

WINTER/SPRING PROGRAM CATALOG

www.bucknell.edu/lifelonglearning



COURSES AT-A-GLANCE

Spring courses will meet weekly as specified below. Each carries a \$60 tuition fee, with exceptions as noted. You must be a member of BILL to register for classes. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, continuing until classes fill or begin. Detailed course descriptions can be found on pages 5–25. See page 4 for the addresses of classroom locations.

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>681 A Most Uncivil Civil War Joe Fischer 10 a.m.–noon 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13 & 4/20 BILL #1 5–10 seats</p> | <p>686 Dr. Sacks' Brain: Issues in Human Brain Function Owen Floody 10 a.m.–noon 3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14, 4/21 & 4/28 BILL #1 6–12 seats</p> | <p>692 Wellness Naturally 3.0: Let's Get Back Into the Woods Suzann Schiemer & Ronald Haas 10 a.m.–noon 4/1, 4/8, 4/15 & 4/22; 4 sessions LATER START Montour Preserve 4–12 seats</p> | <p>699 Suffering and Solidarity in Albert Camus's <i>The Plague</i> Elaine Hopkins 10–11:30 a.m. 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 & 4/23 BILL #2 5–15 seats</p> |
| <p>682 Looking at Trees and Forest Irmgard Seidl-Adams 10:30 a.m.–noon 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4 & 5/11 LATER START SRCR 10–20 seats</p> | <p>687 Journaling For Yourself Rachael Hungerford 10 a.m.–noon 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14 & 4/21 BILL #2 HYBRID 5–12 seats</p> | <p>693 Think Like a Journalist Mary Bernath 10 a.m.–noon 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, & 4/8 5 sessions EARLIER START BILL #1 4–12 seats</p> | <p>700 Get That Guitar* From Under the Bed...and Learn by Ear (*or fiddle/violin, mandolin, bass, uke) Carl Kirby 10:30 a.m.–noon 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 & 4/23; 7 sessions EARLIER START SRCR 3–15 seats</p> |
| <p>683 American Foreign Policy 2026 Thom Travis 1–3 p.m. 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20 & 4/27; 7 sessions ONLINE, VIA ZOOM 6–21 seats</p> | <p>688 Issues in the Criminal and Civil Justice System Barry Feudale 10:45 a.m.–noon 3/10, 3/17, 3/31, 4/7, 4/21, 4/28 & 5/5 (no class on 3/24 or 4/14) 7 sessions EARLIER START UCGC 10–25 seats</p> | <p>694 Longevity and Social Connections Genie Gerdes 10:30am–noon 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15 & 4/22 BILL #2 HYBRID 8–15 seats</p> | <p>701 Healthy Soil, Healthy Plants, Healthy People Sid Furst 1–2:30 p.m. 3/19, 3/26, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23 & 4/30 (no class on 4/2) DHCC 6–12 seats</p> |
| <p>684 Solving Problems With Maps Ben Marsh 1:30–3:30 p.m. 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6 & 4/13 EARLIER START EBT 10–25 seats</p> | <p>689 Loving Your Age: A Healthy Perspective Barbara Yorks 1–3 p.m. 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 & 4/7 4 sessions BILL #2 5–20 seats</p> | <p>695 From Calling to Dating to Hooking Up: How Did We Get Here? Debby Abowitz 1–2:30 p.m. 3/11, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8 & 4/15 (no class on 3/18); 5 sessions EARLIER START SRCR 8–24 seats</p> | <p>702 The Future Is Now: Geohazards in An Age of Global Warming Gary Nottis 1–3 p.m. 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 & 4/23 SRCR 5–15 seats</p> |
| <p>685 The Poetry of W. B. Yeats John Rickard 2–4 p.m. 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13 & 4/20 BILL #2 4–10 seats</p> | <p>690 Moonstruck Again: Our Fascination With and Connection to Earth's Nearest Celestial Neighbor Katharyn & Gary Nottis 1:30–3 p.m. 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14 & 4/21 SRCR 8–16 seats</p> | <p>696 Coming Apart in the 1970s John McWilliam 1:30–3 p.m. 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 & 4/29 & 5/6 CANCELLED EBT 15–25 seats</p> | <p>703 American Composers of Opera Gary Boerckel 1:30–3 p.m. 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 & 4/23 ARW 8–30 seats</p> |
| <p>ARW: Asbury RiverWoods Senior Living Campus BVLV: Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village Common DHCCP: Donald L. Heiter Community Center EBT: East Buffalo Township Municipal Building Montour Preserve: Montour Preserve Visitors' Center/Environmental Education Center PLUC: Public Library for Union County UCGC: Union County Government Center</p> | <p>691 Chicken Tikka Masala, Butter Chicken and Tandoori Chicken (Indian Food International) Mary Zimmerman & Rachana Sachdev 4:30 p.m.–? (see description) 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 & 4/7 4 sessions BILL #1 6–12 seats Tuition +\$15 fee</p> | <p>697 The Anthropocene: How Humans Are Changing Planet Earth David Fletcher 2–3:30 p.m. 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 & 4/29; 7 sessions ARW 6–16 seats</p> | <p>704 Female Desire, Religion and Spirituality in Alice Munro's Novel <i>Lives of Girls and Women</i> David Smit 3:30–5 p.m. 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 & 5/7 5 sessions LATER START PLUC 5–20 seats</p> |
| | | <p>698 Crash Course in Well-Being Cheryl Newburg 2–3:30 p.m. 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 & 4/29 LATER START BILL #1 5–15 seats</p> | <p>705 Conflict and Conflict Resolution: An Inside/Out Course Carl Milofsky & Sandy Elion 1–4 p.m. Meeting days and dates TBA 8 sessions LATER START SCI Coal Township 3–7 seats</p> |



Grow Your Mind!

2026

WINTER/SPRING TERM

PROGRAM CATALOG

COURSE REGISTRATION

Begins at 11 a.m.
MONDAY, FEB. 9, 2026

MOST COURSES

Begin the week of
MARCH 16, 2026

www.bucknell.edu/lifelonglearning

115 Farley Circle, Suite 111
Lewisburg, PA 17837

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(e) lifelonglearning@bucknell.edu

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

Bucknell Institute
for Lifelong Learning

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning is to engage adult learners from a wide range of educational backgrounds in creative and intellectual activities that expand their horizons, invigorate their minds, stimulate curiosity and the joy of learning, and provide opportunities for social interaction. Members participate in Institute courses and other educational opportunities that reflect Bucknell University's commitment to liberal education. The Institute endeavors to involve all participants in active learning, where ideas, interests, and life experiences are shared.

BILL MEMBERSHIP



BENEFITS

Since BILL began in 2009, it has been enriching the lives of adults throughout the Susquehanna River Valley and beyond. There are many reasons to Grow Your Mind with a BILL membership. Here are just some of the benefits you can enjoy with your annual subscription:

1 NEW LEARNING.

Academically rich courses without tests or grades. Behind-the-scenes tours and attractions. One-time lectures over refreshments. Members can register for one or more courses to explore topics with other mature learners in a relaxed and friendly setting. You can explore local gardens and museums in small-group tours. Special Presentations provide opportunities to hear from current and retired professors and industry leaders about specialized research, studies and subject matter.

2 SHARED INTERESTS.

BILL courses are led by volunteers. Share your passion and expertise in a subject and expand your knowledge with the stimulating discussions and perspectives sure to arise. Armchair Travel slideshows welcome members to recount their experiences and past travel with photos enjoyed by others who want to see and hear about those visits. Members can also ask to share announcements about activities, concerts, book groups, and so on likely to be of interest to other BILL members.

3 ENRICHED RELATIONSHIPS.

BILL activities generate conversations around the dinner table, in a phone call or over lunch. Couples, siblings and family members often register together, and many friendships grow out of BILL activities. The BILL Facebook page is open to postings by members. Each term includes a member reception—a social celebration included in membership. *Guests may attend at an added individual cost.*

4 TRAVEL WITH BILL.

Watch for emails as we organize small-group international tours with a travel company dedicated to adventurers over the age of 55. Usually one or two trips are planned each year, and spaces fill quickly. Or, join a group from BILL in a single-day bus trip or short-length domestic tour, exploring U.S. history and culture with fellow lifelong learners.

