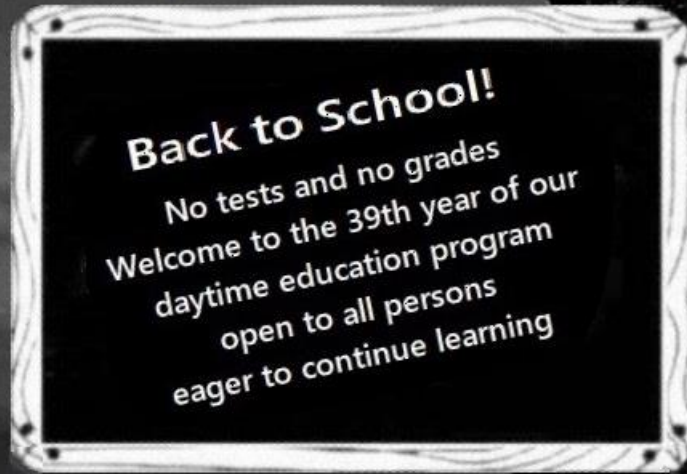


## ***Fall 2024 Semester***

**First Class September 9**  
**Last Class November 21**

# **IND The Institute of New Dimensions**

*Stimulating college-level courses for lifelong learners*



***Terrific teachers***  
***Convenient location***  
***Low cost***  
***Free parking***

**[www.INDberaen.org](http://www.INDberaen.org)**

## IND Fall 2024 Course Listings

All courses are at the Ethical Culture Society in Teaneck,  
and are in-person or hybrid as listed

- #121 Six Classic Movies About Personal Crises** *Alan Schwartz,* *page 6*  
In-person course  
Mondays, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/9, 9/23, 10/14, 10/21, 11/4, 11/11
- #131 Two American Authors Writing From Personal Experience** *Susan Amsterdam* *page 6*  
In-person course  
Mondays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 9/23, 11/4
- #132 Lessons from the Greco-Roman Philosophers on Friendship and Aging**  
Hybrid course *Josef Machac, MD* *page 6*  
Monday, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 10/21
- #211 Fall Prevention** *Fay Yeager* *page 7*  
In-person course  
Tuesdays, 9:30 – 10:30 am 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5.
- #212 Welcome to China – A Photographic Trip** *Ray Turkin* *page 7*  
Hybrid course  
Tuesday, 9:30 – 11:00 am 11/1
- #221 Child Labor - 1900 to the Present** *Evelyn Hershey* *page 8*  
Hybrid course  
Tuesday, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/24
- #222 Bidenomics – What is it? Is it Working?** *Arthur S. Guarino* *page 8*  
Hybrid course  
Tuesday, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 10/8
- #223 Topics in Contemporary French Life** *Ronnie Friedman* *page 8*  
Hybrid course  
Tuesdays, 11:30 am – 1:00pm 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/19
- #231 Current Events** *Joseph Walinski* *page 9*  
Hybrid course  
Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19
- #232 All Aboard! Passenger Rail Travel in the USA** *Keith Danish* *page 9*  
Hybrid course  
Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 10/29, 11/12
- 

## The Institute of New Dimensions

*Nahum Bachrach*  
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*Michael F. Sica*  
*Gloria Smith*  
*Robert Suffis*  
*Edie Turkin*  
*Elaine Weisfeld*

## IND Fall 2024 Course Listings (continued)

All courses are at the Ethical Culture Society in Teaneck,  
and are in-person or hybrid as listed

- #311 Our Amusing, Confusing, Changing, and Challenging Language**  
Virtual course *Vincent N. Parrillo* page 9  
Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:00 am 9/25, 10/9
- #321 Six Movies to See for the First Time, or Again** *Theo Solomon* page 10  
In-person course  
Wednesdays, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/11, 10/2, 10/16, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20
- #322 American Lit #1: Reading (or Rereading) High School Classics** *Emily Ginder* page 11  
In-person course  
Wednesdays, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/18, 9/25, 10/9, 10/30, 11/13
- #331 Civil Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)** *Arnold D. Rubin, M.D.* page 11  
Hybrid course  
Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 pm, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13
- #332 Emma Goldman: A Woman Ahead of Her Time?** *Dianne Danielle* page 12  
In-person course  
Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 9/25
- #411 The Golden Age of American Popular Music – Fall 2024 Edition**  
Hybrid course *Joe Weisfeld* page 12  
Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:00 am, 10/10, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/21
- #421 On Being a Refugee** *Judy Manton* page 12  
Hybrid course  
Thursdays, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, 11/21
- #422 The Comstock Act and the Abortion Pill** *Philip Carchman* page 13  
Hybrid course  
Thursday, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 10/31
- #431 La Vraie Mata Hari – The True Story** *Sandra S. Silverberg* page 13  
In-person course  
Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 10/10, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/21
- 

