Probability

The Vasa cube is awarded for every four seminars taught.

*2008–09 Vasa cube recipients *previous years' Vasa cube recipients

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Fiat Lux

2008–09 Seminars

Arts & Humanities

Ancient Near East 19

Aaron Burke, S09 Investigating Forgotten Port: Jaffa Cultural Heritage Project

Applied Linguistics and TESL 19

John Schumann,* S09 Cavemen Walking

Olga T. Yokoyama,* F08 Election Media Language and Gender

Architecture & Urban Design 19

Diane Favro,* F08 Mapping Ancient Rome in the 21st Century

Asian 19

Robert Chi, S09 Bruce Lee: Way More than Kung Fu

John Duncan,* S09 History Wars in Northeast Asia: Politics of Past

Namhee Lee, S09 Global Koreans/Korean Diaspora through Documentaries and Film

Chinese 19

Hongyin Tao, W09 Understanding Chinese Cultures through Keywords

Classics 19

Robert Gurval,* S09 Rediscovering Pompeii

Comparative Literature 19

Kathleen Komar,* W09
The Short Works of Franz Kafka—
or How the Modern World Works

Todd Presner, S09 Googlization of Everything Ross Shideler, * W09 Poets and Desire

Design | Media Arts 19 Erkki Huhtamo,* F08 What is Interactive Media?

English 19

Charles Batten,* F08 Birth of the Comic Strip

Jascha Kessler, F08 What a Poem Says

Robert Maniquis,* S09 Thoreau's Walden: Individual and American Society

Joseph Nagy,* W09 Cartoons, Folklore, and Myth

Barbara Packer, F08
Douglass, Stowe, and Ideas about Race

Karen Rowe,* W09 Origins of Identity: History and Memory in Women's Poetry

Mona Simpson,* F08 Meeting Your Favorite Contemporary American Writers

Robert Watson, F08 Great American Movies, 1967–74: The "New Hollywood" in Context

Ethnomusicology 19 Roger Kendall,* S09

Cognitive Psychology of Music in Science-Fiction Film

Roger Savage,* W09 Music Theory through the Recorder

Film and Television 19

Marina Goldovskaya,* S09 Documentary and Society

William McDonald, W09 The Art of Cinematography

French 19

Jean-Claude Carron, W09 How Tasty is My Little Frenchman

Dominic Thomas,** F08 Africa in Global Contexts

German 19

Robert Kirsner,* F08 Is a Non-Violent World Possible?

Wolfgang Nehring, W09 The "War to End All Wars" and the "Greatest War Novel (anti-war) of All Time"

James Schultz, S09 Writing About Love in High Middle Ages

Christopher Stevens, F08 What is Language and Where Does It Come From?

Honors 19

Robert Gore, F08 Artists' Books in the UCLA Library and Beyond

Jewish 19

Jonathan Zasloff and Chaim Seidler-Feller,* S09 Pirkei Avot: Foundation of **Jewish Ethics**

Linguistics 19

Patricia Keating, F08 Research on Linguistic Voice Quality

Music History 19

Thomas Harrison, W09 Rock Lyrics

Raymond Knapp,* F08 Politics in the American Musical

Robert Walser, S09 This is Your Brain on Music

Near Eastern 19

Willemina Wendrich,* S09 Creating Digital Map of Sakkara Pyramid Field

Scandinavian 19

Timothy Tangherlini,* F08 Strange Things: Folklore, Film and the Politics of Fear

South Asian Languages 19

Gyanam Mahajan and Stephanie Jamison, F08

Don't Think About the Elections!

Spanish 19

Elisabeth Le Guin, S09 ¡Leamos el Quijote en voz alta! Let's Read Quijote Aloud!

