

Online Course Descriptions and Instructor Bios for 2020

Note to registrants:

- The description of the 10 online course offerings corresponds roughly to the descriptions in the Program Guide that was sent to you for the cancelled face-to-face session, with some changes
- Many of the previously listed courses are not being offered online, but to reduce confusion we have kept the same EL course numbers
- The time slots are different
- EL 27 has been moved to time slot 3, so as to get a more even distribution of courses
- The two art instruction courses (EL 31 and EL 60) will be only one hour per day, rather than all morning or all afternoon
- One of the science courses (EL 17) will be compressed into one week (see description at the end of this list). EL 17 will be in week 1 (Apr. 27 – May 1). It will be in time slot 4.

TIME SLOT 1 (9:45 - 10:45)

EL 11: The Habsburgs and the Rise of Nationalism

Brent Bennett

On July 7, 1914 several men gathered at the Ballhausplatz in Vienna. As a result of their deliberations, tens of millions would die in two world wars. The European order, and its way of life, had ended. What had led to this? Go back two centuries and see how trying to create a stable government in a land of sixteen languages, diverse cultural interests, and new political challenges brought the Habsburgs and their advisors to the decisions they made that fateful summer day.

Brent graduated with a B.A. (Honours) in European History at the University of Alberta in 1985. He went on to complete an M.A. in Slavic and East European Studies at the University of Alberta. Brent recently retired from a career in the RCMP that included teaching law, investigative practices, police tactics, and firearms at the National Academy in Regina.

EL 14: How Did 21st Century China Regain Leading Nation Status and What Does a Modern China Mean for the West?

Gordon Houlden

China has a brilliant, albeit sometimes troubled past. China's emergence from prolonged weakness and disunity to become a strong and modernized state in the 21st Century is an extraordinary story of resilience and persistence. It is more difficult, however, to determine how China's 21st century journey will evolve – and how this may affect the West and Canada. This course will include concise illustrations of China's complex history, with individual lectures illustrating how China coped with internal pressure and foreign intervention. It will examine how modern China, with its rising economic, political, technological, and military power, is shaping the world around us. A limited number of guest lecturers will assist.

Gordon Houlden is the Director of the China Institute at the University of Alberta. He joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1976, and spent twenty-two years working on Chinese affairs for the Government of Canada. Before joining the University of Alberta in 2008, he was Director General of the East Asian Bureau of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

EL 1A: The Art of Moving and Staying Sane

Johanne Yakula

At a time when we are being told to stay put in our homes due to the Corona virus it may seem like a strange time to think about moving, but it's actually the perfect time to consider our options. Being self - isolated gives us time to think about our future without all the distractions that everyday living brings.

We know that this too shall pass. The Art of Moving and Staying Sane is for you if you may be considering a move in your future - for any reason. This workshop will cover the soup-to-nuts of preparing your home for resale, decluttering (a perfect thing to do right now when you're at home), downsizing, identifying what things you have now and how sell things you're ready to part with, choosing a moving company and packing tips, and planning a renovation or a redecoration in your new place. This course will give you a good template on how to do all of this – when you are ready – while keeping calm, unruffled and looking forward to a new chapter in your life.

Johanne Yakula has a unique combination of experience and knowledge that is perfect for this class. She consults as an interior decorator, is a certified personal property/antiques appraiser, a real estate investor, and recently had to make that decision to downsize. Johanne is an instructor for the Residential Interiors program at the U of A, and speaks on related topics throughout the city.

TIME SLOT 2 (11:00 – 12:00)

EL 20: Compassion: A Global History

Alvin Finkel

This course provides an historic overview of social provision to the vulnerable in society across the globe. It explores the underlying nature of how obligations to others are formed and reformed over time. Beginning with pre-state societies and finishing with the present day, this course analyzes why different countries and regions have diverged dramatically in the extent to which they allow inequalities to develop and how they deal with inequality and its consequences. The course looks at all continents in various periods, including the impacts of feudalism, capitalism, socialism, communism, and neo-liberalism in different areas on the formation of particular approaches to reducing (or increasing, or ignoring!) suffering and exploitation.

Alvin Finkel is professor emeritus of History at Athabasca University where he taught for 36 years. He is the author or editor of 13 books and about 70 scholarly articles and book chapters. His books, led by the two-volume History of the Canadian Peoples (7 editions) have sold about 150,000 copies. This course is based on his most recent book, Compassion: A Global History of Social Policy.

EL 31: Sketching with Ink and Watercolour - Beginner Level [NOTE: now a 1-hour course]

Susanne Lamoureux

In your one-hour sessions, Susanne will present and demonstrate ways to start and keep a sketchbook. She will cover how to draw and shade with permanent ink, how to use water soluble pens and how to incorporate watercolour into a sketchbook that will bring any blank page alive. Each day, you will learn something new and will be eager to try after each session. These sessions are only a lecture style presentation that accompanies Susanne's demonstrations. After you watch the session, you are welcome to apply what you have watched to your own sketchbook and discover your unique abilities.