### CALL FOR LECTURERS / TEACHERS / DISCUSSION LEADERS

IND is always seeking new instructors and lecturers.

***Our richest resource is YOU!***

Please let us know if you or anyone you know might  
be interested in teaching a one- or multi-session course.

Contact Gloria Smith at (201) 261-5073

## **IND, THE INSTITUTE OF NEW DIMENSIONS,**

is a non-profit organization. Our mission is to offer short college-level courses to adults. IND believes that intellectual stimulation fosters well-being in adults.

We are very grateful for our instructors, class supervisors and board members, all of whom are volunteers. Our courses are offered in the spring, fall and winter. Most spring and fall courses consist of four or five 90-minute daytime sessions, in semesters of approximately twelve weeks. Winter courses are mainly one or two sessions, in a seven-week-long semester.

Students may enroll in as many courses as they wish.

### **IN-PERSON COURSES**

Is Covid receding in the rear-view mirror, or is it catching up again? In line with governmental advice and rulings, we are holding our classes with no masking requirements. If guidelines change we will reconsider our policy. Individual students are welcome to wear masks and/or sit apart, at their discretion.

### **VIRTUAL COURSES**

This semester we have one virtual-only course, for which we use the Zoom application. You can use it on a device of your choosing – computer, smart phone, tablet, etc. You can also listen to classes by phone without attending visually. Virtual registrants will receive a non-transferable Zoom link, which is good for all sessions of a course. Please do not lose the link. If you lose the link(s) please contact us.

All virtual registrants will receive instructions for using the Zoom program. If you are inexperienced or hesitant about this system, we will hold tutorials. As a fallback position, ask your grandchildren how to use it.

For the convenience of students, the virtual classroom entry will open 15 minutes before the start time. Entry after class start may be delayed. Please sign in early to allow time for checking your computer settings. You may leave class at any time before the session ends, and you may also re-enter.

### **HYBRID COURSES**

Many in-person courses are also open to virtual (hybrid) attendance. The experience of virtual attendance will not be the same as in-person, but every effort is being made to include virtual students in class discussions.

Please read the instructions above for virtual courses.

Please be sure to mark the registration form for virtual attendance so that we can send you the Zoom link.

### **THE COURSE BROCHURE**

The course brochure is not being printed and bulk-mailed this semester. We are only distributing our course brochure by Email, to people on our mailing list who have provided their Email addresses. If you know anybody who might be interested in our courses and has not received the brochure, please forward it to them or provide their Email address to us so we can send it.

## **REGISTRATION**

The registration form is separate from the course brochure. There are two versions of the registration form: a self-calculating one for PC computers with the Excel program, and one for hand completion if your device doesn't have the Excel program.

Register early for the courses of your choice. Classes fill quickly and some have limited enrollment. Each student registering for courses must complete an individual registration form accompanied by their payment. To minimize handling of checks and paperwork we strongly urge that you register only by credit or debit card payment, using the procedure described below.

For card payment, registration and payment is a two-step process. When we receive your registration form we will reserve your place(s) in your course(s) and send you the payment link. Upon receipt of your payment we will send you a confirmation by email. Please pay promptly, as we can't hold places for more than 5 days.

For both in-person and virtual attendance, if space allows registrations will be accepted up to the time of a class session. Please call in advance to 973-291-8220 to check place availability if you wish to sign up for a course at that time. As there are room attendance limits for the in-person courses, please do not arrive unregistered without calling in advance.

Prior to the start of your virtual course(s), we will email you a non-transferable Zoom class link for each course you take. This information is necessary for you to attend a course, and is easily entered into your browser. Multiple sessions of a course use the same Zoom link. If you lose the link(s) please contact us.

