

ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY



Daytime Classes & Activities

Fall 2011

September 7–November 30

610-796-8357

Or visit us on the website:
www.alvernia.edu/academics/seniorscollege

Alvernia Seniors College

Seniors College Administration

Daria Tecco LaTorre, J.D., *Associate Dean*
Sally Reading, *Administrative Director*

Membership is open to individuals age 55 and over with an interest in learning. Seniors College is a cooperative where members have an opportunity to support its objectives through participation on planning committees or by serving as course instructors. Members are also invited to attend Seniors College social events and activities.

Call 610-796-8357 for information on membership or activities.

Alvernia Seniors College members may take classes at any location.

We reserve the right to cancel classes due to insufficient enrollment.

Classes may also be cancelled due to inclement weather. Every attempt will be made to schedule a make-up class.

Active membership extends one year from the time of payment. To assist individuals in keeping their membership current, mailing labels contain membership expiration dates located above addressees' names. Dates do not appear above the name of inactive members. Annual membership categories are:

Basic Membership • \$50 annually

Basic Membership PLUS • \$100 annually

Friends • \$150 annually

Benefactor • \$1,500 (lifetime)



△ A convenient shuttle is available from the Alvernia University Upland Center to the courses on the main campus.

MONDAY

Aimez-vous Brahms? - 3 Weeks

Dr. Bongrae Seok

Do you like Brahms? Do you like classical music? Brahms (1833-1897) is a German music composer in the 19th century. The course introduces the classical music of Brahms, particularly his symphonies in the context of romanticism and in art and music. His highly structured and refined music is a good starting point for the appreciation of classical music.

Dates: 9/26; 10/3,17

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Place: Alvernia University, Student Center/Seminar Rooms **Cost: \$35.00**

Let's Face It: Social Networking by the Book - 2 Weeks

John Kissinger

This course will demonstrate social networking products such as Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, etc. We will examine the advantages and the dangers of using such services, illustrate their potential to provide communication channels, and discuss how they relate to services like email and web searching.

Dates: 10/24,31

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Place: AU, Student Center/Seminar Rooms **Cost: \$25.00**

The Power of Women in Berks History - 5 Weeks

Hallie Vaughan

This course will concentrate on the important roles that women such as, Rhea Duryea, Betsy King and Widow Finney have played in the history of Berks County. These women together with many others influenced politics, teaching, the arts and much more.

Dates: 10/24,31; 11/7,14,21

Time: 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Place: AU, Student Center/Seminar Rooms **Cost: \$45.00**

TUESDAY

Ultimate Sacrifice: Death of a Hero - 4 Weeks

Berks County Sheriff Eric Weaknecht; Deputy Sheriff Chaplain Brian Boyer; Dr. Edward Michalik; Psychologist/Special Deputy Negotiations; Deputy Danny Voorhies, Canine Unit w/ "Arez"; Mary Young, Reading Eagle Reporter

The death of a beloved Berks County law enforcement officer has devastated our community. This course examines the grief and hope of communities in mourning.

Dates: 10/4,11,18,25

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Place: AU, Upland Center, Board Room, Rm. 227 **Cost: \$40.00**

Personal Investments ... the Financial Times of 2011-2012 - 3 Weeks

Kevin Calabria

Stocks. Bonds. Dividends. Annuities. Join me to explore what I have learned as a stock broker and investor over the last 20 years. Discover what I have also learned from my best friend who had 73 years of experience in the investment advisory business. Discussion will include the economic crises of 2008-09 and the banking crisis that continues today.

Dates: 11/1,8,15

Time: 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Place: AU, Upland Center, Rm. 228

Cost: \$35.00

The New Testament Women: Stories, Lessons, Challenges - 4 Weeks

Sister Jean Jacobchik, OSF

The stories of the women of the New Testament are saturated with religious nuance and spiritual meaning. Get to know Mary, the mother of Jesus, Elizabeth, her cousin, and Mary Magdalene, the special friend of Jesus. Who were Martha and Mary? Who were the women who accompanied Jesus to the cross? Why did women discover the empty tomb first? How can the events in their lives relate to our own spiritual journeys?

Dates: 10/25; 11/1,8,15

Time: 1:30 – 3:00 PM

Place: AU, Upland Center, Community Rm. 226

Cost: \$40.00

Savvy On-Line Buyers No Remorse - 3 Weeks

Michael Nerino

This course presents effective strategies for making shopping online an absolute breeze. Learn how to buy whatever you need through Amazon, E-Bay, QVC, etc. There will be no on-line selling associated with this course.