5 ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING.

Enjoy borrowing privileges from Bucknell's Bertrand Library and special invitations to campus readings, book groups, luncheons, exhibits and special events. BILL allows members to reserve a conference room to extend the learning after classes end, such as watching a movie together, meeting to discuss books or continuing as a writing group.

Why not try something new? As we grow older, life can sometimes feel isolating. BILL provides constant chances for encountering different perspectives, exploring unfamiliar topics and engaging with others in a supportive environment where you learn together. Whatever your prior educational experience, these programs really are for you!

STARTING AND RENEWING YOUR BILL MEMBERSHIP

Course registration begins at 11 a.m. on Feb. 9, 2026.

Other BILL programs prioritize current members to fill. Registering is easier and quicker when your BILL membership is already active. So why wait? Renew or join BILL now.

- **IF YOU ARE BRAND NEW TO BILL,**

and you aren't already in our contacts list, visit <https://reg138.imperisoft.com/Bucknell/Login/Registration.aspx> online and "Create an Account now" using the link on the right-side of the page. The cost for a new calendar year membership (Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2026) is \$65. Once you've completed this step, you will be ready to select any programs listed in these pages and open for registration.

- **IF YOU ARE A FORMER BILL MEMBER,**

or in our contacts list, you most likely have a BILL online account already. Please do not create a new one. Start at <https://reg138.imperisoft.com/Bucknell/Login/Registration.aspx>. Enter your username and password in the fields on the left half of the page. If you do not remember your username and/or password, use the [Click here to reset](#) above the Login button and follow the directions on the screen for recovering your login information. Once logged in, the word "Membership" will appear in the orange heading (if your account does not already have an active membership); click **Membership** and follow the instructions to purchase the \$65 annual membership for the academic year.

- **ANYONE**

can instead use the form at the end of this catalog (p. 32) to mail your membership and/or course requests to the BILL office. Financial aid scholarships are also available; contact the BILL office to inquire about a scholarship and for help with joining, renewing, and registering with BILL.

FIND BILL ONLINE

www.bucknell.edu/lifelonglearning

In BILL's webpages at Bucknell, you will find information about the program, upcoming Special Presentations, how to propose a new class, volunteer opportunities and BILL policies. From there, you can also join BILL, register for classes and programs and make donations. Visit often! Any changes to program schedules are updated in our registration pages for those program listings.

The BILL Facebook Group



BILL invites you to connect with us on Facebook. There you can find reminders and updated announcements about classes

and special events. Facebook group members are welcome to post photos from their classes, comment on presentations, share posts and invite others to other educational opportunities in the region. To follow the Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning public group, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/357468110973640/>.



ZOOMING WITH BILL

Since the fall of 2020, BILL has included a small number of courses to meet exclusively online, via Zoom. Participants in these classes talk about the fellowship and discussion the Zoom format allows and remark on the value of the accessibility, convenience and interactive aspects attending online allows. Look for the **ONLINE, VIA ZOOM** icon or the word **HYBRID** next to program titles for connecting and learning with BILL from wherever you are. And if you are new to Zoom but interested in the course topic, help is available from BILL and community resources for getting you set up to enjoy online learning this term.

Additionally, some course leaders of classes that meet in person may be willing to utilize the Zoom tool to include a few members who need to attend from another location. If you are in this situation, please contact the office to see if this option is available for the courses you want to take.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

The BILL OFFICE is located at 115 Farley Circle, Suite 111 in Lewisburg, in the Spring Run business community off Reitz Boulevard (running between Routes 45 and 192). The BILL office entrance is in the first of the three long grey buildings, through the double-door entrance second from the leftmost side of the building. Look for the yellow sign with the BILL tree icon, which is on the outside wall beside the front door among those for our suite-neighbors.

BILL #1 and BILL #2

Two BILL office classrooms (**BILL #1 and BILL #2**) are located inside the BILL office suite.

The Spring Run Conference Room (**SRCR**) is located in a smaller building in the business complex, with its own parking lot facing Farley Circle.

Other locations are generously provided by community hosts. Please consider expressing gratitude for this hospitality if you visit one of these organizations.

Asbury RiverWoods Senior Living Campus (ARW)
270 RidgeCrest Circle, Lewisburg

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village Common (BVLV)
6 Tressler Blvd., Lewisburg

Donald L. Heiter Community Center (DHCC)
100 N 5th St., Lewisburg

East Buffalo Township Municipal Building (EBT)
589 Fairground Rd., Lewisburg

Montour Preserve Visitors' Center/Environmental Education Center (Montour Preserve)
374 Preserve Rd., Danville

Public Library for Union County (PLUC)
255 Reitz Blvd., Lewisburg


Union County Government Center (UCGC)
155 N 15th St., Lewisburg



RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

BILL members include adult learners from a wide range of backgrounds, traditions and beliefs. That means that some people will miss classes on particular religious holidays. Please let the BILL office and your instructor know if a class meeting conflicts with your observance of a religious holiday, so that accommodations may be made.

COURSES THIS SPRING

BILL courses remain the core of our educational programming. Most classes meet weekly for six sessions, unless otherwise specified. BILL offers courses that meet in person and some that meet online, via Zoom. 

If you are interested in a class being taught in person but are unable to physically attend, please contact the BILL office to discuss whether an alternative arrangement, such as attendance by Zoom, might be arranged.

The tuition for a BILL course is \$60; exceptions and any additional fees for supplies are noted. Course details are subject to change and updated online in our registration pages.

MONDAY 10 a.m.–noon
March 16–April 20

COURSE #681

A MOST UNCIVIL CIVIL WAR

COURSE LEADER: **JOE FISCHER**

3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13 and 4/20

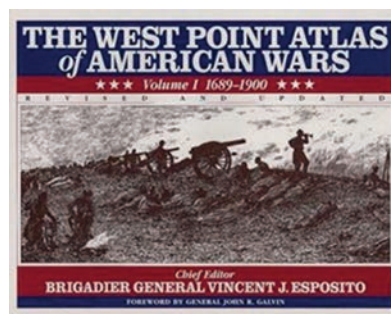
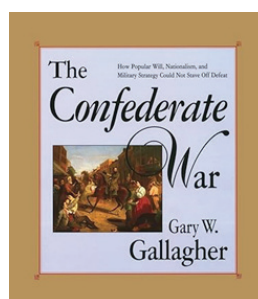
BILL #1 | 5–10 participants

Although the numbers vary slightly, the American Civil War cost the nation 624,000 lives, ended one deeply entrenched system of labor while solidifying another, and revolutionized the Constitution to make it an engine of social, political, and economic change.

This course will examine the underlying issues behind the coming of the war. Was the war unavoidable? When did compromise become impossible? How did the two sides match up when it came to leadership at the strategic, operational, and tactical level? What challenges did geography present for the two sides? The Confederacy fought a defensive war, the Union an offensive war.

As for teaching methodology, while there will be some lecture, mostly we will use discussion as the way forward supplemented by map work.

Students are also expected to have access to a computer and email.



REQUIRED TEXTS

Gallagher, Garry W. *A Confederate War*

Gallagher, Garry W. *The Union War*

The West Point Atlas of the American Wars

NOTE: Used copies are welcome.

JOSEPH R. FISCHER graduated from Shikellamy Class of 1971. He served 28 years in the U.S. Army, first as an Infantry officer before volunteering and being accepted into Special Forces. He retired in 2005 after completing a tour of duty in Iraq. His academic credentials include a doctorate in history from Pennsylvania State University (1993). His teaching experience includes seven years of teaching in the public schools (Shikellamy and Lewisburg), three years as an assistant professor of history at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., and eleven years as a teacher of military history at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He retired at the academic rank of full professor in 2015 and returned home to the Susquehanna Valley.