## **EMERGENCIES**

Occasionally we may need to change the schedule or cancel a course due to unanticipated events. We will make every effort to inform you when that happens and to help you make changes in your course selection. Please be sure to enter your phone number(s) in the registration form for us to contact you.

## **ALL IN-PERSON COURSES THIS SEMESTER MEET AT:**

Ethical Culture Society of Bergen County  
687 Larch Avenue, at the corner of North Street.  
Teaneck, NJ

Located three blocks south of Cedar Lane. There is a door on Larch Avenue, but it is locked and not an entrance. Use the door on North Street.

There is ample street parking at the Society, with a small lot which we are reserving for handicapped students. Please only use the lot if you can't navigate the street parking.

We share the building entry with a nursery school. For that reason the door is always closed, to be opened by an IND monitor. Please be patient if the monitor is temporarily away from the door. Do not ring the doorbell, which is solely for the nursery school.

**Please do not contact the Ethical Culture Society about IND business – our contacts are listed below.**

## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Call (Monday thru Friday) at:** 973-291-8220  
**Email to:** [IND.bergen@gmail.com](mailto:IND.bergen@gmail.com)  
**Or see our website at:** [www.INDbergen.org](http://www.INDbergen.org)



### #121 Six Classic Movies About Personal Crises

*Instructor: Alan Schwartz, now retired, was a high school English teacher, an attorney, and for many years research director for the Anti-Defamation League.*

**Mondays, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/9, 9/23, 10/14, 10/21, 11/4, 11/11**

**Notes: This is an in-person course. It is in six sessions; the fee is \$45.**

**To provide discussion time, this course starts earlier than usual.**

***Please arrive on time to not disturb the class in progress.***

Many kinds of challenges can lead to family conflicts and personal crises: Social change, financial pressures, inter-generational clashes, personal rivalries, sudden tragedy, war. Our class will screen six classic films that powerfully portray such challenges and how the people involved confronted them. These films were nominated for a total of 43 Academy Awards and won 17. All were nominated for Best Picture; three won the honor.

The movies we will view and discuss are:

1. ***The Grapes of Wrath*** (1940) Dir. John Ford
2. ***Rebecca*** (1940) Dir. Alfred Hitchcock
3. ***The Little Foxes*** (1941) Dir. William Wyler
4. ***Ordinary People*** (1980) Dir. Robert Redford
5. ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*** (1945) Dir. Elia Kazan
6. ***The Best Years of Our Lives*** (1946) Dir. Wm. Wyler

**Note: This movie is particularly long and the session will run more than 3 hours.**

### #131 Two American Authors Writing From Personal Experience

*Instructor: Susan Amsterdam has been a teacher of English, a journalist and a published poet, who retired after a career of over 25 years as an arts administrator in Passaic County. She lectures in the area for organizations, community schools and libraries.*

**Mondays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 9/23, 11/4**

**Note: This is an in-person course. It is in two sessions; the fee is \$15.**

Gain deeper insight into two iconic novels set in totally disparate eras of American history, *The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton and *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith. Learn how each author's life inspired her novel.

The sessions will be:

1. ***The Age of Innocence*** (1920), by Edith Wharton.
2. ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*** (1943), by Betty Smith.

There are movie versions of both books. *The Age of Innocence*, starring Daniel Day Lewis, is an excellent adaptation, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* less so. Movies are never the same as books, but they are options if you can't read the books. Please read or watch each before class.

### #132 Lessons from the Greco-Roman Philosophers on Friendship and Aging

*Instructor: Josef Machac, MD is a semi-retired physician with a life-long interest in history, and has researched and lectured on the subject topic and related matters at a number of churches, synagogues, and civic organizations.*

**Monday, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 10/21**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in one session; the fee is \$10.**

Following on the instructor's course this past spring on moral philosophers, he now presents a topic close to home for many of us seniors concerning two inevitable facts of life: We age and decline – as do our friends and companions, or worse yet they die.

The human condition hasn't changed very much in all these years, and this problem was also faced by the ancient philosophers. They had much to say about it, and we can learn from their wisdom.

