

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

PRESIDENTS' COLLEGE

SPRING 2023 COURSES AND LECTURES

<i>Course/Lecture</i>	<i>Instructor</i>	<i>Date/Time</i>
ARTS		
Los Angeles in Film	Michael Walsh	Mon., Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 3–4:30 p.m.
<i>Indecent</i> /A Play by Paula Vogel at Playhouse on Park	Frank Rizzo	Tues., Feb. 7, 12:30–2 p.m. lecture; Sun. Feb. 12, 2 p.m. matinee with talk-back
American Pop Artists	Richard Voigt	Thurs., Mar. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2–3:30 p.m.
Creativity and Collaboration (with music by The Foot in the Door Ensemble)	Stephen Pier Michael Torke Pascal Rioult	Wed., Apr. 5, 5–6:20 p.m. Composer & Choreographer Seminar; Sat. Apr. 15, 2 p.m. Hartt dance performance with Q&A
Latin American Music: Classical, Contemporary, Folk	José Ramos Santana Gonzalo Cortes Lorena Garay	Wed., Apr. 12, 19, 26, 3–4:30 p.m.
A Little History of Melody	Steve Metcalf	Tues., May 2, 3:30–5 p.m.
INTERDISCIPLINARY CONCOCTIONS		
Music on the Mind: What Music Does To Your Brain	Dee Hansen (music) Andrew Koob (biology)	Wed., Mar. 1, 8, 22, 3–4:30 p.m.
The Psychology of Speed Puzzling	E.B. Caron (psychology)	Tuesday, Apr. 4, 3:30–5 p.m.
Morality 101: “They” Believe What?	Elly Vozzola (psychology)	Fri., Apr. 21, 2–3:30 p.m.
Being & Time: Via Mayan Timekeeping	Genevieve DeLeon (art)	Wed., Mar. 1, 12–2 p.m.
CURRENT EVENTS		
CT Mirror Legislative Preview	John Dankosky Mark Pazniokas	Tues., Jan. 24, 7–8:15 p.m. In person and via Zoom
Ukraine: Human Rights/Authoritarianism	Chris Doyle	Tues., Feb. 21, Apr. 18, May 9, 5:30–7 p.m.
American Political Violence in 2023	Robert Churchill	Tues., Apr. 11, 12:45–2 p.m.
HISTORY		
A “Read-In” for Black History Month	Markeysha Davis	Thurs., Feb. 16, 4–5:30 p.m.
Civil War Veterans/Civil War Memory	Paul Cimbala	Tues., Mar. 14, 21, 28, 2–3:30 p.m.
<i>Night Boat to New York: The Steamboat Era on the CT River</i>	Erik Hesselberg	Friday, Jan. 27, 2–3:30 p.m.
A Brief History of Beer	Eric Ofgang Steven Gencarella	Thurs., May 4, 11, 18, 4–5:30 p.m. Final Session at Alvarium Brewery
LITERATURE		
Expat Lit: Hemingway, Baldwin, Plath	Nels Highberg	Thurs., Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 2: 2–3:30 p.m.
Worlds on Worlds: Elizabethan Poetry+	Humphrey Tonkin	Mon., Apr. 3, 10, 17, 2–3:30 p.m.
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING		
Exploring Space	Paul Slaboch	Tues., Jan. 17, 24, 31, 1:30–3 p.m.
A.I. in the Cybersecurity Field	Yudi Dong	Mon., Mar. 20, 2–3:30 p.m.
Healthy Waters	Mike Magee	Fri., May 19, 2–3:30 p.m.
SPORTS		
How Black and Latino Players Created the Golden Age of Baseball	Walt Harrison	Wed., Feb. 1, 8, 15, 7–8:15 p.m. Zoom only

To register, please visit: www.hartford.edu/presidentscollege

**UNIVERSITY
OF HARTFORD**

PRESIDENTS' COLLEGE

SPRING 2023 COURSES AND LECTURES

Exploring Space: The Webb Telescope, Space Tourism, and New Missions to the Moon

PAUL SLABOCH

Tuesdays, January 17, 24, 31, 1:30–3 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

\$60

Dive deeper into America's renewed interest in space. The James Webb Space Telescope has brought us dazzling new images of the universe. Yet why was it created, why did it take so long to develop, and how is it able to look further into the past than ever before? The Artemis Moon Missions, for their part, might make those of us who saw the first moon landing in 1969 wonder why we are headed back to the moon and what we hope to learn that we did not before. Finally, space tourism could eventually bring space travel to the masses. How are such explorations funded? What do we hope to see or learn? And what are the potential benefits of space travel and exploration for us mere mortals still grounded here on earth?

PAUL SLABOCH is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Mechanical, Aerospace, and Acoustical Engineering department at the University of Hartford. He is the author or co-author of over 25 peer-reviewed journal and papers for conferences in the US and abroad. Awarded two Faculty Fellowships at NASA's John Glenn Research Center (GRC) in Cleveland, OH, he spent two summers working at GRC with NASA engineers and scientists. Subsequently, his research has been funded by NASA and the NASA CT Space Grant Consortium. He has provided commentary on space-related issues for *The Hartford Courant*, as well as the local NBC, ABC, CBS, and FOX stations. He holds a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Notre Dame and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

American Expatriates: Hemingway, Baldwin, Plath

NELS HIGHBERG

Thursdays, January 19, 26, February 2, 2–3:30 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

\$60

Ernest Hemingway, James Baldwin and Sylvia Plath, stars in the American literary firmament, couldn't be more different from each other. Yet they shared the ex-pat experience, each choosing to live abroad for long stretches. Why? Was it necessary for them to leave American soil to write about America? Dr. Highberg elaborates on a lively Spring 2022 presentation,

devoting one session to each author: Hemingway's short stories, Baldwin's essays, and Plath's poetry. Read a sampling of each author's works and bring your thoughts to the discussion.