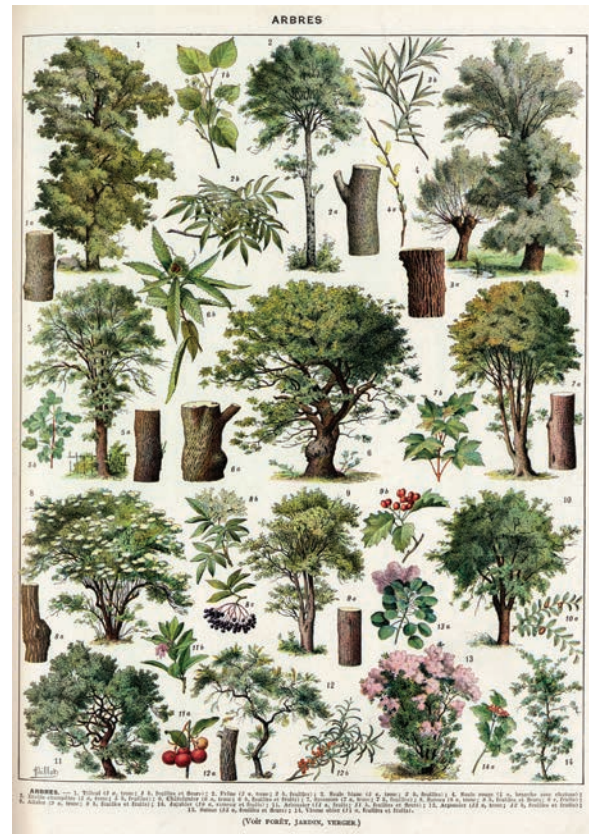
MONDAY 10:30 a.m.–noon
April 6–May 11

COURSE #682**LOOKING AT TREES AND FOREST**COURSE LEADER: **IRMGARD SEIDL-ADAMS**4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4 and 5/11 **LATER START!****Spring Run Conference Room | 10–20 participants**

I have long been thinking about a course focusing on trees and their role in ecosystems. It so happens that Bucknell University is dedicating a whole year to presentations about trees. I hope that this course will nicely add to this series in its own way. We will delve into the biology of trees, trying to answer questions like ...

- ~How do white pines, oaks and date palms differ from one another?*
- ~How does a tree form a branch, and why do palm trees have no branches?*
- ~Why could one build a tunnel through a giant Sequoia in Yosemite's Mariposa grove without killing the tree?*
- ~What happens in the fall when leaves change their color?*
- ~What are the advantages of different bark types?*
- ~What makes a forest?*
- ~Are all forests "created equal"?*
- ~What is an urban forest?*
- ~How were trees incorporated into city planning and why?*

We will arrive at answers through lectures supported by PowerPoint presentations (which will be shared after the presentation by email) and our own observations, supported by various wood and eclectic tree products we all have invariably picked up in our backyards or on our walks.



I am considering voluntary excursions like a tree walk on the campus of Bucknell, Dale's Ridge, and/or R.B. Winter State Park to round out our experience. I am hoping that you will walk away from this course with a heightened appreciation of trees.

This class will include lecture and group activities. Optional field trips in small groups will also be offered.

IRMGARD SEIDL-ADAMS has been interested in plants—picking flowers, starting an herbarium collection, photographing flowers and observing their insect visitors—for as long as she can remember. After moving to the U.S. and starting a family, she went back to school and earned her master's in biology from Bucknell, followed by a doctorate in plant science from Penn State. For the last 15 years of her career, she investigated interactions of plants and insects at the Institute for Chemical Ecology at Penn State.

MONDAY 1–3:00 p.m.
March 16–April 27

COURSE #683

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY 2026

COURSE LEADER: **THOM TRAVIS**

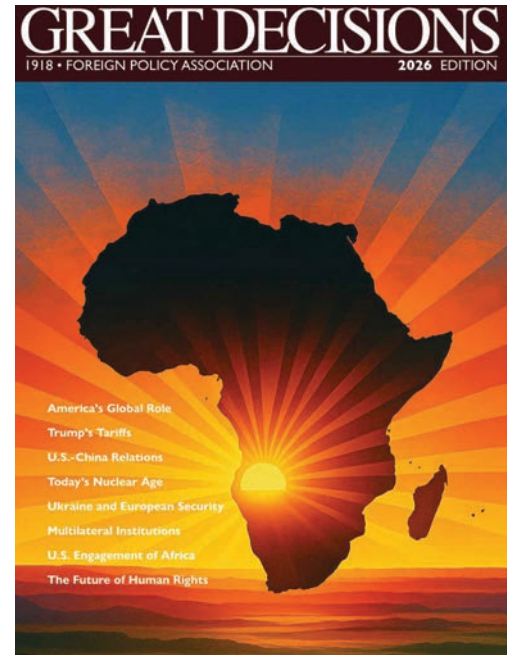
3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20 and 4/27; seven sessions

 **ONLINE, VIA ZOOM** 6–21 participants

The course will cover the following topics of current American foreign policy: Israel, Palestinians and Gaza, tariffs and the world economy, U.S.-China relations, risk of nuclear proliferation, Ukraine and European security, U.S. and Africa, multilateralism, the future of human rights and international law. Most of these topics correspond to the chapters in the Great Decisions Booklet of the Foreign Policy Association, which will be the reading for the class. The class will proceed by discussion of these topics so everyone can learn from the comments of one another. The course instructor will encourage everyone to participate in the discussions and will do little lecturing.

REQUIRED TEXT: *Great Decisions Booklet 2026*, Foreign Policy Association. Purchase online at fpa.org. Students should purchase *Great Decisions* on their own early enough to complete the initial reading for the first class.

This course will be taught online, via Zoom. Students are expected to have access to a computer and email and to complete each reading before class and participate in discussion.



THOM TRAVIS was a professor of international relations and political science at Bucknell University for 33 years. He founded the International Relations Program there and chaired it for 27 years. He received three teaching awards from the university. He has traveled to 120 countries and studied or taught in Italy, Russia and India. Thom has taught classes for BILL since 2010 and chaired the BILL curriculum committee for eight years.

WHY I BILL

“All my classes have stretched and educated me. I have recommended BILL to several retired friends.”



MONDAY 1:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
March 9–April 13

COURSE #684

SOLVING PROBLEMS WITH MAPS

COURSE LEADER: **BEN MARSH**

3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6 and 4/13 **EARLIER START!**

East Buffalo Township Municipal Building | 10–25 participants



To many people maps are nearly magic. They take us instantly to distant places, they lead us through landscapes from afar, and they show us interrelationships that we otherwise wouldn't have seen. They communicate quickly, much faster than words do. They can solve problems that are otherwise intractable, obviously including getting around on the land, but also research problems, spatial communications challenges and symbolic constructions of our place in the world.

This course examines how maps represent the world, why they communicate so efficiently, the many kinds of maps we can encounter, and modern computer-based methods that combine the power of maps with big-data approaches to evidence.

Class will be based on extensive use of map images as visual examples and some readings (available online).

TOPICS:

- The nature of maps as models of the physical world, and as symbols of our place in the world
- The mechanics of mapping—location on the sphere, scale, symbolization, projection, etc.
- The psychology of map reading: semiotics, mental maps, and maps made for ordinary readers
- Great examples of mapping; exemplary maps and mapping techniques
- Computer mapping and its use on social justice problems
- Remote sensing, especially interpreting satellite data

Email access for writing and image sharing is expected but not required.

BEN MARSH is professor emeritus of geography and environmental studies at Bucknell University where he taught about human adaptation, mapping, and global environments. He taught a sophomore-level version of this fall's course for 15 years. He has previously taught BILL courses about mapping, Pennsylvania, and food and the environment.

WHY I BILL

"BILL offers a wonderful learning experience in less trodden areas of knowledge."



MONDAY 2–4 p.m.
March 16–April 20

COURSE #685

THE POETRY OF W. B. YEATS

COURSE LEADER: **JOHN RICKARD**

3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13 and 4/20

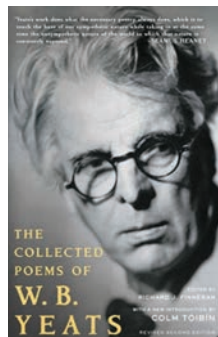
BILL #2 | 4–10 participants

Irish writer William Butler Yeats was one of the major poetic voices of the modern era. Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923, Yeats was famed for poetic meditations on Irish themes and love and aging as well as political violence. This BILL course will examine Yeats in context by studying selected poems, with particular attention to the political and cultural circumstances of his time and to the evolving poetic techniques he brought to his work throughout his life. Previous experience with poetry analysis is not required.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

The Collected Poems of W.B. Yeats, edited by Richard J. Finneran, with an introduction by Colm Tóibín. Second Revised Edition (1996). ISBN: 978-0684807317

Students need to have the primary textbook prior to the first class.