## #211 Fall Prevention

*Instructor: Fay Yeager has been a certified Yoga and fitness instructor for the past 25 years, teaching at area community and senior centers.*

**Tuesdays, 9:30 – 10:30 am 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5**

**Notes: This is an in-person course. It is in five sessions; the fee is \$40.**

**Class size is limited to 12 participants.**

**Please note the one-hour session lengths.**

Falling is the major cause of injury for seniors. This course will evaluate your risk factors, and offer tools and strategies to minimize falling. We will practice balance and strengthening, plus ways to improve confidence for activities one needs and can enjoy every day. Each session will address a new area of concern.

And if you do fall, we will learn strategies for getting up, and exercises to strengthen the body parts we use to do it

## #212 Welcome to China, A Photographic Trip

*Instructor: Ray Turkin is an award-winning professional photographer whose work has been widely exhibited. He teaches at Bergen Community College and The Art School at Old Church in Demarest*

**Tuesday, 9:30 – 11:00 am 11/19**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in one session; the fee is \$10.**

China, a country with a population of about 1.4 billion, has one of oldest cultures, dating back thousands of years. It has also built some of the world's most modern cities, including a number of the tallest skyscrapers. And away from the cities there are areas of scenic beauty.

We'll travel to Xi'an, Shanghai, Mount Huangshan, and Hong Kong on this journey. So leave your passport and visa at home while you join Ray to see this country through his artistic lens.

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## *Call for Volunteers*

As most of you know, IND is a volunteer organization - all our teachers graciously donate their valuable time and expertise - as does our board. We need help with running our classes. Can you share your time and talents?

### ***Please join us by helping with:***

- Checking the class list at the door, or when participants join a Zoom session.
- Making phone calls if a class is cancelled.
- Working on advertising and publicity.
- Producing the course catalog.
- Recruiting new teachers.

***The work is rewarding - you'll help keep your IND program alive and vibrant as you interact with like-minded lifelong learners. Call one of our volunteer program coordinators:***

Beatrice Geller: **201-742-5540**  
Call our office at: **973-291-8220**  
Email to: **IND.bergen@gmail.com**  
Mail to: **Institute of New Dimensions**  
**PO Box 17**  
**Butler, NJ 07405**

***Thank you***



## **#221 Child Labor - 1900 to the Present**

*Instructor: Evelyn Hershey is the Education Director at the American Labor Museum in the Botto House in Haledon, where she teaches students and the general public about the history and contemporary issues of workers and the labor movement.*

**Tuesday, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/24**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in one-session; the fee is \$10**

The employment of children and youth in factories, mines, streets and fields was commonplace in 1900. In the early 20th century, people debated about whether children should work, for how many hours per day and in what occupations. As the U.S. became more enlightened, labor laws protecting children were enacted which strongly limit their employment.

Today, though almost invisible to most people, child workers are prevalent around the world. Journalists, social activists, labor unions and international organizations are increasing awareness of child workers and advocating for the welfare of these young workers.

This program will discuss the history and contemporary issues of child labor from 1900 to the present.

## **#222 Bidenomics – What is it? Is it Working?**

*Instructor: Arthur S. Guarino is an associate professor in the Department of Finance and Economics at Rutgers University Business School. In addition to his law degree from Rutgers School of Law, Newark, Professor Guarino has a master's degree in international relations from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University and an MBA in Finance from Seton Hall University.*

**Tuesday, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 10/8**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in one session; the fee is \$10.**

The Biden/Harris administration's signature achievement, which has been nicknamed Bidenomics, is actually a group of major programs enacted in 2021 and 2022.

Intended to stimulate the economy and bolster the lower and middle classes, its parts are not necessarily related and the results are not uniform. Republicans may call it the usual Democratic tactic of "throwing money at problems." Democrats may call it an antidote to Republican Reaganomics.

Is it working? Do the voters know what it is? Will it be a relevant factor in an election that seems headed for a match about personalities, the effects of aging and fake news?

The instructor will analyze the programs and their progress to date from the view of an economist. The politics will sort themselves out in November.

## **#223 Topics in Contemporary French Life**

*Instructor: Ronnie Friedman, a retired Ridgewood High School teacher of French language and culture, has also taught at Bergen Community College. She has a B.A. in French from UPenn, an M.A. in Comparative Literature from CUNY, and has completed the doctoral coursework in French at NYU. She has also taught courses and led discussions for IND on movies, art and French culture.*

**Tuesdays, 11:30 am – 1:00pm 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/19**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in four-sessions; the fee is \$30**

Whether you're planning an actual visit or want to better understand France from a distance, you will discover four important aspects of contemporary French life. We will explore various regions of the country and sites to visit, the history of "haute couture" which has influenced American style for centuries, the national education system which is so very different from our own, and the best known structures in France.

