

## FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Teofilo Ruiz, *Chair* | Professor | History  
College of Letters and Science

Jonathan Aurnou | Professor | Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences  
College of Letters and Science

Kathleen Bawn | Professor | Political Science  
College of Letters and Science

Scott Chandler | Professor | Integrative Biology and Physiology  
College of Letters and Science

Juliana Gondek | Professor | Music  
Herb Alpert School of Music

Jennifer A. Jay | Professor | Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science

Kathleen L. Komar | Professor | Comparative Literature  
College of Letters and Science

The Vasa cube is awarded for every four seminars taught.

- 2017–18 Vasa cube recipient
- Previous Vasa cube recipient

Beserat Hagos | Director of Special Seminars  
Undergraduate Education Initiatives  
[fiatlux.ucla.edu](http://fiatlux.ucla.edu)

## 2017–18 FIAT LUX SEMINARS

### Arts & Humanities

#### Ancient Near East 19

Aaron Burke ●●, F17  
*Ancient Warfare and Modern Concerns*

#### Classics 19

Robert Gurval ●●, W18  
*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Architecture  
– Famous Names, Forgotten People.*

#### Comparative Literature 19

Kathleen Komar ●●●●, F17  
*Short Works of Franz Kafka, or How  
Modern World Works*

David MacFadyen ●, F17  
*Humanities at UCLA: What's the Future*  
David MacFadyen ●, W18  
*Global Sex*

David MacFadyen ●, S18  
*What's Sex Got to Do with It? Racial and  
Gender Formations in U.S.*

Ross Shideler ●●●●, S18  
*Poets and Desire*

#### Design | Media Arts 19

Erkki Huhtamo ●●●, S18  
*What is Media Culture?*

Victoria Vesna ●, S18  
*UCLA Centennial Initiative: North and  
South, Inventions and Discoveries*

#### English 19

King-Kok Cheung ●, F17  
*Insurgent Chinese American Poetry:  
Marilyn Chin and Russell Leong*  
Jascha Kessler ●●●, F17  
Fred D'Aguiar, F17  
*What a Poem Says: Three Fundamental  
Modes of Poetry*

Karen Rowe ●●●●, W18  
*Origins of Identity: History and Memory  
in Women's Poetry*

Brian Stefans ●●, W18, S18  
*Introduction to Screenwriting*

Arvind Thomas, W18  
*Prison and Literary Production*

Richard Yarborough ●, S18  
*Stories in Black: 100 Years of African  
American Short Fiction*

#### Ethnomusicology 19

Mark Kligman, S18  
*Jewish American Experience through  
Music*

Katherine Lee, S18  
*Critical K-Pop*

Roger Savage ●●●●, F17, W18  
*Music Theory through Recorder*

#### Film and Television 19

Steven Anderson, S18  
*War Between Data and Images: from  
Surveillance to Data Visualization*

William McDonald ●●, S18  
*Art of Cinematography*

## French 19

Sara Melzer ●●, W18

*Buddhism and Art of Living Mindfully in Present*

## German 19

Todd Presner ●●, W18

*Bearing Witness: Interviewing Holocaust Survivors*

## Honors 19

Robert Gore ●, S18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Artists' Books in UCLA Library and Beyond*

Christopher Hanscom, W18

*Dystopian Futures in Fiction, Film, and Television*

Daniel Lowenstein ●●●●, W18

(2 sections)

*Robert Penn Warren's All the King's Men: Great American Novel of Politics*

Tara Prescott ●, S18

*Neil Gaiman's Sandman*

## Music 19

Lily Chen-Hafteck ●, W18, S18

*Exploring Our Music and Culture*

Frank Heuser, W18

*Understanding Why Music Moves Us*

Ian Krouse, S18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Great Composers*

Movses Pogossian ●●, F17

*Inspired by J. S. Bach: Solo Violin and More*

Movses Pogossian ●●, W18

*Vivaldi's Four Seasons: Look from Behind Screen*

## Music History 19

Robert Fink ●, W18

*Music Industry: Contemporary Issues in Popular Music*

Raymond Knapp ●●●, S18

*Musical and Its Others*

Mitchell Morris ●●, W18

*Sound and Design in Miyazaki's Anime Films*

Mitchell Morris ●●, S18

*Music in Films of Alfred Hitchcock*

Jessica Schwartz ●, W18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Punk U*