Dates: 11/1,8,15

Time: 2:30 - 4:00 PM

Place: AU, Bernardine Hall, Rm. 213

Cost: \$35.00

WEDNESDAY

Casey Anthony Jury Acquittal Media Conviction? - 3 Weeks

Eleni Dimitriou Geishouser, Esq.

The class will examine the Casey Anthony incident as well as the role that the media played in this high profile criminal case. Was justice served? Who are the real winners and losers?

Dates: 9/28; 10/5,12

Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Place: AU, Upland Center, Board Room, Rm. 227

Cost: \$35.00

Delinquent Kids, Dishonest Judges and the Search for Justice - 5 Weeks

The Honorable Arthur Grim; Catherine Nadirov, Esquire, Assistant District Attorney; Roarke Aston, Esquire, Public Defender; Dr. Thomas Baker, Psychologist; Guest Instructor

We will examine the 2.6 million dollar “Cash for Kids” scheme in northeastern Pennsylvania and compare it to the stated goal of the juvenile justice system to hold kids accountable when they commit wrong, protect communities, and rehabilitate children. How does this apply to our community?

Dates: 10/26; 11/2,9,16 Final Class Panel Discussion 11/30
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Board Room, Rm. 227 **Cost: \$45.00**

Historical Homes, Archeological Digs: Come Dig with Us! - 5 Weeks

Patrick Clark; Randy Harris; Paul Kurtz; Dr. Robert Reynolds: Cathy Wegener

This fascinating course explores President Buchanan’s Mansion (Wheatland), the Hottenstein Museum, Gruber Wagon Works, the Nicholas Stoltzfus House, and the law offices of Thaddeus Stevens. The archeology and architecture of Berks and Lancaster counties have important stories to tell. Do archeological digs really occur locally? Could there really be a connection to the underground railroad?

Dates: 10/5,12,19,26; 11/2,9
Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Board Room, Rm. 227 **Cost: \$45.00**

The Bill of Rights Today - 3 Weeks

Donald F. Smith, Jr. Esquire, Executive Director of the Berks County Bar Association

Interesting U.S. Supreme Court cases will be reviewed to set the background for a discussion of the freedom of expression, Miranda warnings, right of privacy, right to bear arms and search & seizure.

Dates: 9/28; 10/5,12
Time: 1:30 - 3:00 PM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Community Rm. 103 **Cost: \$35.00**

THURSDAY

The More Things Change the More They Remain the Same - 5 Weeks

Rev. Elton Richards

Scandal, corruption, greed, prejudice, class and culture wars, political polarization, immigration fears, economic collapse, wars around the world- welcome to the 21st century America! The course will look at our present problems through the lens of late 19th century America. Does history repeat itself? How have things changed? How have they remained the same?

Dates: 9/29; 10/6,13,20,27
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Community Rm. 103 **Cost: \$45.00**

The Future of American Churches: Signs of Promise and Reasons for Concern - 5 Weeks

Rev. John Gibbons; Rev. David Lawton; Rev. Glenn Miller; The Rev. Fred Opalinski; and Guest Instructor

Why are people joining churches today and why are they leaving? Why are women more likely to attend church than men? Why are conservatives more likely to attend church than liberals? Are churches necessary for spiritual growth? Is there a relationship between church attendance and national tragedies, the state of the economy, or the aging population? These are just a few of the questions that will be addressed in this course which critically explores organized religions in American today.

Dates: 10/13, 20, 27; 11/3,10
Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Community Rm. 103 **Cost: \$45.00**

The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Time Between Testaments - 5 Weeks

John Kissinger

The centuries between the last of the Hebrew Scriptures and the beginning of the Christian Scriptures are pivotal to the origins of Judaism and Christianity. They are also a time of political and social change in the ancient world, full of conflict and drama. We will survey this history in light of the Dead Sea scrolls and other archaeological discoveries from that era for a clearer understanding of Western culture and religion.

Dates: 10/13, 20, 27; 11/3,10
Time: 1:30 - 3:00 PM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Community Rm. 103 **Cost: \$45.00**

FRIDAY

A Brush With The Post Impressionists - 4 Weeks

Cynthia Davenport; Carol Hession

Why are some impressionist painters called “post-impressionist” painters? What did these phenomenal artists achieve? Why is your life affected by their work? This course explores the lives and artistry of Cezanne, Seurat, Van Gogh and Gauguin.