The topics are:

1. Traveling in France
2. French Fashion
3. Education in France
4. Highlights of French Architecture

### **#231 Current Events**

*Instructor: Joseph Walinski, lecturer at Bergen Community College, JCC, Humanist Society and local libraries, and leader of IND discussion courses.*

**Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19**

**Notes: This is a hybrid course. It is in five sessions; the fee is \$40.**

**Enrollment is limited to 25 students.**

For many years, IND presented a course titled “Great Decisions,” using topics from a book by the Foreign Policy Association. Last semester we dropped the book and went directly to the news and/or ongoing current issues. The format was successful, and we will continue with it.

The in-person group sits at a round table; the virtual attendees watch and hear the discussion, and join in as they wish.

The topic is chosen by the group in the preceding session, or is the urgent news of the day. The discussion can range away from the topic to wherever it takes us.

Our background sources are wherever you get your news – newspapers, magazines, radio/TV, even the late-night comedians if that works for you.

Come prepared to discuss, dispute, argue, propose solutions. One rule – keep it civil and disagree with words only.

### **#232 All Aboard! Passenger Rail Travel in the USA: Past, Present and Future**

*Instructor: Keith Danish is a retired attorney who specialized in intellectual property law; has lectured on various topics, including U.S. labor history and baseball's business history at IND, the Baseball Hall of Fame, Puffin Foundation, and local libraries. He is a member of the Executive Board of the N.Y. Labor History Association, where he serves as its newsletter and book reviews editor.*

**Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 10/29, 11/12**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in two sessions; the fee is \$15.**

Inspired by his recent train ride from Chicago to Los Angeles, the instructor will take us on a trip through the history of railroads in the U.S., with a special focus on passenger rail service, including its economic, cultural, political, culinary, musical and poetical aspects.

As a recent recipient of a large chunk of federal infrastructure funding, Amtrak appears to have an assured future. However, its passenger service is unlikely to resemble the “high-speed rail” offered in so many countries. We’ll discuss what the future may hold.

### **#311 Our Amusing, Confusing, Changing, and Challenging Language**

*Instructor: Vincent N. Parrillo, an internationally recognized expert on immigration, Fulbright Scholar, Sociology Professor Emeritus at William Paterson University, PBS filmmaker, and author of several dozen books, most recently, “Diversity in America.”*

**Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:00 am 9/25, 10/9**

**Note: This is a virtual course. It is in two sessions, the cost is \$15.**

This two-part course is NOT about grammar, but rather a fun way to learn how culture influences the words we use to communicate. Join us in negotiating our understanding of various realities through American idioms, proverbs, changing word meanings, and varying pronunciations that either inform or confuse the listener depending on one’s cultural background.

Our sessions will be:

**9/25:** We begin with an introduction into how culture affects our communications with one another and how shared understandings (or the lack thereof) shape perceptions of what is said. Working from that foundation, an enjoyable series of interactive activities will offer class participants the opportunity to comprehend everyday American expressions from the past and present, some recognizable and familiar but others not so much, yet all of them sensible once they are explained.

**10/9:** Continuing our coverage of how commonplace expressions can be unintelligible to cultural outsiders, we will look at additional sayings from both mainstream American culture and a few of its subcultures. In addition, this class will deal with somewhat amusing reasons why the English language is not only difficult for immigrants to learn, but also how the generation gap can result in mutually incomprehensible expressions.

## #321 Six Movies to See for the First Time, or Again

*Instructor: Theo Solomon, Retired Professor of Anthropology and Sociology at Bergen Community College, is a world traveler, photographer and lecturer.*

**Wednesdays, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/11, 10/2, 10/16, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20**

**Notes: This is an in-person course. It is in six sessions; the fee is \$45.**

**To provide discussion time this course starts earlier than usual.**

***Please arrive on time to not disturb the class in progress.***

In this course we will screen and discuss six great films with no connections other than being special for their actors, direction or stories. If you've seen them previously they are worth a repeat viewing with a discussion.