NELS HIGHBERG is a Professor of English and Modern Languages in the College of Arts and Sciences and a Faculty Fellow in University Interdisciplinary Studies for 2023. He served as the Harry Jack Gray Distinguished Teaching Humanist from 2016-2018. He is also an essayist and mixed-media artist who received a 2020 Artistic Excellence Award from the State of CT.

CT Legislative Preview

JOHN DANKOSKY in conversation with CT Mirror Journalist Mark Pazniokas
Tuesday, January 24, 7–8:15 p.m., Wilde Auditorium, in person and via Zoom
Free (but we ask that you register)
Co-Sponsored by the CT Mirror

We often pay more attention to the national news than to our own state legislature. Yet decisions made in Hartford often have more impact on Connecticut than laws passed in Washington. Now's your chance to better understand how and why. Educate yourself about the issues that are likely to be front and center in our upcoming CT legislative session and in Gov. Lamont's second term.

JOHN DANKOSKY is the Director of Events at the CT Mirror and a Multi-Platform Consultant for the NPR/PRI program Science Friday. A well-known and highly-regarded radio personality and moderator, he has worked in public media for 25 years: as executive editor of the New England News Collaborative; as vice president of news for Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network; as host of WNPR's Where We Live and NEXT, a weekly program about New England, and regular stand-in host for Science Friday. He has taught at Quinnipiac University and Central Connecticut State University, where he held a chair in journalism and communications. He also regularly moderates political debates and conversations at The Connecticut Forum, the Mark Twain House and Museum, The Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, The World Affairs Council of Connecticut and The Litchfield Jazz Festival, among others.

MARK PAZNIOKAS is the Capitol Bureau Chief and a co-founder of *The CT Mirror*. He is a frequent contributor to WNPR, a former state politics writer for *The Hartford Courant* and *Journal Inquirer*, and contributor for *The New York Times*.

Night Boat to New York: Steamboats on the Connecticut River, 1815-1931

ERIK HESSELBERG
Friday, January 27, 2–3:30 p.m., The McAuley
\$20

For more than a century, overnight and day excursions steamers plied the route between Hartford and New York, carrying passengers, mail, and goods on regularly scheduled runs. The

churning vessels, known as “Night Boats,” departed every afternoon from Hartford’s State Street Landing on the Connecticut River, stopping at multiple river landings, before steaming through the darkness of Long Island Sound. A key feature of the river steamer was the promenade deck, where passengers could gather in the open air, chat with friends, and gaze at the shifting panorama of scenery. Thus, steamships, in addition to their practical value, helped foster an appreciation of nature and the outdoors. This illustrated talk will focus on the importance of the steamboat in advancing this picturesque travel movement, which became known as “the fashionable tour.”

ERIK HESSELBERG has been writing about the Connecticut River for 20 years, first as an environmental reporter for the *Middletown Press*, and later as executive editor of Shore Line Newspapers in Guilford, where he oversaw 20 weekly newspapers from Old Lyme to Stratford, CT. President of the Middlesex County Historical Society, he developed the award-winning exhibit “A Vanished Port,” on the Connecticut River’s ties to the slave economy of the Caribbean islands. His writings have appeared in *Wesleyan Magazine*, the *Hartford Courant*, *Estuary Magazine*, and on his blog, Voicesontheriver.com. He lives in Haddam, CT.

Los Angeles in Film

Michael Walsh

**Mondays, January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 3–4:30 p.m., Hillyer Hall 303 (Film Projection Room)
\$80**

Cinema began in the 1890s in the big cities of the developed world (New York, London, Paris, Berlin), and films that actively take the city as its theme have been important ever since. Los Angeles films have a special status in this tradition for the simple reason that the city is the capital of the spectacle, that is, the place that the most widely-seen films continue to be produced. City films tend to be either utopian or dystopian, but Mike Davis argues that “the ultimate significance—and oddity—of Los Angeles is that it has come to play the double role of utopia and dystopia for advanced capitalism.” Watch these four films in advance, make up your own minds, and join us for hearty discussion for four Mondays this winter!

Sunset Boulevard (Billy Wilder, 1950). With its world-weary voiceover and flashback structure, Wilder’s film stages the encounter between a down-on-his-luck screenwriter (William Holden) and a silent movie queen (Gloria Swanson) who hasn’t worked for 20 years but remains convinced that she is “the greatest of them all.” The lighting plot moves from the gray of dawn through a sunny morning to the pools of light in the darkness of the Desmond mansion. Cecil B DeMille, Buster Keaton, and Hedda Hopper appear as themselves, as do a series of Los Angeles locations, both famous (Schwab’s drugstore, the front gate of Paramount Pictures) and more obscure (the screenwriter’s apartment at Franklin and Ivar). Directed and co-written by the Austrian émigré Wilder, with music by Franz Waxman and costumes by Edith Head, the film is the winner of more Oscars than any other in film history.