## Philosophy 19

Calvin Normore ●, F17

*Genesis: Creation of World and Fall of Humanity*

## Scandinavian 19

James Massengale, W18

*Kierkegaard and Fundamentals of Existentialism*

Timothy Tangherlini ●●, F17

*Murder on Bridge: Danish-American Television, Translation, and Crime*

## Theater 19

Michelle Carriger, F17

*Drag U: Gender, Sex, Fashion, and Performance*

Sean Metzger ●, W18

*Screening Sexualities*

## World Arts 19

Janet O'Shea ●, S18

*Empowerment Self-Defense*

David Shorter ●●●, W18

*Art of Becoming Human*

## Mathematics 19

Michael Hill ●, F17, W18, S18

*Patterns and Symmetry in Art and Nature*

## Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering 19

Y. Sungtaek Ju, S18

*Unsung Heroes of Science and Technology*

## Medicine 19

Michael Ong, F17

Linda Sarna, F17

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Breathe Well—Tobacco-Free Campus, Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health*

## Molecular and Medical Pharmacology 19

Daniel Silverman, W18

*Brain Chemistry and Human Behaviors*

## Neurology 19

Zhefeng Guo ●●, F17, S18

*From Mad Cow to Mad Yeast: Stories of Protein Aggregation and Neurodegeneration*

## Neuroscience 19

Scott Chandler ●●●, S18

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

Nader Pouratian ●, F17

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Neurobionics – Past, Present, and Future at UCLA and Beyond*

## Obstetrics and Gynecology 19

Gregorio Chazenbalk, W18, S18

*Biology of Stem Cells*

## Physics 19

Katsushi Arisaka ●, F17

*Why Are We Here? Origin of Universe, Life, and Consciousness*

William Newman ●●, S18

Alex Levine ●, S18

*Origin of Life on Earth*

## Physiology 19

Nancy Wayne ●●●, F17

*Biology of Birth Control*

## Psychology 19

Aaron Blaisdell ●●, S18

*Mind of Dog*

Patricia Greenfield, F17

*Using Textiles to Understand Social Change, Creativity, and Human Development*

Lara Ray, S18

*Applying Clinical Psychology to Your Emotional Health and Well Being*

## Statistics 19

Nicolas Christou ●●●●, F17

*Statistics and Portfolio Risk Management with Stock Market Applications*

Frederic Paik Schoenberg ●●●●, F17, S18

*Hold 'em or Fold 'em: Poker and Probability*

## [Science and Technology](#)

### [Astronomy 19](#)

Brad Hansen, S18

*Asteroid Mining and Threat Mitigation*

### [Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences 19](#)

Tina Treude, S18

*Oceanographic Field Trip*

### [Biological Chemistry 19](#)

Timothy Lane ●, S18

*Global movement of peoples and disease: Public perceptions vs evidence*

### [Biomedical Research 19](#)

Anahid Jewett ●●, F17

*Novel Topics and Discoveries in Oral Biology, Medicine, and Dentistry*

### [Civil and Environmental Engineering 19](#)

Jennifer Jay ●, F17, W18

*Foodprint: Connections between Food and Environment*

Jennifer Jay ●, S18

*Understanding our Environmental Foodprint*

### [Chemistry 19](#)

Neil Garg ●, W18

*Innovating and Educating in 21st Century*

### [Community Health 19](#)

Neal Baer, F17

*Soda Politics: How Product with No Nutritional Value Earns Billions*

### [Computer Science 19](#)

Junghoo Cho, S18

*Brain and Me: What Brain Research Tells about Study and Life*

### [Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences 19](#)

Kevin McKeegan, S18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Apollo, Humanity's First Steps into Cosmos*

Hilke Schlichting, S18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Life and Work of Five Female UCLA Scientists*