The movies we will view and discuss are:

1. ***Sullivan's Travels*** (1941) Dir. Preston Sturges, with Joel McCrea, Veronica Lake
2. ***Elmer Gantry*** (1960) Dir. Preston Sturges, with Burt Lancaster, Jean Simmons
3. ***Lonely are the Brave*** (1962) Dir. David Miller, with Kirk Douglas, Walter Matthau, Gena Rowlands
4. ***Charly*** (1986) Dir. Ralph Nelson, with Cliff Robertson
5. ***Leap of Faith*** (1988) Dir. Stephen Gyllenhaal, with Anne Archer, Sam Neill
6. ***A Good Woman*** (2004) Dir. Mike Barker, with Helen Hunt, Scarlett Johansson

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## ***We Need You***

***To consider joining our skilled and knowledgeable faculty. We are always looking for more volunteer instructors.***

- Can you offer a five-session course?
- A single class?
- Can you suggest a friend or colleague?
- Tell us of a discussion leader or lecturer who has impressed you?

***Please tell your friends about our exciting mix of classes.***

We believe we have a lot to offer continuing learners, and would like to increase our student body by adding to our mailing list.

***Please send the names and contact information of potential students or prospective instructors, including yourself if appropriate.***

By Mail to: **Institute of New Dimensions**  
**P.O. Box 17**  
**Butler, NJ 07405**

By Email to: **IND.bergen@gmail.com**

Or Call: **Gloria Smith at (201) 261-5073**

***Thank you.***

### **#322 American Lit #1: Reading (or Rereading) High School Classics**

*Instructor: Emily Ginder is a former homeschooling mom who brings her enthusiasm for history and literature to class. In addition to leading courses at Bergen Community College and OLLI at University of Delaware, she moderates a book club on Goodreads, an on-line discussion site.*

**Wednesdays, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 9/18, 9/25, 10/9, 10/30, 11/13**

**Note: This is an in-person course. It is in five sessions; the fee is \$40.**

Did you enjoy the required reading in school? Did it resonate with your life experiences? Was it boring? Did you read the CliffsNotes rather than the book? Hopefully reading the classics will be more enjoyable with maturity.

This semester we will read five books written by American men, some of which are considered "The Great American Novel." We will look briefly at the author and the historical setting of each book before discussing it.

Things to consider: Does the novel age well? Is it a quintessential American piece? Do you appreciate it more as an adult?

The books we will discuss are, in order:

1. ***The Scarlet Letter*** by Nathaniel Hawthorne
2. ***The Call of the Wild*** by Jack London
3. ***The Great Gatsby*** by F. Scott Fitzgerald
4. ***Of Mice and Men*** by John Steinbeck
5. ***The Old Man and the Sea*** by Ernest Hemingway

Please read ***The Scarlet Letter*** before the first class.

### **#331 Civil Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)**

*Instructor: Arnold D. Rubin, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Oncology, and former Director of the Stem Cell Transplantation Program at the Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers University.*

**Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 pm, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in five sessions; the fee is \$40.**

The ACLU recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. This organization came into being amid the turmoil of the early 20th century. The industrial revolution had led to a gilded age of inequality, and to African-Americans migrating from the Jim Crow South, seeking employment in northern cities. The simultaneous arrival of eastern and southern European immigrants, bringing with them political baggage from the old country and the brewing conflict on the continent caused Americans to fear change, loss of jobs, and even revolution.

These led to perceived threats of civil upheaval, from labor activists and radical political philosophies. Black assertiveness and proponents of controversial cultural variants caused the government and other concerned groups to come down hard on potential perpetrators – in many cases ignoring their rights of free speech and equal protection under the law.

This course will describe how the ACLU and other agencies addressed the many threats to civil liberties through the 20th century to current times. It will be clear that maintenance of our civil liberties requires constant vigilance.

### **#332 Emma Goldman: A Woman Ahead of Her Time?**

*Instructor: Dianne Danielle taught literature and writing for 23 years at Kean University; she also taught at Bergen Community College and Hudson County Community College.*

**Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 9/25**

**Note: This is an in-person course. It is in one session; the fee is \$10.**

Emma Goldman (1860-1940) was a leading philosopher and orator for anarchism and other causes. She devoted her life to searching and advocating for an ideal political system – a quest that rewarded her with years in jail, deportation and self-exile from the USA, USSR, England, Germany and Spain.