Chinatown (Roman Polanski, 1974). A neo-noir that lovingly reconstructs the Los Angeles of 1936, featuring Jack Nicholson as private eye J.J. Gittes, who is drawn into a tangled case involving the “water wars” between Owens Valley farmers and boosters of the city that actually took place in the 1910s. Water is an insistent motif in the story, the dialogue, and the design. Gittes is sharp-dressing, wisecracking and cynical; the film emphasizes his tradecraft, his social mobility, and his contempt for the police. Touching on Hispanic Los Angeles and dustbowl migrant Los Angeles, the film imagines the city’s Chinatown as a racial heart of darkness. Robert Towne’s scenario is routinely assigned in screenwriting classes as a well-made script.

The Long Goodbye (Robert Altman, 1973). Another private eye film, but the contrast with *Chinatown* could hardly be more complete. Elliot Gould plays Raymond Chandler’s hero Philip Marlowe as “Rip van Marlowe,” that is, a 1940s-type character in a dark suit and tie who finds himself in the Malibu Beach Colony of the 1970s, complete with hippie chicks and leisure-suited gangsters. The film is noted for its restless camera, its willingness to cast some non-actors, and its use of overlapping dialogue. Cinematographer Vilmos Zsigmond post-flashed the film (that is, briefly exposed it after shooting but before developing) to get a woozy, sun-struck overlay on the film’s health farms, beach houses, and criminal lairs. Johnny Mercer’s title song is heard in at least a dozen variants – as late-night piano music, as supermarket Muzak, as the chime of a doorbell, tunelessly hummed by a gangster, played as a Mexican funeral march, etc.

Los Angeles Plays Itself (Thom Andersen, 2003). Voiced by an actor who sounds like he belongs in a crime film, but proves to be familiar with the social history of Los Angeles architecture, this video essay by a veteran Cal Arts filmmaking professor is a hilariously instructive 169-minute collage of clips from dozens of Los Angeles films. Andersen begins with the counter-intuitive observation that the most-photographed city in the world is one of its least photogenic, consisting largely of uninteresting flatlands. The hills and beaches, beloved in movies for their visual interest, are both places where hardly any Angelenos can afford to live, while downtown, another place the movies love, is an area most Angelenos rarely visit. Ranging from Laurel and Hardy to *LA Confidential*, the piece includes a history of the use of the Bradbury Building in movies from *Double Indemnity* to *Blade Runner*, studies the many faces in the movies of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Ennis House, and ends with an account of the African-American filmmakers of the 1970s “L.A. Rebellion” (Haile Gerima, Julie Dash, Billy Woodberry, Charles Burnett).

MICHAEL WALSH has chaired Cinema Departments at Binghamton and University of Hartford, where he co-founded the Cinema major and has taught film studies for 25 years. He has published widely on film, literature, and theory. Recent articles are on the French New Wave director Chris Marker and on the issue of adult/adolescent sexuality in Nabokov’s *Lolita* and Marguerite Duras’ *The Lover*. His book *Durational Cinema: A Short History of Long Films* is forthcoming from Palgrave Macmillan.

How Black and Latino Players Inspired Baseball's Golden Age: 1947-1974

WALTER HARRISON

Wednesdays, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 7-8:15 p.m., Zoom only

\$60

Starting in 1947, Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby broke Major League Baseball's unwritten color barrier. Once former Negro League players and other Black and Latino players were admitted, it opened the door for Major League Baseball's most dynamic chapter to be written – a golden age that lasted until the early '70s, when Roberto Clemente and Curt Flood changed the game's trajectory completely. This course treats players of color who rank among the game's greats: Roy Campanella, Willie Mays, Ernie Banks, Elston Howard, Bob Gibson--and some of *your* nominees. We examine their history within contemporaneous Black American history: the integration of the armed forces (1948); Brown vs. Board of Education (1954); The Civil Rights Act of 1965; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life, death and the aftermath. Baseball's presence and impact was pervasive. How did it embody societal tensions of the times? What are key legacies these players, their owners and managers handed down to today's game? **Note:** the 2022 World Series had no Black, but plenty of Latino, players.

WALTER HARRISON is President Emeritus of the University of Hartford. He served as president from 1998 until 2017, a period of growth, vitality, and transformation of the University. As the longest-serving president in the University's history, he oversaw a dramatic improvement in the University's financial stability, a near tripling of the University's endowment, and a transformation and re-design of the University's campus, constructing or renovating 17 different University buildings during his tenure. Most importantly, he oversaw a significant growth in the undergraduate and graduate student population, new professional programs in architecture and the health sciences, and a noticeable improvement in the rigor and quality of the University's academic offerings. The University's libraries are now named for him, to recognize his devotion to the life of the mind.

'Indecent' Talk about Paula Vogel's *Indecent* (2015)

FRANK RIZZO

Tuesday, February 7, 12:30–2 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

**Sunday, February 12, 2 p.m. show at Playhouse on Park with Actor and Dramaturg Talk Back
\$20 for lecture only/\$60 for lecture and matinee performance with post-play discussion**

Frank Rizzo, theater critic for *Variety*, talks about Paula Vogel's acclaimed play *Indecent*, from its 2015 world premiere by Yale Rep to its 2017 Broadway production. There it earned three Tony nominations, including for best play, and a win for director Rebecca Taichman. The drama recounts the real-life controversy surrounding the Jewish-themed play *God of Vengeance* authored by Sholem Asch, for which the Broadway producer and cast were arrested and convicted of obscenity in 1923. *Newsday* reviewer Linda Winer wrote of the Broadway show "Has there ever been anything quite like *Indecent*, a play that touches — I mean deeply touches — so much rich emotion about history and the theater, anti-Semitism, homophobia,

ensorship, world wars, red-baiting and, oh, yes, joyful human passion?” The play, with music and movement, is at West Hartford’s Playhouse on Park. First, let Frank Rizzo “set the stage” and provide context.