JOHN RICKARD is a professor emeritus of English at Bucknell, where he offered classes on the humanities and modern British and Irish literature. He has published essays on Yeats and other Irish writers and has taught and lectured by invitation at the W. B. Yeats Summer School in Sligo, Ireland.

TUESDAY 10 a.m.–noon
March 17–April 28

COURSE #686

SACKS' BRAIN: ISSUES IN HUMAN BRAIN FUNCTION

COURSE LEADER: **OWEN FLOODY**

3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14, 4/21 and 4/28

LATER START!

BILL #1 | 6–12 participants

This course will begin by describing the brain and some of the methods used to study how it works. We then will consider a series of questions, relating a brain area and an aspect of behavior. For instance, we will begin by asking how we distinguish faces, from each other and from other objects.

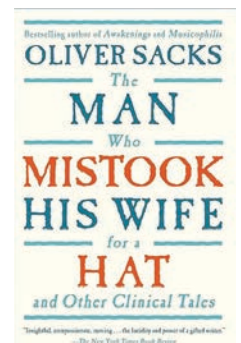
Most questions will be introduced by descriptions of brain-damaged people. This approach was pioneered by Oliver Sacks, whose story "The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat" uses a singular case to provoke a broader exploration of human brain function.

Along with face perception, other likely issues include spatial attention, memory, and the mechanisms underlying adjustments to norms and risk. All of these are complex, much too complex to master in one course. However, grappling with them even briefly can tell us much about how the brain does, and doesn't, work.

Lectures will be used to present the basics of brain structure and functional methods. The cases and issues that will guide our survey of brain function will be introduced by readings and videos. The analysis of these materials will involve readings, lecture, and discussion.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Sacks, Oliver. *The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat: And Other Clinical Tales* (1998).



OWEN FLOODY is a professor emeritus of psychology at Bucknell University. He was affiliated with the University's programs in animal behavior and neuroscience. His courses and research focused on the brain control of behavior in humans and other animals. Among the courses he taught was a seminar on human neuropsychology. As the title suggests, this course is focused on the structures and mechanisms underlying human brain function.

TUESDAY 10 a.m.–noon
March 17–April 21

COURSE #687

JOURNALING FOR YOURSELF

COURSE LEADER: **RACHAEL HUNGERFORD**

3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14 and 4/21

BILL #2  **HYBRID** 5–12 participants

Kathleen Adams’ original model for “Journal to the Self” offers 18 writing tools to make journal writing more useful and less time-consuming. Rachael will guide students on ways to use writing for personal growth, creative expression and life enrichment.

EACH WEEK’S SESSION WILL OFFER:

- casual conversation to open the session,
- instruction in several of the journal writing techniques—three per session as time permits,
- a chance for participants to write using each of the techniques,
- sharing of written work (sharing is always and only an option),
- and closure—sharing of how the session went, what was learned, how it might be used in everyday life and a brief evaluation.

Participants need to bring a journal and writing implement to each session. Lots of writing will be required!



RACHAEL HUNGERFORD is professor emerita and retired chair of the education department at Lycoming College, where she also was a lecturer in women's studies. Every course she taught included a strong writing component. She is a certified Journal to the Self instructor and has led workshops at women's retreats, YWCAs, the Salvation Army, and Diakon counseling services. Over the past ten years, she has also conducted writing workshops at Penn Tech, the public library in Wellsboro and the James V. Brown Library in Williamsport. She continues to meet weekly in her home with a long-running writing group.

This course will be taught in person but will also welcome class members who need to attend via Zoom.



WHY I BILL

“BILL enriches my brain and also my social life. I love taking classes with other motivated students and learning from them—including in classes I teach.”

TUESDAY 10:45 a.m.–noon
March 10–May 5

COURSE #688

ISSUES IN THE CRIMINAL AND CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM

COURSE LEADER: **BARRY FEUDALE**, ASSISTED BY **TINAMARIE BUMBULSKY**

3/10, 3/17, 3/31, 4/7, 4/21, 4/28 and 5/5
(no class on March 24 or April 14)

7 sessions **EARLIER START!**

Union County Government Center
10–25 participants

This course will address the role of the law and the use and abuse of power and discretion in the Pennsylvania courts and legislature. We will engage in discussions (and sometimes debate) about several cases:

- The Penn State child sexual abuse cases involving Sandusky, Spanier, Curley, Schultz and Paterno, over which I presided as an investigating grand jury judge
- Cases involving murder/rape/child abuse/DUI/speeding that I either prosecuted as a child welfare attorney, defended as a chief public defender, or presided over as a trial, investigating grand jury, or appellate court judge
- The wrongful murder conviction of a man who served 30 years in prison
- A will contest involving the exhumation of the body
- Weinstein sex abuse and the Me Too movement
- The death penalty
- A suicide case in which parents sued a college for alleged acts of commission/omission
- The Vietnam War (forgotten war/forgotten veterans?)
- An early LGBTQ+ case I presided over



Finally, we will review recommendations made by a grand jury to the legislature for improvements in the legislative process.

Relevant articles and case decisions will be provided by the course leader. Guest speakers will participate either live or via available media.

Students are also expected to have access to a computer and email.

BARRY FEUDALE earned his bachelor's in education from Bloomsburg University and a juris doctor degree from the University of Bridgeport School of Law (reorganized as the Quinnipiac University School of Law). Feudale has served as the Child Welfare solicitor and public defender in Northumberland County and was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in that county in 1987, as Visiting Judge in courts throughout the commonwealth, and has presided as judge for grand juries investigating organized crime and public corruption in the state of Pennsylvania.

He is assisted in teaching by **Tinamarie Bumbulsky**.

TUESDAY 1–3 p.m.
March 17–April 7

COURSE #689

LOVING YOUR AGE: A HEALTHY PERSPECTIVE

COURSE LEADER: **BARBARA YORKS**

3/17, 3/24, 3/31 and 4/7; four sessions

BILL #2 | 5–20 participants

This course will be based on the book *Love Your Age* by Barbara Hannah Grufferman. The focus will be on enhancing one's health through attention to diet, exercise, rest and community. Through lecture and discussion, we will explore the chapters of the book to glean practical ways to improve our patterns of behavior and develop healthy perspectives and lifestyles.

REQUIRED TEXT: Grufferman, Barbara Hannah. *Love Your Age* (National Geographic, 2018).



BARBARA YORKS earned her bachelor of arts in English from Bucknell in 1976. She also has a master's in divinity and has served as a United Methodist pastor in various settings and interim pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg. Barb leads retreats, presents first-person narratives of influential women and has taught many classes on women and literature for BILL since her first course in 2012.



“I enjoy taking BILL courses that stretch my understanding and appreciation for aspects of life that my professional life didn’t often address, but about which I still find of interest. My appreciation of BILL expands with each class I’ve taken. Thank you for keeping up such high standards and providing such fascinating and diverse foci for learning!”

TUESDAY 1:30–3 p.m.
March 17–April 21

COURSE #690

MOONSTRUCK AGAIN: OUR FASCINATION WITH AND CONNECTION TO EARTH'S NEAREST CELESTIAL NEIGHBOR

COURSE LEADERS: **KATHARYN AND GARY NOTTIS**

3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14 and 4/21

Spring Run Conference Room | 8–16 participants



“The Moon makes Earth unique, certainly in our solar system and possibly in the broader cosmos. It made us who we are, in ways that scientists are just beginning to understand...” (Boyle, 2024, p. XVIII).

People have long been fascinated by and felt connected to the moon. They have stared hypnotically as tidal forces moved water, carefully planning military maneuvers. They have used the moon to guide the planting of their crops, attributed supernatural changes in humans to its effect, and even explained mental health changes with its variations. This golden orb that dominates the nighttime sky has inspired stories, music, films, art, and even food. How was our nearest celestial neighbor formed? How has it impacted life on Earth? How does it continue to inspire us? What secrets does it hold?