Study of Religion 19

Ronald Vroon, W09

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

Theater 19

Anna Krajewska-Wieczorek, W09 *Greek Tragedy: The Plays of Sophocles*

Shelley Salamensky, F08 Medicine in Arts and Humanities

World Arts & Culture 19

David Gere and Bridget Le Loup, W09

Global Summit: Inspiring Activism through the Life and Work of Dr. Paul Farmer

Culture & Society

Anthropology 19

H. Samy Alim, F08 Hip-Hop as Universal Language

Daniel Fessler,* F08 Animals in Translation: An Evolutionary Approach to Animal Thinking and Autism

Peter B. Hammond, F08 Racism: The Anthropology of "Race" Relations in South Africa, Brazil, and the U.S.

Paul Kroskrity,** F08; W09 Language Myths: Beliefs about Language that are Harmfully Wrong

Monica L. Smith.* F08 Food, Culture, and Identity

Chicana & Chicano Studies 19

Alicia Gaspar de Alba,* F08 Bad Girls in History: A Research Workshop

Otto Santa Ana.* F08 How Mass Media Immigrant Portrayals Affect Presidential Politics

Economics 19

Simon Board, S09 Winner's Curse in Common Value Auctions

Hugo Hopenhayn,* W09 Winner's Curse in Common Value Auctions

Matthew Kahn, F08 *The Tragedy of the Commons:* Economic Behavior and Environment

Naomi Lamoreaux,* F08 Bargaining, Haggling, and Fairness across Cultures

Moritz Meyer-ter-Vehn, W09 Bargaining, Haggling, and Fairness across Cultures

George Murphy, F08 Was Ibn Khaldun (1332–1406) the "Father of Economics"?

Aaron Tornell, S09 The Current Financial Crisis

Education 19

Blake Allmendinger,* S09 This is Your Life: A Course about Students at UCLA

Robert Rhoads,** F08 Student Activism from the Sixties to the Present

Linda Sax, W09 The Gender Gap in College: How and Why Does College Differ for the Two Sexes?

European Studies 19

a Federal State or Disintegrate?

Ivan Berend,* W09 The History and Political Economy of the European Union: Will It Elevate as

Geography 19

Michael Shin, F08 Mapping the 2008 U.S. Presidential Election

Laurence Smith,* S09 Space Imaging of Earth's Environment

Stanley Trimble,* W09 American Rivers: History of Environmental Change

History 19

Ned Alpers,** F08 Crisis in Darfur: Five Years After

Scott Bartchy.** W09 Honor and Shame in Clash in Civilizations and Religions

Lauren Derby, S09 Devil from Europe to Africa and Latin America

Lauren Derby, W09 Animals and Culture

Stephen Frank,* S09 Dangerous Thoughts: European Socialism, 18th to 20th Centuries

Patrick Geary,* F08 Terrorists and Door Kickers: Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Past and Present

James Gelvin,* S09 Al-Qaeda and Jihadi Islam

Vinay Lal,* S09 Violence and Nonviolence in Modern World

Ludwig Lauerhass, W09 How We Remember the Bomb

Ghislaine Lydon, F08 Historical Facts and Fictions: The Rights of Women in Islam

Kelly Lytle-Hernandez,* S09 The U.S.—Mexico Border

Gabriel Piterberg,* W09 End of Empire and TV Drama: Dennis

Potter's "Lipstick on Your Collar"

Theodore Porter,* W09 Monkey Trials: Public Confrontations of Science and Religion

Teofilo Ruiz,*** S09 Dystopias of the 20th Century

Teofilo Ruiz,*** F08 Pride and Prejudice: The World of Jane Austen and English Society

Kevin Terraciano,* F08 Nahua (Aztec) Accounts of the Conquest of Mexico

Joan Waugh, W09 Abraham Lincoln Turns 200

Robert Wohl, S09 Spectacle of Flight: How Aviation Transformed Western Culture

Honors Collegium 19

Betty Glick, Tina Oakland, and Christina Miller, W09 Navigating to Success—What the Literature Tells Re-entry Students

Ann Kerr,** W09 Perceptions of Americans Abroad: Discussions with Visiting Fulbright Scholars