FRANK RIZZO is an arts writer who has covered Connecticut, Broadway and the national arts scene for more than 40 years. For 33 years he was the arts/theater writer for *The Hartford Courant*. He is currently theater critic for *Variety*, where he has covered Broadway and out-of-town musicals and plays for 20 years. He also writes for *The New York Times*, *American Theatre*, *Connecticut Magazine*, *Encore*, *Voice*, *Seasons*, *Hartford Business Journal* on the business of the arts, among others. His website is ShowRiz.com or you can find him at ShowRiz@Twitter.

A “Read-In” for Black History Month

MARKEYSHA DAVIS

Thursday, February 16, 4–5:30 p.m., Harrison Libraries

Co-Sponsored by The Office for Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement & Harrison Libraries

Free (but we ask that you register)

Join us at the Harrison Libraries for a Black History Month “Read-In” hosted by Dr. Markeysha Davis, Chair of Africana Studies. We have chosen this date to commemorate February 16, 1960 – the day that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., engaged a crowd of students and community members at White Rock Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina. With his speech, “A Creative Protest,” he celebrated students’ efforts to peacefully protest the segregated lunch counters near their campuses, ending with these inspiring words:

“...remember that both history and destiny are on your side. All the stars in their course are supporting you. Go out with the attitude that God is with us and we have cosmic companionship. And one day, historians of this era might be able to say, there lived a great people, a black people who injected new meaning into civilization.”

As King notes through his speech, students and young people are at the heart of the success of many social justice movements. Uplifting and elevating their voices is important to inspiring action, as is sharing with them lessons of the past, and the perspectives of their contemporaries. In King’s spirit, then, our “Read-In” features works from a host of writers representing the African Diaspora. Feel free to choose passages from the books Harrison Libraries will make available or bring your own selections to share. We hope that the powerful words from generations past and present speak to and encourage you and inspire us all.

DR. MARKEYSHA DAVIS is Assistant Professor of Literature and Africana Studies in Hillyer College’s Social Sciences Department and the Director of the Africana Studies minor program in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Hartford.

Ukraine: Human Rights, Authoritarianism, and “Trying to Avoid World War Three”

CHRIS DOYLE

Tuesdays, Feb. 21, April 18, and May 9, 5:30-7 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries.

\$60

In February 2022, Vladimir Putin announced a special military operation to “demilitarize and denazify” Ukraine. Dr. Chris Doyle will lead a discussion of the region’s history and what Kremlin-watchers postulate is his strategy in the region. We’ll also look at the reactions of other global powers, the U.N., NATO, and non-NATO countries. To keep our discussion informed and lively, students will be expected to read and discuss excerpts from Luke Harding’s *Invasion: The Inside Story of Russia’s Bloody War and Ukraine’s Fight for Survival*, as well as other assigned readings.

CHRIS DOYLE teaches at Avon Old Farms School. He holds a doctorate in history and has published scholarship on slavery, politics, race, and on the teaching of history. His teaching has been featured in stories in the *New York Times* and National Public Radio.

An Inquiry Into Being and Time: Via Mayan Timekeeping

GENEVIEVE DELEON

Wednesday, March 1, 12–2 p.m., Silpe Gallery/Hartford Art School

Cost \$30, including art supplies

Many of us know our sun signs – Sagittarius, Aries, Gemini – and take delight in tracing the constellations in the night sky. The sky reflects the season. The stars position us in time. So what happens to our sense of being when we shift the way we think about time? Genevieve DeLeon, Visiting Artist at the Hartford Art School, and her teacher, Gina KanBalam Miranda, illuminate the Mayan calendrical cycles and contemporary Mayan day-keeping practices based on the *Tzolkin*, the sacred 260-day calendar still used in Central America. Learn about the 20 universal forces featured in the *Tzolkin*, and discover which four forces connect to your birth day and year. Then explore these forces through art. While you trace the Mayan hieroglyphics connected to your birth in ink, Lakota teacher, Rocky Makes Room for Them, will widen the lens of “sky knowledge” by sharing poetry and stories from the Lakota tradition. The workshop will culminate in sharing art and conversation about what it means to us to consider different frameworks for tending to time.

Free Lecture Series: Genevieve DeLeon designed our Presidents’ College workshop to round out a series of talks surrounding her 2023 Koopman exhibit, *To Order the Days*, at the Hartford Art School’s Silpe Gallery. Between her opening on February 23 and our workshop on March 1, a Mayan-Time Keeper, a Lakota Storyteller, and a UConn physicist each discuss how their cultural and scientific traditions shape their understanding of the night sky. Take in their knowledge and see how their “sky knowledges,” in turn, inform DeLeon’s own paintings of the constellations. For details, check the Hartford Art School Events calendar.

GENEVIEVE DELEON, this year's Georgette and Richard Koopman Distinguished Chair in the Visual Arts, centers her recent work around Mayan astronomical knowledge and cosmology. An artist, poet, and MFA graduate from Cranbrook Academy of Art, where she worked under the direction of Beverly Fishman, her work has been exhibited at MCAD Gallery, DC Artspace, Tessellate Gallery, Forum Gallery, and the Washington Studio School, and is forthcoming at Modus Locus. She works on community-based projects in the Twin cities and DC area. She received a B.A. in English Literature from Columbia University and worked as managing editor of *Poet Lore* magazine, America's oldest continuously published poetry journal. Her poems and writing have appeared in *Mnartists.org*, *Poetry Quarterly*, *Ekphrasis*, and *Poet Lore*.

