Winona State University Retiree Center

SPRING & SUMMER 2014

http://www.winona.edu/retiree/senioruni.asp
For further program information, please call 507.457.5565
What Is Senior University?

Senior University WSU is a program of the Winona State University Retiree Center. Senior University is a peer-led set of short courses taught by professor emeriti, WSU faculty, and topic experts to provide intellectual and cultural stimulation and growth, thus providing opportunities for lifelong-learning and leadership, combined with the fellowship of peers sharing a common quest for continued growth.

Non-credit classes, one day a week during a 4-6 week term, no tests, no grades.

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The Winona State University Retiree Center exists to support the mission of Winona State University and enrich the campus community as well as the lives of retired staff, faculty and administration by providing institutional connections between the university and retirees who may wish to continue their intellectual and social participation in collegial life and service to the university.

Advisory Board

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Senior University Classes

Spring 2014

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We encourage you to register online at: http://winona.augusoft.net
The Short, Wild and Woolly History of the English Language

Instructor: David Marshall, Ph.D.
Date: Thursdays; February 6, 13, 20, 27 and March 6
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Sessions: 5
Location: TBA
Member Fee: $40.00

This course allows discussion on where English came from, what other languages had major influences on it, and what historical events caused it to morph into what it has become today. Sections will cover the pre-historical period, Old English (449 to 1100), Middle English (1100-1500), Early Modern English (1500-1800) and Today's English with the changes they all encountered while growing from a small group of wandering Paleolithic tribes to today's worldwide dominant language.


David Marshall Ph.D. taught this course in lengthened (semester) form for 37 years, instruction sometimes in N.C., N.D., China, Hungary, and Bulgaria. He has a Ph.D. in linguistics from New York University and a handful of publications in the field; latest was a chapter on the changes of English spelling and what caused them (Fishman and Garcia, 2011. *Handbook of Language and Ethnic Identity, Vol. II:* “The Reforming of English Spelling”, 113-125. Oxford University Press).

Making Sense of Modern Art

Instructor: Dominic Ricciotti, Ph.D.
Date: Mondays; March 10, 17, 24, 31 and FIELD TRIP
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Sessions: 5
Location: TBA
Member Fee: $40.00

The class takes aim at the often bewildering history of modern art and its relentless flow of styles. Dispensing with a strictly chronological treatment of modernism, this selective approach emphasizes major styles/artists and major themes with respect to art content, artistic form, and expression. Discussion centers on the fundamental question of why artists, starting in the 1880s, abandoned representational styles in favor of alternative conceptions of what the work of art is.

Modern art history was Ricciotti’s Ph.D. specialization and he has taught numerous courses in it (as well as general art history) for 36 years, 23 at WSU, prior to retirement in 2008. Last year he taught a successful class, “Architectural Monuments of the Western World.” During his career, Ricciotti has published in refereed journals and presented papers at professional conferences. In addition, he directed two university art galleries including WSU’s Paul Watkins Gallery.

NOTE: there will be an additional cost to those attending the field trip. Actual cost dependent on number of participants.
The Sex Life of Trees: Five Spring Field Trips

Instructor: Carol Jefferson, Ph.D.
Date: Wednesdays; March 19; April 2, 16, 30; May 14
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Sessions: 5
Location: TBA
Member Fee: $40.00

Five 2-hour walking field trips on and near WSU campus, Lake Park and Woodlawn Cemetery. Participants will discover the fascinating sexual strategies of trees and shrubs: some have a single gender, some both genders on the same flower or different flowers, some change genders as they age or their neighbors change, and some primarily reproduce asexually! Along the way, we will also learn to identify trees without their leaves and observe a large variety of spring wildflowers and flowering weeds. People usually assume that spring trees’ greenish blush is leaf growth, but in many cases the opening buds reveal flowers.

Jefferson is a retired WSU Biology professor and plant ecologist with a Ph.D. in Botany. Among the relevant courses she taught are Plant Taxonomy [plant identification & classification], Local Flora [spring wildflowers], Natural History [ecology of local area], Dendrology [trees], various other Botany [plant] courses, and Bluffland Ecology Field Trips [for Senior University]. Jefferson has led more than 1000 field trips, scores of which concentrated on tree and shrub flowers. When she was seven years old, she announced that she planned to be a dendrologist, beginning a lifetime immersion in the biology and ecology of trees. Jefferson added to the WSU herbarium pressed specimens of flowers from about 100 species of native trees and shrubs.

America in the Vietnam War Era

Instructor: Dr. Tomas Tolvaisas, History Dept, WSU
Date: Wednesdays; July 9, 16, 23, 30 and August 6
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Sessions: 5
Location: Minne
Member Fee: $40.00

This course will explore the complexity of causes, stages, and consequences of growing U.S. involvement in and subsequent disengagement from the Southeast Asian conflict. Although this is not a specialized military history course, it will outline major military objectives, strategies, and tactics of the struggling powers.

The following will also be covered: the policies of American political and military leaders, international and ideological dimensions of war, wartime experiences, war crimes, impact of the war on America, culture of protest, etc. Class meetings will include lectures, documentary films & discussions.

Tolvaisas’ teaching and research areas include The Cold War, The Vietnam War, American Foreign Relations, and International History.
**Outdoor Adventures**

Instructor: Eric Barnard  
Date: Mondays; July 7, 14, 21, 28  
Time: times vary depending on activity*  
Sessions: 4  
Location: TBA  
Member Fee: $50.00

Gain an appreciation and concern for our natural environment while exploring outdoor activities. Learn new skills, meet new people and get outside! Activities include geocaching, rock climbing, canoeing and kayaking, as well as high & low ropes course initiatives and elements. All activities follow the challenge by choice philosophy and are facilitated by nationally certified instructors. Step out of your comfort zone and join others in four weeks of new adventures in the Mississippi River Valley!

Eric Barnard, director of WSU’s Outdoor Education & Recreation Center, and his staff are highly-trained outdoor professionals. He is committed to inspiring individuals to become lifelong advocates for sustainability, conservation and healthy lifestyles.  
*Detailed schedule announced soon.*

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**Senior University WSU Spring & Summer 2014**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name __________________________________________

Address __________________________________________

City ______________ State ______ Zip ____________

Phone __________________________________________

Email __________________________________________

Please provide:  
WSU Retiree ID# ______________________________ OR  
Senior University ID # __________________________ OR  
Birth Date __________________________

**CEU Credits available upon request**  
Indicate which course fees are enclosed:  
☐ History of the English Language - $40  
☐ Making Sense of Modern Art - $40  
☐ The Sex Life of Trees - $40  
☐ History of the Vietnam War - $40  
☐ Outdoor Adventures - $50

Total Enclosed $ ____________

**Indicate type of payment:**  
☐ Check    ☐ Cash

Register online at: http://winona.augusoft.net

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Return the registration form along with your check or cash to:  
Winona State University  
Retiree Center  
P.O. Box 5838  
Winona, MN 55987
Life in Running Waters - Fall 2013 Senior University Class

We encourage you to register online at:
http://winona.augusoft.net