Larry L. Loeher,* F08 Will It Burn? Yes, It Will. Fire in California

Susan Plann, S09 Muslim Student Experience at UCLA

Laura C. Romero,* F08; W09 Civic Engagement in Los Angeles

Ronni Sanlo ***** and Dayna Baker Weintraub, F08 Careers in Student Affairs

Ronni Sanlo ***** and Suzanne Seplow,**** F08; W09; S09 LGBT is Not a Sandwich: Straight Talk on the Effects of Silence on Sexual and Gender Minorities in Los Angeles

Human Complex Systems 19

William McKelvey,* W09 Understanding and Managing Complex Natural and Social Systems

Information Studies 19

Jean-Francoise Blanchette, S09 Homo Academicis: The University Professor and Its Critics

Clara Chu, W09 Asians in Latin America: Constructing and Representing Community and Identity

Jonathan Furner, S09 Copycats: Celebrity Plagiarists and the Psychology of Fraud

Gregory Leazer, F08

The Numbers Game: Baseball, Statistics and Seeing the Invisible

Leah Lievrouw, W09 Be the Media: Indymedia, Blogs, and "Open Source" Journalism

Mary Niles Maack, S09 Writing Women's Lives

John Richardson,* F08 "Just Google It": What It Is and When It's Appropriate

Islamic 19

Ismail Poonawala.** S09 Islam and the West: The Making of an Image

Law 19

Steven Bank,* S09 Business Taxation in Economic Crisis: Lessons from the Last Great Depression

Kenneth Graham.* F08 Peace, Nonviolence, and the Law

Joel Handler,* W09 Ending Welfare As We Know It

Frances Olsen,** F08 Elections and Democracy: How Authoritarian Regimes Take Power in Democracies

Kirk Stark,* S09 Tax Policy in Obama Era

Management 19

Bhagwan Chowdhry, S09 Microfinance: Enabling Poor to Escape Poverty and Manage Risks

Christopher Erickson,* Samuel Culbert,* Andrew Goldstein,* William Ouchi, and Diana Shih,* W09

An Introduction to Human Resource Management

Bennet Lientz,* S09 Modern Project Management

Hans Schollhammer,* S09 Entrepreneurial Process: Starting and Managing a New Business Venture

E. Burton Swanson, S09 Where Are We Going with IT?

Military Science 19

Casey Miner, S09 What is Leadership? A Perspective from Student to Executive

Political Science 19

Richard Anderson, F08 New Cold War? Russia, Georgia, and NATO

Can't We Make Moral Judgments?

Public Policy 19

Albert Carnesale,** F08 Controlling Nuclear Weapons

Andrew Sabl, F08 The Essays of David Hume

Social Welfare 19

Duncan Lindsey and Miriam Krinsky, S09 Youth at Risk in Challenging Times: Reforming Law, Policy and Public Perception

Sociology 19

David Halle,* S09 Sociology of Cinema: Hit Movies, 1920 to 2009

Rebecca Jean Emigh, F08 How We Count: Censuses in Historical and Contemporary Perspective

Peter Kollock,** F08 Zen and the Art of Mindfulness: Meditation and Attention in Everyday Life

Gabriel Rossman, F08 Reggaeton Breaks Into Mainstream

Min Zhou,* F08 Contemporary Chinese Immigration: Community, Family, and the New Second Generation

Spanish 19

Teofilo Ruiz,*** W09 Los Angeles: Ethnicity, Architecture and Culture

Urban Planning 19

Randall Crane,* F08 Sprawl: The American Dream or Nightmare?

Women's Studies 19

Christine Littleton,* F08 Sexual Harassment Law and Policy

Science and **Technology**

Astronomy 19

David B. Cline,* W09 The Invisible Universal Life in the Solar System: From Alpha to Omega

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences 19

Richard Thorne, W09 Space Weather: The Impact of Solar Activity on the Earth

Bio-Engineering 19

Howard Winet,* F08 Truth and Questions in Orthopedics

Susanne Lohmann,* S09