Music for the Mind: What Happens to Our Brain on Music?

DEE HANSEN and ANDREW KOOB

Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 22, 3–4:30 p.m., Woods Classroom/Harrison Libraries

\$60

Why do we swoon to a romantic tune, grimace when instruments clash, or move to the beat of a great song? How does music grab us and change us? In this interactive class Dee Hansen and Andrew Koob, music and biology professors, explore the brain on music: how music does what it does. Session I tours the brain's topography: the auditory processing of speech and music, and how sound is sent and received throughout the hemispheres. Session II targets connections between music, language, and reading communication. The final session uses live and recorded music to explore the affective, or emotional effects of music via our inner wiring.

Session I, with ANDREW KOOB: *What's it all about, Alfie?* Music in the Brain

Session II: *Well, She Wrote Me a Letter...* The Music and Literacy Connection

Session III: *Heartbreak Hotel...* Our Emotional Responses to Music

DEE (DEMARIS) HANSEN is a Professor Emerita of Music Education and author of *100 Years of Hartt: A Centennial Celebration* (Hartford Books, 2020). With a Master's Degree in music history and a Doctorate of Musical arts degree in music education, Dr. Hansen is a nationally active clinician and arts consultant who publishes and specializes in curriculum and assessment development, music and literacy connections, and practical applications of learning theory. She was the primary author of *The Music and Literacy Connection* (2006, 2014 2nd ed.) and is a member of the University of Hartford Emeriti Association Executive Board. Dee also practices what she preaches: she regularly performs as a Renaissance and Baroque flautist and Celtic harpist, and she has a background in professional choral singing and guitar.

ANDREW KOOB is an Associate Professor of Biology with a teaching and research focus in neurobiology, with emphasis on the role of astrocytes in the synucleinopathies. Dr. Koob graduated from Northwestern University in 1998 with a B.A. in Psychology and from Purdue University in 2005 with a Ph.D. in Biology through the Interdisciplinary Program in Neuroscience. After graduation, he worked as a postdoctoral research fellow in pediatric

neurosurgery at Dartmouth College, followed by positions as a postdoctoral fellow for research in Parkinson's Disease at the University of California, San Diego, and as a researcher in molecular neurogenetics at the University of Munich, Germany.

American Pop Artists

RICHARD VOIGT

Thursdays, March 9, 16, 23, 30, 2–3:30 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

\$80

This course follows on Richard Voigt's *American Realist Painters* and his *American Modernist Painters* courses. Pop Art challenged the distinction between fine art and commercial art – indeed, challenged the distinction between art and non-art. Pop Art broke through the theoretical constraints of Abstract Expressionism and embraced America's popular mass culture. It blew up existing ideas of art's subject matter and aesthetics. We view art by Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, James Rosenquist, Robert Indiana, Jasper Johns and Claes Oldenburg; also, lesser-known Pop artists Rosalyn Drexler, Idelle Weber, Marjorie Strider and Robert Dowd. Explore the "WOW!" and the "POP!" in Pop Art. Learn why Pop Art influences today's American culture.

RICHARD VOIGT is a graduate of Wesleyan University and the Law School of the University of Virginia ("Mr. Jefferson's University"). He served in the Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., before entering private law practice in Connecticut where he became a partner in the firm of McCarter & English, LLC. He also serves as a para-judicial officer for the U.S. District Court for Connecticut, and has been recognized for his work, including in *Best Lawyers in America*. He frequently lectures on American history.

Civil War Veterans and Civil War Memory

PAUL A. CIMBALA

Tuesdays, March 14, 21, 28, 2–3:30 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

\$60

Many Americans have seen Victor Fleming's 1939 film *Gone with the Wind*, based on Margaret Mitchell's 1936 novel of the Civil War. That novel and film represent the most popular, enduring version of the American Civil War era. But historians know it is nearly all wrong. Why and how did Civil War myths triumph over Civil War facts, especially when African-American veterans, Black scholars, and Civil War historians have all provided more accurate alternatives? This course explores the persistent issue of Civil War memory and history. What did Black and white Civil War veterans believe? How did veterans and their communities shape wartime memories to postwar problems? Why did aspects of the Confederate version of the war supplant the Northern version and endure for so long in the public imagination? Why does controversy infuse contemporary debates about monuments, flags, and military base names 165 years after the Confederacy was defeated?

PAUL A. CIMBALA is History professor emeritus at Fordham University, where he taught Civil War and Reconstruction, Southern, and African-American history from 1987 until 2020, and where he sometimes happily called the New York Yankees his neighbors. The Sisters of Mercy in Trenton, N.J. sparked his interest in music and history: he studied history at St. Joseph's University (B.A.) and Emory (M.A., Ph.D.). His primary interest remains the Civil War Era, as evidenced by his work on the Black Abolitionist Papers Project at Florida State University and his publications about soldiers, veterans, the Northern home front, and the Freedmen's Bureau and Reconstruction in the American South. He recently published a new annotated edition of Stephen Crane's *The Red Badge of Courage* and with Randall M. Miller a new edition of *The Northern Home Front during the Civil War*. He is now completing *Soldiering Behind the Lines: The United States Army's Veteran Reserve Corps during the Civil War and Reconstruction* and is exploring the Civil War experiences of Maine general Adelbert Ames.