Dates: 10/21, 28; 11/4,11
Time: 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Community Rm. 103 **Cost: \$40.00**



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MINI – COURSES

Unleashing Your Inner Opera Fan with Berks Opera Workshop - 3 Sessions

David Richie, President

This course will introduce the Metropolitan Opera Live in HD broadcast series at local theater(s). It will also include multimedia slides, sound, and video. There will be discussion of the upcoming opera, its “back story,” the composer, the style of the opera, the art of singing, and introduce a Diva du Jour - an important operatic artist the audience should learn about in order to be educated opera fans.

Dates: Tuesday, October 11, November 15, November 29
Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Rm. 225 **Cost: \$35.00**

AARP Driver Education Safety Program - 1 Session (class will be 4 hours)

Edith Bleichart

This course is designed for those who have taken a course previously, either AARP or AAA. You must bring proof from that course which is a certificate showing that it is within 36 months of the date of the last class, together with the AARP membership card and driver’s license. Update driving knowledge, sharpen driving skills, help compensate for normal age-related physical change and drive more safely for years to come. Insurance companies should discount your premium upon completion of course.

Date: Friday, November 4
Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Place: AU, Upland Center, Rm. 154 **Cost: \$12.00 (AARP fee)**

Seniors College Clubs

Lunch Bunch Discussion Club

Every Monday

11:45 AM (lunch)—1:00 PM (program)

Alvernia University, Student Center Dining Hall/Seminar Rooms

Sneak Preview of Upcoming Classes

September 12, 19 (Note change of time: 12:45 – 2:15 PM)

September 26—“What’s In Your Bucket” - Comediennes Emma and Effie (Margie Miller, Lois Wade)

October 3—“Berks Opera Network” – David Richie, President

October 10—Lunch Only No Speaker

October 17—“Life in Brazil”—Sr. Marilisa DaSilva, OSF, Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Congregational Minister

October 24—“Meet Mark Twain, America’s Favorite 19th Century Writer and Humorist” –Roger Mallon, WEEU Radio Personality

Book Review Club

First Wednesday of every month – Call Dianne Walker - 610-582-4288

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM - Alvernia University Student Center, Private Dining Room

Review “To Kill A Mockingbird” by Harper Lee– September 7

Third Monday bi-monthly

7:00 – 8:00 PM – Phoebe Berks Village, 1 Reading Drive, Wernersville
Review “To Kill A Mockingbird” by Harper Lee – September 19

Alvernia Seniors Card Club

Each Monday—September 12 – December 12 - Call Charlene Wilcox, 610-779-8210 or Dolores Noble, 610-779-1107

8:45 – 11:30 AM – Alvernia University Student Center, Crusader Café

The card club will include bridge and pinochle. Bridge lessons will be offered by Janet Stevens.

Red Hat Society

A Society for women dedicated to a gathering filled with camaraderie, exploring new avenues of fun and entertainment, such as luncheons, shows, etc. It definitely affords an opportunity to wear a RED HAT AND PURPLE CLOTHING with panache!

Call Joyce Abramowicz - 610-779-6652

September 13—Lunch - Pike Café - 12:00 Noon (Reservations to Christina Hall – 610-921-2254)

September 14—Dutch Apple Theater – “I Love A Piano” – A Salute to Irving Berlin

October 18—Hollywood Casino Day

November 16—Lunch – Good ‘N Plenty — American Music Theatre – Christmas Show

*November—Lunch - Kutztown Tavern followed by a visit to the Poinsettia Farm

*December—Lunch - Stokesay Castle

*date to be announced

Travel Club

Join Alvernia alumni and friends as they travel by motor coach, air or cruise ship on travels including day, long weekend or week trips to the theatre, educational exhibits or popular vacation spots. Contact Darlene Berk at 610-796-8212 or darlene.berk@alvernia.edu

Application & Registration — Fall 2011

Name (Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.): _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Address: _____ State: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Course	Day	Time	Cost
Membership Fee			
<input type="checkbox"/> Basic \$50			<input type="checkbox"/> Basic PLUS \$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend \$150			
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1,500			\$ _____
Total Course Fees			\$ _____
Total			\$ _____

email: _____

I understand that Alvernia University has no legal responsibility for my physical welfare while I attend Seniors College classes or events.

Please make check payable to Alvernia University and mail to:
Alvernia Seniors College • 400 Saint Bernardine Street • Reading, PA 19607