Drawing its inspiration from Rebecca Boyle’s book, *Our Moon* (2024), this updated, six-week course will examine all things lunar, from the astronomical and geological to the mythological, literary, and artistic. As a co-taught course, instructors will take the lead on alternate weeks, using lecture, discussion, PowerPoints and instructor-provided materials. Each class will examine a lunar topic ranging from the creation of the moon and its geology to its impact on the evolution of life to the art, music and literature that has been inspired by it.

Students are also expected to have access to a computer and email.

KATHARYN E. K. NOTTIS is professor emerita in education at Bucknell University where she developed and taught a course on the teaching of science to teacher education majors, as well as courses on research, educational psychology, development, and gender. She has been a quantitative researcher in STEM areas, primarily geology, chemical engineering and astronomy. She received her doctorate in educational psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Prior to coming to Bucknell she was education specialist at the National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research.

GARY NOTTIS earned his bachelor’s in geology, with honors, from Bucknell University. During his time at Bucknell, he worked for several semesters as a teaching assistant in the Department of Geology, as well as the education department. He has taught several geology-related courses for the BILL program. Professionally, Gary was employed by the New York State Geological Survey (NYSGS) for 16 years to study earthquakes. He is a recognized authority on the historical earthquakes of eastern North America and has served as an adjunct instructor with FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Md. in regard to earthquake education. Gary’s other scientific interests include geomorphology, geohazards, and astronomy.

TUESDAY 4:30 p.m.
March 17–April 7

COURSE #691

CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA, BUTTER CHICKEN AND TANDOORI CHICKEN (INDIAN FOOD INTERNATIONAL)

COURSE LEADERS: **MARY ZIMMERMAN & RACHANA SACHDEV**

3/17, 3/24, 3/31 and 4/7; four sessions

BILL #1 and restaurant locations | 6–12 participants

\$60 tuition + \$15 added fee

Class will include a brief history of the British in India, discussion of the spread and alteration of Indian cuisine in Britain and the United States, discussion of Moghul influence in India, and a survey of a few of the Indian regional cuisines. Students will be expected to travel to local restaurants where they will purchase meals and to have dinner in a private home where Rachana Sachdev will cook an assortment of Indian dishes from various regions of India. An added course fee of \$15.00 will help to cover her expenses for the special ingredients.

*These classes will begin at 4:30 p.m. for a lesson before the class enjoys a meal together. Students will need to provide transportation to several restaurants, the furthest being in Bloomsburg.



MARY ZIMMERMAN is a retired history professor who taught courses in the history of Western Civilization and Women's Studies.

RACHANA SACHDEV is a professor at Susquehanna University where she has taught courses in Shakespeare and Asian Studies including the cuisines of India.

WHY I BILL

BILL affords a "Great opportunity to expand my knowledge on interesting topics and share time with very knowledgeable instructors and class participants!"



WEDNESDAY 10 a.m.–noon

April 1–April 22

COURSE #692

WELLNESS NATURALLY 3.0: LET'S GET BACK INTO THE WOODS

COURSE LEADERS: **SUZANN SCHIEMER AND RONALD HAAS**

4/1, 4/8, 4/15 and 4/22; four sessions

LATER START!

Montour Preserve | 4–12 participants

Wellness Naturally 3.0: Let's Get Back into the Woods is a class exploring four NEW themes of nature-based wellness connection supported by research and practical experience. Each class will consist of an indoor classroom segment (presentation and discussion) and outdoor experiential learning activities.

NEW class themes will include: Awe in the Woods, Gratitude in the Woods, Reciprocity in the Woods, and one mystery theme to be determined at a later time. Also, NEW will be the location of this course. We will be meeting at the Montour Preserve Visitors' Center/Environmental Education Center in Danville.

Students will need weather-appropriate clothing and accessories (sunglasses, sunscreen, etc.) for outdoor experiential learning activities. This is not a physically demanding course. Class activities are low-impact and slow-paced, and they cover short distances.

THERE IS A COURSE PREREQUISITE FOR WELLNESS NATURALLY 3.0

This course is the third-level installment of the BILL course Wellness Naturally: More Than a Walk in the Woods (which is a prerequisite for enrolling in this class)*. Wellness Naturally: More Than a Walk in the Woods has been taught previously under the course numbers 500, 534, 538, 571, and 612. Students who register for this third-level BILL course should have already completed one of the five sections listed above.

* Students are not required to have taken Wellness Naturally 2.0 before registering for this course.

Students are expected to have an email account.

There are no required texts for this course, but the instructors suggest that participants select ONE of the following resources to read and prepare for class:

- Anderson, Jarod K. *Something in the Woods Loves You*
- Douglas, Faith. *The Nature Remedy: A Restorative Guide to the Natural World*
- Keltner, Dacher. *AWE: The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How It Can Transform Your Life*
- Kimmerer, Robin Wall. *The Serviceberry: An Economy of Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*
- Nhat Hanh, Thich. *Peace Is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life*

SUZANN SCHIEMER is a certified Forest Therapy Guide with the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy Guides and Programs (ANFT) and a Pennsylvania Master Naturalist. She has provided forest bathing walks as well as nature and wellness presentations/walks for a variety of state and county parks, nonprofit organizations, universities and private landowners. She has also contributed to a number of books and professional development courses on the subject. Prior to becoming a certified guide, Suzann taught health and physical education in the Bloomsburg Area School District for 36 years, and she was also a consultant for the Pennsylvania Department of Education as well as a national instructor for the American Master Teacher Program, Physical Best Fitness Education Program and Fitnessgram Assessment Program.

RON HAAS retired in 2012 after working 35 years with the Pennsylvania Game Commission. During that time, he enjoyed and benefited from daily interactions with the natural world. Since retirement, Ron has shared his professional knowledge and skills in numerous nature-based wellness walks. He has attended the International Forest Bathing Conference and SHIFT Festival - Nature as Medicine and other professional development opportunities as he continues to expand his knowledge of nature-based wellness.

WEDNESDAY 10 a.m.–noon
March 11–April 8

COURSE #693

THINK LIKE A JOURNALISTCOURSE LEADER: **MARY BERNATH**3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1, and 4/8; five sessions **EARLIER START!****BILL #1** | 4–12 participants

Do you love reading the paper? Have you ever dreamed of being a reporter like Clark Kent or Nellie Bly? To write like a journalist requires a special skill set. It also requires persistence and a lively curiosity.

In this hands-on course, we'll focus on the how and why of journalism and give it a try in our writing. You'll write a news story, a feature story, an opinion piece, and an arts review. You'll learn what makes a good headline and how editors choose photos for publication. By writing a few articles and learning some tools of the trade, you'll become a more astute reader of today's news, whether in print or online. We'll discuss the ethical and practical issues of covering the news today and gain a deeper understanding of what is meant by freedom of the press. Today's journalists must be vigilant to preserve quality despite the demand for instantaneous coverage 24/7, the distractions of fake news, and the censorship they might face in their work.

Reading selections will come from current national and local papers, online news sources, and some historic pieces from journalism's rich past.

Class members must purchase a subscription to the New York Times online edition for the six weeks of the course. Introductory offers for new subscribers are advertised for \$1 a week for up to six months, with cancellation at any time (www.newyorktimes.com). Other specials may be available. Help with setting up this subscription and how to cancel can be provided.

Students are also expected to have access to a computer and email. Some writing will be required in this course.

MARY BERNATH has loved newspapers ever since her days as editor-in-chief of her high school paper. She went on to study English in college and grad school and spent 40 years teaching writing and literature as a professor at Bloomsburg University, retiring in 2020. For the last 20 of those years, she was adviser to the student newspaper, *The Voice*. Since 2016, she has written news features regularly for *The Danville News* and *The Daily Item*.