Susanne has a BA and B.Ed. and has been nominated for an Excellence in Teaching Award. Over the past 10 years she has focused on art and has studied locally and in the US. She is a recipient of the Staedtler, Canada's National Drawing Contest. Most recently, one of Susanne's drawings was included in the 2014 publication "Art Journey Portraits and Figures: Best Contemporary Drawing in Graphite, Pastel or Coloured Pencil." She is currently teaching at the Artra Art School. www.lamorearts.com

TIME SLOT 3 (12:45-1:45)

EL 27: Personality Theory: Understanding Human Differences

Peter Flynn

Humans show a vast range of personality characteristics: patterns of thought, feeling and behavior. We spend much time and effort trying to understand and influence others. In this course we will consider why differences evolved and explore a number of theoretical approaches for understanding different personalities. The course includes how the human nervous system functions and seven different frameworks/approaches to thinking about personality. Social psychology (the impact of circumstance on behavior) is contrasted to personality theory. No theoretical framework has successfully explained the full range of personality: Humans are too complex for that. Some theories contradict each other. However, looking at various theories can increase our insight into ourselves and others.

Peter received a Ph. D. in Chemical Engineering in 1974 from the U of A, and spent 25 years in industry in technical, management and executive roles. His lifelong interest in psychology helped in managing and motivating others. In 1999 he was appointed to the Poole Chair in Management for Engineers, and developed a course in Personality Theory and Management, from which this course is derived.

EL 40: Consciousness: From Waking to Sleeping to Extraordinary

Jayne Gackenbach

The materialist perspective, whereby physical phenomena are assumed to be primary and consciousness is regarded as secondary, is receding from view. Increasingly, science is showing that consciousness plays a key role. The purpose of this course is to explore what consciousness looks like when we do not automatically assume that it must arise from the workings of matter. This perspective is called “Non-Local Consciousness.” Topics to be covered include the science of the supernatural, night time dreams, near-death experiences, out-of-body experiences, and healing at a distance. Research into the practice of meditation and other highly focused attentional activities, e.g., video game play, will also be discussed.

Jayne Gackenbach is currently a Professor Emeritus in Psychology at MacEwan University. For the first 20 years of her career she focused on research into lucid dreams. The second half of her career has been devoted to inquiries about digital life and its impact on night time dreams. Central to her scholarship has been an interest in experiences of reality and its implications for consciousness.

TIME SLOT 4 (2:00-3:00)

EL 60: Canadian Road Trip with Watercolours – Beginner Level [NOTE: now a 1-hour course]

Frank Haddock

Celebrate our heritage and learn how to paint! Join this online course and see how some of our beautiful landscapes can turn into lovely paintings. Learn how to use brushes and other tools, to paint a variety of subjects such as expansive skies, colorful fall trees, and roaring waves as you take your road trip to notable and some lesser known areas of this great country. All projects will be completely demonstrated step-by-step so you can try your hand at them after each session. Students will be shown how to mix a wide range of colours with a limited palette as they are shown how to paint rivers, trees, and other scenes across this country. This course is designed for beginners while those with some experience will also enjoy watching new approaches to landscapes.

Frank Haddock is a versatile artist who works in any drawing or painting medium with ease. His work has been seen in *Galleries West Magazine*, *Edmonton Women's Magazine*, and *Watercolor Artist Magazine* (June 2009 issue). Frank received his BFA at the University of Alberta in 1984. He has been teaching for more than 38 years at MacEwan University and several cultural centres in Alberta.

EL 56: A History of the Broadway Musical

D. T. Baker

After it began from a combination of the scattered influences of many traditions, the Broadway musical evolved into the quintessentially American cultural form. These days, while Broadway is catering to the tourists and seemingly playing it safe, there still seems to be room for a truly original show to break through. We'll explore the whole story with plenty of musical examples.

D.T. Baker has been educating audiences about aspects of music and music history for over 40 years.

ONE WEEK COURSE – ALSO IN TIME SLOT 4 (2:00-3:00)**WEEK 1 (APRIL 27 – MAY 1)****EL 17: Behind the Barn Door**

Frank Robinson

This class will be a lecture and discussion-based experience dealing with current issues around animal agriculture in Alberta. The viewpoint will be from that of a food consumer. Introductory topics will cover the changing demographics of farmer age, shrinking land bases and a growing global demand for protein. Technical material will only be presented when necessary to provide learners the tools to understand issues and form opinions about them. Special topics to be discussed include: genetic progress, animal welfare, niche market products, high-tech equipment and housing, backyard chickens, the use of steroid hormones in beef production, supply management, heritage breed conservation and much more.

Frank Robinson has been a professor of poultry production and physiology at the University of Alberta since 1986. He has taught in the area of general animal agriculture with an emphasis on inquiry-based learning. He was inducted into the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame in 2006.