Artificial Intelligence in the Cybersecurity Field

YUDI DONG

Monday, March 20, 2–3:30 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

\$20

If you have a vague understanding that artificial intelligence is playing an increasingly important role in many fields, yet aren't sure how it works, this is a lecture for you. Learn the fundamentals of AI technology (i.e., deep learning) and also explore A.I.'s importance within one specific field of growing concern to everyone from individuals, to businesses, to local and national governments: that of cybersecurity. Dr. Yudi Dong will explain how A.I. defends against attacks and protects cyber systems, even as he also discusses the new challenges and threats (i.e., adversarial attacks) that A.I. brings to the cybersecurity field.

YUDI DONG is an assistant professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the University of Hartford. Prior to joining UHart, he worked as an assistant professor in the Computer and Information Science Department at Gannon University in 2021 and as a Deep Learning Research Engineer at Futurewei Technology Inc. in 2019. Dr. Dong's research interests include deep learning, biometric cyber-physical systems, Internet of Things (IoT) security, artificial intelligence methods for wireless communications, and smart healthcare.

Worlds on Worlds: Excursions into Elizabethan Poetry and Beyond

HUMPHREY TONKIN

Mondays, April 3, 10, 17, 2–3:30 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

\$60

It is a commonplace of poetry that the poetic image allows one to move beyond ordinary reality into other fantastic and spiritual worlds. That was certainly true of such poets as Spenser and Shakespeare, Donne and Marvell. Join us for three sessions combining lecture and discussion to

see how sixteenth and seventeenth century English poets used commonplace images to explore the sublime. A course for poetry lovers either confirmed or aspiring.

HUMPHREY TONKIN is not only a scholar of the sixteenth century, former President of the University of Hartford, and founder of the Presidents' College, but also a sociolinguist who has been interested in language policy and language behavior over many years. Currently he is working on an edited volume on language and sustainability and chairing the NGO Committee on Language and Languages at the UN. He is also a speaker of the international language Esperanto and has used it in many circumstances throughout the world, as translator, activist, and as former president of the Universal Esperanto Association.

The Psychology of Speed Puzzling

ELIZABETH (E.B.) CARON

Tuesday, April 4, 3:30–5 p.m., Duncaster

\$20

The COVID-19 pandemic reignited interest in jigsaw puzzles, and brought speed puzzling competitions online, allowing people across the country to compete together for the first time. EB Caron, a psychologist and speed puzzler, herself, will present on how speed puzzling engages the brain. What cognitive abilities are involved in puzzling, and how might puzzles benefit aging brains? How do speed puzzle competitions work, and what are some key speed puzzling strategies you could apply to your next puzzle?

Elizabeth (E.B.) CARON is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Hartford. Her degree is in Clinical Psychology, and most of her research has focused on understanding, measuring, and increasing therapists' use of the "active ingredients" of therapy that lead to symptom change. With colleagues at University of Hartford, she is also beginning research on speed puzzling. She and her team, No Snacks, won the team division of the 2022 USA Jigsaw Nationals, completing two 1000-piece puzzles and one 1500-piece puzzle in just under 4 hours 30 minutes.

Creativity and Collaboration

MICHAEL TORKE, PASCAL RIOULT, STEPHEN PIER

Wednesday, April 5, 5–6:20 p.m. Bliss Hall in Fuller Hall

Saturday, April 15, 2 p.m. Hartt Dances performance with Q&A following, Lincoln Theater

\$50 (includes ticket to Hartt Dances for Spring 2023)

Limited to 15

We most often see the end results of creative collaborations, whether in musical theater, dance performances or opera. The musical compositions infuse the plot with possible meanings, deepening our attention to the reach of the dancers towards or away from each other, the lovers' yearning, the knell of tragedy. Yet we rarely get to listen in on the dialogue between the

creators, themselves. In this special course, we invite you into a conversation between composer Michael Torke and Choreographer Pascal Rioult about their collaborative process; then attend, with this heightened understanding, The Hartt School Dance Division's performance of Rioult's "Drift" to Torke's musical composition "Telephone Book." Bonus features: Hartt's renowned Foot in the Door Ensemble will play live at Lincoln Theater and Dance Division Head, Stephen Pier, will lead a post-performance discussion.

MICHAEL TORKE is a composer whose music has been commissioned by The Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, and the San Francisco Symphony, among others; by ballet companies including the New York City Ballet, Alvin Ailey, and the National Ballet of Canada; by opera companies including the Metropolitan Opera, Théâtre du Châtelet, and the English National Opera; by ensembles such as the London Sinfonietta, Lontano, and De Volharding. His music has been called "some of the most optimistic, joyful and thoroughly uplifting music to appear in recent years" (*Gramophone*). Having worked with conductors from Simon Rattle to Kurt Mazur, and organizations from Disney to the Royal Scottish National Opera, he is hailed as a "vitaly inventive composer" (*Financial Times*) and "a master orchestrator whose shimmering timbral palette makes him the Ravel of his generation" (*New York Times*). Torke has created a substantial body of works in virtually every genre.

PASCAL RIOULT is a former track and field star in France, who came to the U.S. on a French Ministry of Culture fellowship to study modern dance in 1981. After performing with May O'Donnell and Paul Sanasardo, he became the principal dancer for the Martha Graham Dance Company, for whom, in 1990, Ms. Graham created the central role (Death Figure) in *The Eye of the Goddess*. He performed opposite Mikhail Baryshnikov and Joyce Herring in *El Penitente* and was featured in two TV specials: *Martha Graham in Japan* and *Five Dances by Martha Graham at the Paris Opera*. Since starting his own company, RIOULT, in 1994, Mr. Rioult has perfected his choreographic style and nurtured a robust ensemble of dancers. Of his work, *Black Diamond*, Anna Kisselgoff of the *New York Times* wrote, "...he has met the challenge of comparison with George Balanchine." Alain Cigolotti writes in *Le Temps*, France, "Pascal Rioult, before all others, is one of the leaders of 'neo-modern dance.'" *Backstage* referred to him as "One of the most adept and courageous choreographers in mainstream modern dance today."