WEDNESDAY 10:30am–noon
March 18–April 22

COURSE #694

LONGEVITY AND SOCIAL CONNECTIONSCOURSE LEADER: **GENIE GERDES**

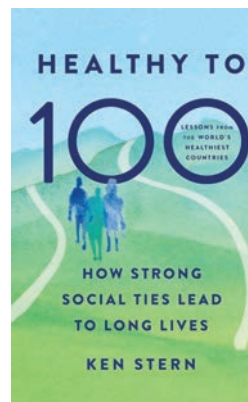
3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15 and 4/22

BILL #2; this in-person class welcomes some students to attend  **ONLINE, VIA ZOOM** | 8–15 participants

The average 65-year-old man in the U.S. will live to be 84, and the average 65-year-old woman will live to be 87— half of us will live past those ages; and the number living to 100 is increasing. What do our friendships and other social connections have to do with our longevity prospects? We'll find out in this course based on Ken Stern's new book, *Healthy to 100: How Strong Social Ties Lead to Long Lives*.

Based on research evidence and his own examinations of five countries with superior longevity (Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Spain), Stern argues that social relationships are more important to longevity than diet, exercise, or healthcare. We'll debate his contentions concerning the power of social connections and his analysis of some factors strengthening them: lifelong learning, working past retirement age, living arrangements, volunteering, confronting ageism, and, overall, tending to social health. In addition, we'll look at the recommendations for making and keeping friends in the Stanford Longevity Project's online newsletter, "Healthy to 100: The Science of Social Connection."

The content of this course will be distinct from the content of the earlier BILL courses on aging, Not-So-Bad Things About Aging and Understanding Aging Through Fiction. It will be appropriate both for those who took the earlier aging courses and for those who want to begin to explore the social science of healthy aging. We all have relevant experience, which will inform our discussions.



This course will be taught in person but will also welcome class members who prefer to attend via ZOOM.

Students are expected to have access to a computer and email.

REQUIRED TEXT: Stern, Ken. *Healthy to 100: How Strong Social Ties Lead to Long Lives* (2025). ISBN-10: 1541705017. ISBN-13: 978-1541705012.

WEDNESDAY 1–2:30 p.m.

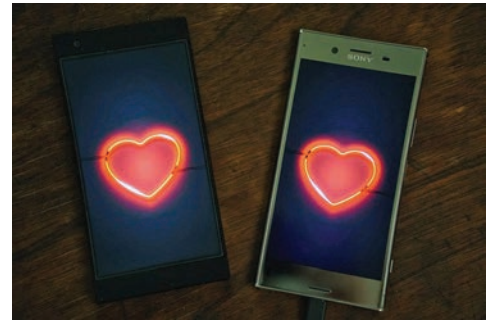
March 11–April 15

COURSE #695**FROM CALLING TO DATING TO HOOKING UP:
HOW DID WE GET HERE?**COURSE LEADER: **DEBBY ABOWITZ**

3/11, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8 and 4/15 (no class on 3/18); five sessions

EARLIER START!**Spring Run Conference Room** | 8–24 participants

GENIE GERDES is professor emerita of psychology and dean emerita of Bucknell's College of Arts & Sciences. She taught courses on social psychology and psychology of women as well as courses on higher education. Her research focused on discrimination against women and differences in men's and women's work roles and stress. She is chair of the BILL steering committee.



This course examines American courtship from the opening decades of the 20th century to today. We will talk about when, how, and why dating replaced the 19th century custom of “calling”, and examine how and why dating rules changed over the next half-century before discussing the shift from dating to “hanging out” and “hooking up.” Hookup culture today shapes many younger Americans’ sexual and relationship expectations, so we also will consider how it is impacting their ideas about relationships and marriage. Does it promote greater personal well-being and satisfaction, or does it undermine emotional intimacy and healthy relationships? In addition to comparing calling, dating, and hookup norms and social scripts, we will talk about the social, economic, and political trends that contributed to changing courtship conventions over time and how each change shifted relationship power between men and women and between parents and youth.

There are no required texts for this course; weekly reading assignments will be emailed to students. Students must be able to access email and download attachments. For those interested in digging deeper into courtship history and hookup culture, the instructor will provide a list of book recommendations.

DEBORAH ABOWITZ regularly taught courses about and published research on American courtship and marriage, women and the family, and millennial youth. She completed her undergraduate work at McGill University and her master's and doctorate at Brown University.

**A new program
guide will be out
for the 2026
Summer/Fall term
in July.**

**Most classes will
begin the week
of Sept. 21;
registration will
open on Monday,
Aug. 10, 2026**

WEDNESDAY 1:30–3:45 p.m.
April 1–May 6

COURSE #696**COMING APART IN THE 1960s**COURSE LEADER: **JOHN MCWILLIAMS**

4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29 and 5/6

LATER START!**East Buffalo Township Municipal Building | 15–25 participants**

No decade in American history was more culturally rebellious and revolutionary than the 1960s, an era of extraordinary that “iconic” was the norm. Seemingly overnight, the national post-World War II mood of confidence and optimism gave way to a loss of faith in institutions and a rejection of traditional behavior. In a milieu of Cold War tensions, broad and social unrest at home, Americans turned on their leaders and each other. Free speech or Free love? Sit in or drop out. March to Selma or march on Washington. Because the '60s were a kaleidoscope of such events and sometimes outrageous events, we are still assessing their impact more than half a century later. The emphasis of this course is primarily on how these events affected the lives of ordinary Americans.

For different perspectives on the 1960s, we will consider selected primary sources (documents, photographs, oral history, and music) to create a “you were there” feel when life was moving at warp speed. Several assignments also will be assigned throughout the course. The 1960s boomers welcomed!

TOPICS INCLUDE

- I.** Post-War Prosperity and Conformity
- II.** Vietnam: The War That Came Home
- III.** The Great Migration and Life in the '60s
- IV.** Eyes on the Money: The New Black Movement
- V.** Cultural Revolutionaries
- VI.** The Sixties: The Message

REQUIRED READING: Robert K. Morrison, Joan and Robert K. Morrison. *From Camelot to Kent State: The Sixties Experience in the Words Who Lived It*, any edition.



JOHN C. MCWILLIAMS is associate professor emeritus at Penn State University, where he taught American history and sociology courses and was the recipient of the university-wide George W. Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching. He also taught Criminology and Law & Society as a visiting professor at Bucknell University. He has published articles and books on federal drug control, the intelligence community in the Cold War, Black firefighters in Philadelphia, the history of corrections in Pennsylvania and a social history of the 1960s.

WEDNESDAY 2–3:30 p.m.
March 18–April 29

COURSE #697**THE ANTHROPOCENE:
HOW HUMANS ARE
CHANGING PLANET EARTH**COURSE LEADER: **DAVID FLETCHER**3/18, 3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 and 4/29
seven sessions**Asbury RiverWoods | 6–16 participants**

The Anthropocene, or Human Epoch, dates from the time when humans began to have a significant impact on Earth's ecosystems. The question is, how great is that impact? Is it approaching such dire proportions that life as we know it is at grave risk, or is what we hear on the subject merely environmentalist hype?

Although I personally take the threat very seriously, I do not believe in simply preaching the “Gospel of the Anthropocene,” as it were. Hence, in this course, we shall concentrate on evidence and how to evaluate it.

Of the various ways in which Homo sapiens is disrupting ecosystems, climate change is probably the most widely discussed; less so its non-fraternal twin, ocean acidification. But there are other major issues as well, such as population increase, deforestation, industrial pollution, and the effects on ecosystems of invasive species. We shall consider these and more. We shall also pay close attention to how naysayers undermine the science involved in probing the diverse problems, as well as to what hope there may be for solving those problems.

In order to promote lively discussions, prepared reading materials will be distributed to participants at least two weeks in advance of each class meeting.

Students are expected to have access to email.

WEDNESDAY 2–3:30 p.m.

March 25–April 29

COURSE #698**CRASH COURSE IN WELL-BEING**COURSE LEADER: **CHERYL NEWBURG**

3/25, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22 and 4/29

LATER START!**BILL #1** | 5–15 participants

What does it take to experience a sense of well-being? Psychologists, therapists, researchers, writers, and anyone else who likes to think about “why people are the way they are,” have tried to answer this question for years. So, let’s get into it!