### [Ecology and Evolutionary Biology 19](#)

Donald Buth ●●●●●, F17, W18, S18

*Parasites: Eating Us Alive*

Patricia Gowaty, S18

*Evolution and Sexism*

Stephen Hubbell, S18

*Extinction*

Peter Nonacs ●●●●, F17, S18

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

Victoria Sork ●, S18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: History of UCLA through Eyes of Trees*

Cheryl Zimmer ●●, F17, S18

*Deep-Sea Communities: High Diversity in Extreme Environments*

Richard Zimmer ●●, F17, S18

*Chemical Communication across Tree of Life*

### [Honors 19](#)

Michael Gresser ●●●●●●●●, F17, W18

*Rise and Fall of Blockbuster Drug*

Michael Gresser ●●●●●●●●, S18

*How Drugs are Made*

## [Culture and Society](#)

### [African American Studies 19](#)

Charles Alexander ●, F17, S18

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Social Justice, Student Activism, and Academic Advancement Program*

Kathleen Lytle Hernandez ●●, S18

*Black Mental Health Matters*

Patricia Turner ●, F17

*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Arthur Ashe and Second Half of 20th Century*

### [American Indian Studies 19](#)

Kyle Mays, S18

*Indigenous Millennials and Decolonization in North America*

### [Anthropology 19](#)

Daniel Fessler ●●●●, F17, S18

*Animals in Translation: Evolutionary Approaches to Animal Thinking and Autism*

Alan Fiske ●, F17

*Emotional Responses to Kittens, Reunions, Gods, and Nations*

Alan Fiske ●, W18

*Crying at Cute Kittens, Weddings, and Reunions*

Linda Garro ●●, F17, W18

*Combining Anthropology and Medicine: Paul Farmer and His Mentors*

Paul Kroskrity ●●●●, F17

*Edgy American Folk Music*

Joseph Manson ●, W18

*Character of Characters: Personality Description Using California Q-Sort*

Susan Perry ●●, F17

*Long-Term Studies of Animal Behavior*

Monica Smith ●●●, S18

*Archaeology of Outer Space*

### [Asian American Studies 19](#)

Lucy Burns ●, W18

*DACA Lives and Dreams*

### [Central and Eastern Europe Studies 19](#)

Roman Koropeckyj, S18

*Language, Identity, and Power in Post-Communist World*

### [Chicana/o Studies 19](#)

Leisy Abrego, W18

*Undocumented, UnDACAmented: Immigrant Students and Immigrant Rights*

Charlene Villasenor Black ●, S18

*Immigration Experience through Arts*

Susan Plann ●●●, S18

*Undocumented Student Experience*

### [Communication 19](#)

Dee Bridgewater ●●●, W18

*Cinema Therapy: Movies and Mental Health*

Dee Bridgewater ●●●, S18

*Movie Monsters: Monster Movies*

Martie Haselton ●●, S18

*Hormonal: The Hidden Intelligence of Hormones*

Kerri Johnson ●, S18 (2 sections)

*Can You Judge Book by Its Cover?*

Francis Steen ●, S18 (2 sections)

*Mindful Learning: Exploring Your Own Perceptions, Emotions, and Thinking*

### [Economics 19](#)

Youssef Benzarti, S18

*Facts about Inequality*

Moshe Buchinsky, F17

*College Education: Should We Go to College?*

Denis Chetverikov, S18  
*Big Data, Deep Learning, and Economics*

Francois Geerolf, S18  
*Economics of Superstars*

Michela Giorcelli, F17  
*Economics of Innovation, Ideas, and Growth*

Martin Hackmann, S18  
*Health Care Spending, Health Insurance, and Health Inequality*

Adriana Lleras-Muney ●, W18  
*Missing Women: Facts and Controversies*

Katherine Meckel, W18  
*Food for Thought: Pros and Cons of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*

Moritz Meyer-ter-Vehn ●, F17  
*Games of Strategy*

Volker Nocke, W18  
*Antitrust Economics*

Lee Ohanian ●, S18  
*Economics of Sports*

Andres Santos, F17  
*Deviations from Rationality: Introduction to Behavioral Economics*