STEPHEN PIER, artistic director and professor of Dance at The Hartt School, was trained at The Juilliard School, before performing with the Royal Danish Ballet, the Hamburg Ballet, and the José Limon Company. His vast repertoire includes the works of Petipa, Bournonville, Balanchine, Cranko, Kylian, Limón, and Neumeier. He created roles in original works for choreographers John Neumeier, Maurice Béjart, Kim Brandstrup, and Laura Dean, earning critical acclaim as "a dancer of tremendous taste and insight," "highly defined, a tour de force," and "one of the most gifted dancers on the modern dance scene today." He is internationally known as a teacher and coach of Limón work and Ballet. Full-time faculty at Juilliard from 1996–2010, he was invited to teach at the Alvin Ailey School, Martha Graham Center, Regional Dance America, New York International Ballet Competition and for notable companies, including Company Wayne McGregor, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Atlanta Ballet, Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, Introdans, Scapino Ballet, Philadanco and New National Theater Tokyo.

Has the Fever Broken?: American Political Violence in 2023

ROBERT CHURCHILL

Tuesday, April 11, 12:45–2 p.m., Shaw Center/Hillyer Hall

\$20

So, do we get to stop fighting yet? Has the trend toward collective political violence, exemplified by the January 6th riot, subsided? Professor of History Robert Churchill, an expert in American Political Violence and the modern militia movement, will discuss the potential for political violence in the aftermath of the midterm elections, the possibly waning influence of Donald Trump, and the growing realization by Republican leaders that engaging in election denialism has real political costs. Churchill will discuss the difference between individual acts of terrorism and the advocacy of political violence by political leaders on the national stage and the role of toxic masculinity in extremist political behavior. He invites your questions.

ROBERT H. CHURCHILL is Professor of History at the University of Hartford. He specializes in U.S. history between the American Revolution and the Civil War, and in the history of political violence, with additional expertise in the history of the Second Amendment and the contemporary militia movement. His first book, *Shaking Their Guns in the Tyrant's Face: Libertarian Political Violence and the Origins of the Militia Movement* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2009), compares insurrectionary movements in American history, tracing the roots of the militia movement of the 1990s back to the late eighteenth century. His latest book, *The Underground Railroad and the Geography of Violence in Antebellum America* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020), tells the story of violent encounters between slave catchers, fugitives, antislavery activists, and Northern communities, which shaped the operations of the Underground Railroad, contributed to sectional alienation, and ushered forth the Civil War.

Latin American Music

JOSÉ RAMOS SANTANA, GONZALO CORTES, LORENA GARAY

Wednesdays, April 12, 19, 26, 3–4:30 p.m., Place TBD

\$60

Let three amazing musicians, all with ties to the University of Hartford, regale you with the richness of Latin American music, from classical to contemporary to folk traditions. José Ramos Santana demonstrates how Latin and Puerto-Rican composer-pianists infused the European classical music in which they were trained with their own rhythms and melodies. Gonzalo Cortés explores how Andean musical traditions have influenced contemporary women composers. And Lorena Garay immerses us in the musical styles of South America and the Spanish Caribbean, exploring indigenous, Spanish (European) and African influences on Latin American music. This is a rare chance to learn the history of Latin American music with three master musicians who can bring its melodies and rhythms to life.

JOSÉ RAMOS SANTANA is an Associate Professor of Piano at the Hartt School. An acknowledged master of Spanish Piano Music, he was the recipient of the 2020 Isaac Albéniz

Medal awarded by the Fundación Isaac Albeniz in Camprodon, Spain. Mr. Ramos Santana is also the founder and artistic director of the Puerto Rico International Piano Festival. Recent performances and master classes include the 2018 summer festival Maestros del Norte y Pianistas del Sur in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

GONZALO CORTÉS, a native of Chile, teaches flute at Trinity College, the Community School of the Arts in Mansfield, Miss Porter's School, and the Hartt Community Division. Formerly Principal Flute of the Classical Orchestra of Santiago, Chile, he studied with Alberto Harms at the Catholic University of Chile and Duquesne University with Robert Langevin, Principal Flute of the New York Philharmonic. He has toured South America and the USA with various orchestras and ensembles, and recorded with the internationally acclaimed Chilean folk group Inti-Illimani and the Choral Arts Society of Washington, DC for the Naxos label. A skillful improviser, he has explored genres from World Music to Andean folk music, flamenco and Latin jazz. He is the founder and Artistic Director of the Hartford Flute Ensemble, and member of Cortés-Chávez Duo and Romance Tropical.

LORENA GARAY is a multi-award-winning guitarist from Puerto Rico. Ms. Garay earned her MMus SCL from The Hartt School at the University of Hartford, where she received the Guitar Dept. Award. She holds a BMus SCL from the Conservatory of Music of PR, where she received the String Dept. Gold Medal Award. Her other awards include the Identidad Latina's Latino de Oro Music Award. Her band, Surcari, with which she performs regularly, received the Arts For Learning CT's 2018 Performing Artist of the Year Award.

Morality 101: "They" Believe What?