In this course, we will explore the five basic elements of well-being, as described by Dr. Martin Seligman, a pioneer in the field of positive psychology. We will look at these elements from the perspective of research evidence, but also in terms of our own experiences. We will explore the role of:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1) positive emotion, | 4) meaning, and |
| 2) engagement, | 5) achievement. |
| 3) relationships, | |

Each class will include both lecture material and discussion. Lectures will present findings from the research literature about each of the aforementioned elements of well-being. Students will be encouraged to think about their views on these findings and to discuss how these findings may or may not relate to their own life experiences.

CHERYL NEWBURG is a professor emerita from Lock Haven University, where she was a faculty member in the psychology department for 32 years. Her field is clinical psychology, and she has taught many courses in the areas of psychopathology and psychotherapy. She worked as a practicing psychologist, in addition to her faculty position, maintaining a private practice in Lock Haven for 30 years.

DAVID FLETCHER is professor emeritus of biology, Bucknell University. He also ran a research lab at the University of Georgia for six years and was recognized with a research award. Prior to that he taught at the University of Natal in South Africa, before becoming head of the Honey-bee Research Laboratory in Pretoria. He was recognized at Bucknell with a teaching award. He lives in Lewisburg.

WHY I BILL

“I think having one’s mind stimulated at any age is important to mental health and successful aging. BILL adds a good dimension to seniors’ lives.”

THURSDAY 10–11:30 A.M.
March 19–April 23

COURSE #699**SUFFERING AND SOLIDARITY IN ALBERT CAMUS'S *THE PLAGUE***COURSE LEADER: **ELAINE HOPKINS**

3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 and 4/23

BILL #2 | 5–15 participants

One April in the 1940s, in the seaside Algerian town of Oran, rats begin to die, first a few and then many more. People begin to die, as well, and while the town officials argue over whether the situation warrants being called an epidemic, at last there is no denying that the plague has arrived and is spreading rapidly. A quarantine is declared and no one is allowed to enter or leave. In this way Albert Camus set the scene for a deep exploration of how individuals react and interact under extreme physical, psychological, and moral pressure. The characters in the novel display the entire range of human reactions to the situation: some are paralyzed by fear, some seek to profit from the situation, and others dedicate themselves to helping as many people as they can.

The novel, published in 1947, was read both as an allegory of the Nazi occupation of France during World War II and as a testament to the potential for courage and humanity in the face of evil and death, which are inevitable aspects of life. During the recent pandemic, the novel became a best-seller again, as people looked for ways to understand what was happening and how to get through the solitude and the fear of illness. It is ultimately a hopeful book, and the central message is best expressed in these words spoken by one of the characters: "On this earth there are pestilences and there are victims, and it's up to us, so far as possible, not to join forces with the pestilences."

Albert Camus (1913-1960) was a French-Algerian Nobel Prize-winning novelist, essayist, dramatist, journalist, philosopher, and political activist. The course will begin with a brief overview of his life and his philosophical framework, after which class periods will be devoted to close reading and discussion of the text.

Students are expected to have access to a computer and email.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Camus, Albert. *The Plague* (Laura Marris, trans.). Vintage International (2022).

**NOTE:**

It will be helpful if we all have the same edition, since we will spend a lot of time in class rereading and commenting on the text. Please purchase the Laura Marris translation, ISBN 978-0-593-08209-6.

ELAINE HOPKINS taught French language and literature at Bucknell for 19 years, served 13 years as associate dean of Arts & Sciences, and then went back to teaching for three years before retiring. She taught a number of courses on 17th-, 18th- and 20th-century literature, as well as on the literature and culture of Quebec and on higher education.

THURSDAY 10:30 A.M.–noon

March 12–April 23

COURSE #700

GET THAT GUITAR* FROM UNDER THE BED... AND LEARN BY EAR (*OR FIDDLE/VIOLIN, MANDOLIN, BASS, UKE)

COURSE LEADER: **CARL KIRBY**

3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 and 4/23;

seven sessions **EARLIER START!**

Spring Run Conference Room | 3–15 participants



This course is for beginners who have played some but maybe not much recently. You need to be able to 1) sing “do re mi fa sol la ti do” and 2) play a scale or some chords on a stringed instrument (guitar, bass, violin family/fiddle, mandolin, ukulele) that you can bring to class. Bring a smart phone for several uses.

YOU CAN EXPECT TO:

- learn three to five songs or tunes by ear.
- sing, hum, and play in front of your classmates.
- learn a little music theory.
- discuss the challenges and advantages of learning by ear.
- discuss books on how people get really good at something (like music), and see why continuing to learn to play is not just for the young!
- help each other in small groups.
- explore what kinds of practice will be most effective for you.

Participants are expected to have an email account.

The **FIRST** session of this course on Thursday, March 12 will be held as a meeting with the individual student at the Spring Run Conference Room, 115 Farley Circle, Lewisburg. The instructor, Carl Kirby, will be in contact with each participant to schedule this initial meeting. After that, the class will meet in six sessions, Thursday, March 19–April 23.

REQUIRED TEXTS/MATERIALS:

- Turknett, Josh. *The Immutable Laws of Brainjo* (2020).
If you can't find the paperback, try <https://clawhammerbanjo.net/the-immutable-laws-of-brainjo-the-art-and-science-of-effective-practice/> for a free copy.
- A stringed instrument.
- A smart phone if possible.

Also recommended, but not required, as an additional resource for students is *Peak: Secrets from the New Science of Expertise*, by Anders Ericsson and Robert Pool (2017).

CARL KIRBY taught geology and geochemistry at Bucknell for 29 years. He also had another life. Starting in school as a trombonist, he moved into several genres of acoustic music on guitar, acoustic bass, fiddle and mandolin. He has been in about a dozen bands and many jam sessions featuring folkly stuff, old country, Appalachian old-time, bluegrass, swing, Celtic, and jazz. Carl loves to share ideas and practices with other musicians.

THURSDAY 1–2:30 p.m.
March 19–April 30

COURSE #701

HEALTHY SOIL, HEALTHY PLANTS, HEALTHY PEOPLE

COURSE LEADER: **SID FURST**

3/19, 3/26, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23 and 4/30 (no class on 4/2)

Donald L. Heiter Community Center | 6–12 participants

The course over a six-week period will focus on the elements of the three parts of the course title. Participants will be introduced to the best practices and research of healthy soil, healthy plants, and healthy people and will leave the course with knowledge to use in their own gardening. We will dispel the idea of “I don’t have a green thumb.”

The soil health section will deal with how to create and manage healthy soil, soil chemistry and soil biodiversity. The section on healthy plants will include planting practices, plant health management and crop sustainable practices. Lastly, the course will introduce current thinking on the nutritional value of plants and plants as medicine.

The course will involve lectures, discussion, and internet videos. Students will be given reading assignments distributed to the



class; additional recommended reading will be offered. There will be field trips in April to the Bucknell Community Garden and the Bucknell Farm. Individuals will be responsible for arranging their transportation, although car pooling may be offered.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Iannotti, Marie. *Grow Great Vegetables-Pennsylvania* (Timber Press)



SID FURST is the manager of the Salvation Army-Williamsport, Pa. Community Garden and Urban Farm, which he developed after completing the Pennsylvania State University’s Master Gardener program. The volunteer run Garden/Farm has been operating since 2014 and covers 40,000 sq ft. in Williamsport on ground in the 700-800 block area of Park Avenue. Sid is a member of the Arbor Day Foundation and the Pa. Native Plant Society.

WHY I BILL

**“What I like
is in the name,
‘life long learning’.”**



THURSDAY 1–3 P.M.
March 19–April 23

COURSE #702

THE FUTURE IS NOW: GEOHAZARDS IN AN AGE OF GLOBAL WARMING

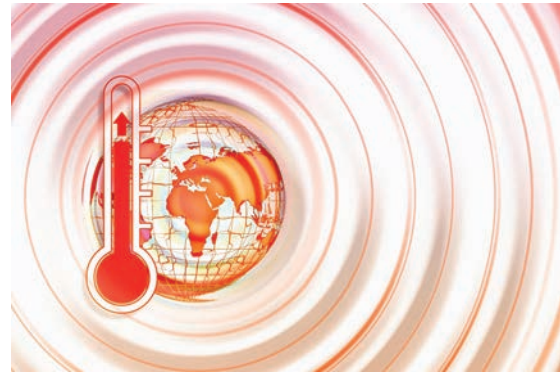
COURSE LEADER: **GARY NOTTIS**

3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 and 4/23

Spring Run Conference Room | 5–15 participants

Since the 1850s, and more strongly beginning in the 1970s, researchers have been warning about the detrimental impacts of human-exacerbated global warming. Predictions of warmer air and ocean temperatures, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and more intense and frequent storms, as well as increasing varieties of illnesses, mass extinctions and shifting human populations are now being realized. But one aspect of human-influenced climate change was not recognized until the late 1990s. It's the unexpected and surprising impact of global warming on geohazards.