## Education 19

Marjorie Orellana ●●, S18  
*Language, Education, and Superdiversity*

Robert Rhoads ●●●●, F17  
*Student Activism from Sixties to Present*

Robert Teranishi, W18  
*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Recognizing and Serving Asian American and Pacific Islander Students*

## Global Studies 19

Ann Kerr ●●●●●●●, F17  
*U.S. Values versus U.S. Interests in Greater Middle East Diplomacy*

Ann Kerr ●●●●●●●, W18, S18  
*Perceptions of U.S. Abroad: Discussions with Visiting Fulbright Scholars*

Daniel Kim, W18  
*Hollywood Cinema and 2008 Financial Crisis*

## History 19

S. Scott Bartchy ●●●●, F17  
*Honor and Shame in Clash of World Cultures and Religions*

James Gelvin ●●●●●, F17  
*New Middle East: Crisis and Conflict*

Tobias Higbie ●, F17  
*Hamilton at Work: Ambition, Belonging, and Memory in Diverse and Divided Nation*

Vinay Lal ●●●●, F17  
*Martin Luther King's Sermons and Quest for Social Justice*

Vinay Lal ●●●●, S18  
*Essaying America*

Ghislaine Lydon ●●, W18  
*Arabs, Berbers, and Africans or Politics of Race in Africa*

William Marotti ●, F17  
*Forms of Violence and Cinema*

Teofilo Ruiz ●●●●●●●●●●●●, F17  
*Social World of Jane Austen: Pride and Prejudice*

Teofilo Ruiz ●●●●●●●●●●●●, F17, W18  
*UCLA Centennial Initiative: UCLA in Los Angeles*

Teofilo Ruiz ●●●●●●●●●●●●, W18  
*Dystopias of 20th Century*

Richard Von Glahn ●, F17  
*China's Modern Youth Culture in Historical Perspective*

## Honors 19

David Taylor ●●●●, F17, W18, S18  
*Mental Illness and Movies*

Nancy Wayne ●●●, W18  
*Gender Issues in Education and Career Advancement: Problems and Problem-Solving*

## Information Studies 19

John Richardson, Jr. ●●●●, W18  
*Just Google It*

Korean 19  
John Duncan ●●●, W18  
Jennifer Jung-Kim ●●, W18  
*K-Beauty: More than Skin Deep*

John Duncan ●●●, S18  
Jennifer Jung-Kim ●●, S18  
*Remembering May 18 Kwangju Democratization Movement*

## Law (Undergraduate) 19

Stephen Bank ●●, S18  
*Soccer Law*

## Military Science 19

Shannon Stammersky, F17  
*UCLA Centennial Initiative: One Hundred Years of Bruin Leaders*

## Political Science 19

Lorrie Frasure-Yokley, W18  
*Thriving as First-Generation College Student*

Susanne Lohmann ●●●, S18  
*Universities and New Nationalism*  
Arthur Stein, S18  
*The State of the Postwar Liberal International Order and Trump Foreign Policy*

## Portuguese 19

Jose Passos, S18  
*UCLA Centennial Initiative: Origins of Brazil*

## Sociology 19

Stefan Bargheer, S18  
*Environment and Society*  
Phillip Bonacich ●●, F17  
*Still Connected? Has Social Life Declined or Expanded in Internet Age?*

Rebecca Emigh ●●, F17  
*Do We Make a Difference? Social Change in Theory and Practice*

S. Michael Gaddis, F17, W18  
*Black Los Angeles: History, Public Policy, and Culture*

Jeffrey Guhin, F17  
*Why Do We Have Schools?*

Rubén Hernández-León ●●●, F17  
*Back in Homeland: Diverse Experiences of Mexican Return Migration*

Jeffrey Prager, W18, S18  
*Role of Remembering and Memorialization in Overcoming American Racism*

Gabriel Roszman ●, W18  
*Be Our Guest: Sociology of Feasts*

Roger Waldinger ●●, W18  
*Global Migration*