She was a feminist before the term was invented, joining Margaret Sanger in fighting for women's reproductive rights.

Always the leader, during a prison sentence in which Emma was assigned as a seamstress – she organized the shop to strike for better working conditions. Forever calling for action, her gravestone reads: "Liberty will not descend to a people, a people must raise themselves to liberty"

### **#411 The Golden Age of American Popular Music – Fall 2024 Edition**

*Instructor: Joe Weisfeld, Ph.D. Chemistry, retired director of a research and development laboratory, is a lifelong music lover.*

**Thursdays 9:30 – 11:00 am, 10/10, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/21**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in five sessions; the fee is \$40.**

With all new selections, this course continues the celebration of American popular music written primarily in the 1920s, '30s and '40s. The music filled the demands of Broadway, Tin Pan Alley and the Hollywood musicals. New generations and groups around the world are discovering, playing and enjoying this music. In this course, we will play selections by songwriters like Irving Berlin, George and Ira Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart, Oscar Hammerstein, Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Johnny Mercer and others.

Each class will have a theme, with musical selections and pertinent background discussions.

### **#421 On Being a Refugee**

*Instructor: Judy Manton, as an ESL teacher taught Cuban, Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees in New York City. She's encountered Uyghurs in China and Rohingyas in Myanmar. A Chinese dissident couple from China obtained refuge in her home for three years and North Vietnamese boat people for several months. She tutors a Ukrainian woman on a weekly basis. She's an active member of the Northern NJ Sanctuary Coalition. and has advocated for refugees most of her adult life.*

**Thursdays, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, 11/21**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in four sessions; the fee is \$30.**

Migration is a world-wide phenomenon. It is a raging political issue not only in the U.S. in this election year, but in all parts of the world which are impacted by the arrival of people escaping wars, gang violence, severe poverty, climate change, government corruption and other issues. Some travel as families, some alone, and some as unaccompanied children. Americans are almost all immigrants or descendants of some forebear who came here recently or generations ago, many as refugees escaping the Holocaust.

Who are today's refugees? Why do they leave their homelands? What is the physical and psychological impact of their often life-threatening journeys across a desert or an ocean? How are they treated upon arrival? Which challenges do they have to overcome in their struggles to establish new lives?

This course will use videos, photos and other images as background material. The course will cover the following topics:

1. Why People Are Compelled to Leave Their Homes.
2. Dynamics of the Migration Journey.
3. Arrival, Welcome, Rejection, Resettlement, Guilt.
4. Current U.S. Immigration Policies.

### **#422 The Comstock Act and the Abortion Pill**

*Instructor: Philip S. Carchman is retired from the New Jersey judiciary, in which he wrote over 1,200 opinions and served as Administrative Director of Courts, in effect overseeing the state's entire court system. In his retirement he has lectured on the law at the Evergreen Forum in Princeton and IND.*

**Thursday, 11:30 am- 1:00 pm 10/31**

**Note: This is a hybrid course. It is in one session; the fee is \$10.**

Yes, that Comstock Act.

The Supreme Court recently chose to not rule on a challenge to the FDA approval of Mifepristone, the "abortion pill," on a technicality. But in the oral arguments Justice Samuel Alito referred to a remaining bit of the Comstock Act (which was almost completely struck down many years ago) as a possible basis for cancelling the FDA action.

Based on Justice Alito's influence and the determination of the anti-abortion movement, it is expected that the FDA approval of Mifepristone will be challenged again in a new case.

This talk will cover the history of the Comstock Act of 1873, its many appearances before the Court, and the surviving remnant that has come back to haunt us; and how the Act could be applied in the continuing national fight over abortion rights.

### **#431 La Vraie Mata Hari – The True Story**

*Instructor: Sandra S. Silverberg, retired Professor and Head of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department at Bergen Community College, has studied extensively in France. She began her teaching career as an instructor of French language and culture.*

**Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:00 pm 10/10, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/21**

**This is an in-person course. It is in five sessions; the fee is \$40.**

We've all heard of Mata Hari, but do we really know anything about her? Was she a princess from the exotic East? A great dancer? A temptress? A famous courtesan who found her way into the beds of all the important men of Europe? Any or all of the above, and also a spy, a double agent?

Or was she a woman of pathetic vulnerability caught up in the military intrigues of World War I France, which had barely recovered from the Dreyfus Affair?