ELIZABETH VOZZOLA

Friday, April 21, 2–3:30 p.m., The McAuley

\$20

Did you ever wonder how someone can vote for the "other" guy/woman? Why some people refuse vaccines and others "follow the science?" Why some cultures grant women equality and others do not? We look at the newest research on our conceptions of right and wrong/good and bad. The universalist, one-size-fits-all, theories popular in the 20th century have given way to a more complicated picture of how culture and biology shape our moral perceptions and reactions.

ELIZABETH VOZZOLA is a Professor Emerita of Psychology and the former Honors Program director at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, CT. Her publications include studies of moral reasoning about affirmative action, children's moral understanding of the Harry Potter series, emerging adults' moral perceptions of the Twilight saga, and the long-term influence of a just community high school. She is the author of *Moral Development: Theory and Applications* (2014, 2021). A mother of two grown sons and grandmother to terrific (but much too far away) grandchildren, she lives in West Hartford, Connecticut with her husband, Civil War and Reconstruction historian Paul A. Cimbala, and two political cats, Eleanor and Franklin.

Melody Lingers On: A Short History of Tunes, From Beethoven to the Beatles

STEVE METCALF

Tuesday, May 2, 3:30–5 p.m., Duncaster

\$20

The Presidents' College is proud to bring back our former Director, Steve Metcalf, with a program that will tickle the ivories, as well as your musical curiosity. What makes a great melody? Who are the leading melodists in Western music? Do composers always know when they have created a great tune? Is a gift for melody related to formal music training? Are we running out of tunes? With Steve Metcalf illustrating his examples at the piano, we look at the abiding mystery and attraction of tunes, from the early 19th century to the present day.

STEVE METCALF is an administrator, critic, journalist, arts consultant and composer. For more than 20 years, beginning in 1982, he was the staff music critic of *The Hartford Courant*, during which time via *The Los Angeles Times/Washington Post* wire service, his feature stories, profiles, and reviews appeared regularly in more than 500 newspapers worldwide, earning a string of awards and prizes. He has also served as musical director at several regional theaters, as classical music advisor to the Bushnell Center for the Performing Arts, and as artistic advisor to the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. His connections to The Hartt School, where he did his undergraduate and graduate work, run deep and wide. Over the years, he not only held the roles of Assistant Dean and Director of Instrumental Studies, but was also honored as Alumnus of the year in 1989 and elected in 2004 to the Board of Trustees. The Richard P. Garmany Chamber Music Series, which he founded and still curates, continues to bring distinguished musicians to the Hartt Stage. Need we mention (well, we already did!) that we are proud of his affiliation with the Presidents' College?

A Brief History of Beer

ERIK OFGANG and STEPHEN GENCARELLA

Thursdays, May 4, 11, 4–5:30 p.m., KF Room/Harrison Libraries

Thursday, May 18, 4–5:30 p.m., Alvarium Brewery, New Britain

\$75, including beer tasting at Alvarium Brewery

Beer may be as old as civilization. If you're a beer lover, or just beer-curious (a word we just made up for this course!), this is the course for you. Learn about this fermented beverage's origins in the ancient world and follow its progression through the modern craft beer revival. Along the way, our team of beer experts will introduce you to some of the characters who pioneered beer, as well as share the legends and lore surrounding the beverage globally, nationally and locally. The final session will culminate – where else? – at a local brewery.

ERIK OFGANG is the co-author of *The Good Vices: From Beer to Sex, The Surprising Truth About What's Actually Good for You* and author of *Buzzed: Beers, Booze and Coffee Brews*. He has written for the *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Associated Press* and *Connecticut Magazine*,

where he was the senior writer for many years. He teaches writing in Western Connecticut State University's MFA for Professional & Creative Writing.

STEPHEN OLBRYG GENCARELLA is Associate Professor in Communication at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he has been employed since 2001. A folklorist by training (Ph.D. Indiana University), one of his recent courses is The Folklore of Alcohol, which examines the global history and folklore of alcoholic beverages. From 2016-2018, he was a co-host of *Fermented*, a series dedicated to the science and cultural history of alcohol on iCRV Radio in Ivoryton, CT. In 2018, as the resident folklorist for the Connecticut River Museum in Essex, CT, he researched and wrote text for the exhibit *The Thirsty River: 400 Years of Drink, Life, and Reform in the Connecticut River Valley*. He is a lifetime member of the Alcohol and Drugs History Society.

Healthy Waters: Our Planet's Most Threatened Resource

MIKE MAGEE

Friday, May 19, 2–3:30 p.m., The McAuley

\$20

Trusted Presidents' College presenter and medical historian, Dr. Mike Magee, makes us aware of an issue that concerns us all: access to life-giving water. He has teamed up with the Duarte Group, which produced Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*, to create a dynamic lecture that translates the complex story of life-giving water – including the facts and figures – into a compelling visual story whose urgency draws audiences in and moves them to action. Developed with input from the UN, WHO and EPA, this multimedia presentation places water in its proper context, as our planet's most valued and threatened health resource. The interaction between water and agriculture, industry, urbanization, population growth, war, disasters and disease, Dr. Magee argues, points to the need for both Integrated Water Resource Management and personal and societal responsibility.

MIKE MAGEE, M.D. is a medical historian and journalist, and the author of *Code Blue: "Inside the Medical Industrial Complex"* (Atlantic Monthly Press, 2019). He has taught at the Presidents' College at the University of Hartford, the C. Everett Koop Institute at Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine and Jefferson Medical College. He was also an Honorary Master Scholar at the N.Y.U. School of Medicine and the 2008 Distinguished Alumnus award recipient from the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. He lives in West Hartford, CT, and is the author of the weekly blog *Health Commentary.org*.