Geohazards are natural geological and environmental processes capable of causing widespread damage or risk, especially when people encounter them. The consequences of geohazards influenced by climate change were only identified and forecasted in the last 25 years. Yet, those predictions are already coming to fruition. Did you know that volcanic and earthquake activity, along with landsliding and methane releases, are increasing due to global warming? The future is now!



In this six-week course, participants will be exposed to current thinking and predictions about human-aggravated global warming. Focus will then be given to five classes of geohazards: tectonic, hydrologic, erosional, gaseous, and mass-wasting. The ways in which the number and severity of these geohazards are being altered by global warming will also be considered.

Each class will address a specific topic through lecture, PowerPoint presentations, hands-on activities, demonstrations, and discussions.

Students are expected to have access to a computer and email.

GARY NOTTIS's bio is on page 13 with course 690.



"I feel blessed to be in this area so that BILL is offered to me. To think that these lovely people volunteer their time is simply amazing. Thanks very much."

THURSDAY 1:30–3 p.m.
March 19–April 23

COURSE #703

**AMERICAN COMPOSERS
OF OPERA**

COURSE LEADER: **GARY BOERCKEL**

3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 and 4/23

Asbury RiverWoods | 8–30 participants

The United States has a richer history of opera composition than the Met subscribers might imagine. We will listen to musical excerpts and discuss works by pioneers such as William Henry Fry and Scott Joplin; 20th century masters, including Howard Hanson, Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomson, Samuel Barber, Gian Carlo Menotti, and Carlisle Floyd; Broadway giants George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Kurt Weill, Leonard Bernstein, and Stephen Sondheim; and contemporary composers Philip Glass, John Adams, John Harbison and Jake Heggie...a list that, while extensive, is not exhaustive. You will hear music you have never heard and, perhaps, hear some familiar music in a new way.

There are no required texts for this course.

GARY BOERCKEL grew up in Philadelphia, where he attended concerts and opera at the Academy of Music. He has bachelor's degrees in music (piano performance) and European history from Oberlin College, and postgraduate degrees in piano performance from Ohio University and the University of Iowa. Gary taught courses in music and music history—including opera—for 33 years at Lycoming College until his retirement in 2012. He has also directed operas, operettas, and musicals at Lycoming and for the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra.

THURSDAY 3:30–5 p.m.
April 9–May 7

COURSE #704

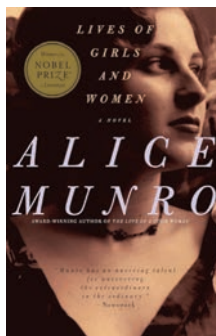
**FEMALE DESIRE, RELIGION AND
SPIRITUALITY IN ALICE MUNRO'S
NOVEL *LIVES OF GIRLS AND WOMEN***

COURSE LEADER: **DAVID SMIT**

4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 and 5/7; five sessions **LATER START!**

Public Library for Union County | 5–20 participants

Alice Munro, the Canadian writer, won the 2013 Nobel Prize in Literature, primarily because she revolutionized the form of the short story. However, she did write one novel, *Lives of Girls and Women*, which is also a masterpiece. The novel is written as if it were a fictional autobiography, a mature woman looking back on her life and focusing primarily on two subjects: the development of her sexuality and her rejection of religion. We will read and discuss the novel primarily by sharing how we understand the novel's narrator and whether we emotionally identify with her, based on a theory of reading called "perspective taking." In an Epilogue the narrator seemingly finds a new purpose in life, so we will also consider whether this new purpose has, if not a religious, then a spiritual component. At various points in our reading, we will also consider what the narrator's confessions about her life might tell us about her as a mature woman.



Thus, the class will be devoted primarily to discussion, except for two short lectures to give us a vocabulary to talk about the novel: one on "perspective taking" and one on how psychologists of religion and spirituality distinguish between the two.

REQUIRED TEXT: Munro, Alice. *Lives of Girls and Women*. Vintage/Random House paperback.

DAVID SMIT is a professor emeritus of English at Kansas State University, where he was director of the Expository Writing Program and taught courses in expository writing, Henry James, modern drama and Post-War American literature, publishing many articles and four books on these subjects. In retirement, he has written two books about Alice Munro that are being considered for publication.

COMING LATER THIS TERM* 1–4 p.m. Days and dates to be announced

COURSE #705

CONFLICT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION: AN INSIDE/OUT COURSE

COURSE LEADERS: **CARL MILOFSKY AND SANDY ELION**

eight sessions **LATER START!** State Correctional Institution Coal Township | 3–7 participants

Conflict is ubiquitous. Although people tend to think of it as dangerous and undesirable, conflict is a natural part of social life. It plays an important role in pulling communities together. It is an inevitable part of bargaining and negotiation, so the strategy of conflict is important to consider. It also is a source of heartache and disruption. As a consequence, important methods like mediation and restorative justice have been developed to resolve conflict and to channel it in a positive direction.

This is an Inside/Out course held at the State Correctional Institution at Coal Township. Meetings will be with inside members who are prisoners and outside members from BILL. Several of these Inside/Out courses have been held with BILL, and the topic of “conflict” was suggested by the “insider” partners from the prison.

Discussion in these classes has proven most rich when everyone has completed some challenging, engaging readings before we meet, forming a scaffold for class sessions. This is an eight-week course. In the first week we will discuss how conflict the men in our class experience in prison is different from the stereotypical views of conflict in prison. With the stereotype, one imagines intimidation and abuse, while for our men the conflict is more like what one experiences in an office. In the second week we will discuss sociological writings about the “functions” of social conflicts. In the third week our focus will be on economic thinking about game theory, strategy and the market as a structure based on competition and conflict. In the fourth week, social psychological theories of conflict will be our focus. This discussion will be related to small group processes where conflict develops and is managed, as well as to institutional situations where we must manage feelings of anger and frustration with people in the group and our need to work constructively with others despite those feelings.

The conflict resolution part of the course will begin in the fifth week with a discussion of mediation, the value of outside interventions and consideration of risks and methods for running mediation processes. The sixth week will deal with restorative justice, particularly with ways minority and oppressed voices can be brought into the process. The seventh week will deal with methods and techniques for how conflict can be managed and limited within a community. Considering the population of incarcerated men in a prison, how can people who are members of the community take the lead in limiting and resolving conflicts? The eighth week will be a graduation celebration for members of the class.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Participants must plan to commit the whole afternoon to this class since travel time to and from the prison is required (45 minutes each way from Lewisburg). The class runs from 1:30-3:30 p.m. but we must arrive at 1:00 p.m. to allow for processing to enter. It also takes us about 20 minutes to get from the classroom in the prison school building to exit the front gate.

Students will have to complete paperwork about four weeks before the class starts so they can be screened and given official clearance to enter the prison.

Students will also need to have an email account and to have a cell phone or other means for making contact on class days. Some writing will be required.

**The dates for this afternoon class could not be confirmed in time for this catalog’s publication. Our online registration pages will include the actual schedule for this class to meet before registration opens on Feb. 9, 2026. You are welcome to check with the office for updates after Jan. 6, as well.*

CARL MILOFSKY is professor emeritus of sociology at Bucknell. His research has focused on human service organizations, the sociology of medicine and the sociology of communities. He taught Inside/Out classes with Bucknell students for five years and works as a volunteer with two inmate groups. He is co-author, editor, or co-editor of a number of journal articles and academic handbooks and authored *Smallville: Institutionalizing Community in Twenty-first Century America*, a book about community nonprofit organizations in Central Pennsylvania.

SANDY ELION has a master’s degree in education from the University of Iowa and received her bachelor’s in child development from Connecticut College. She taught at the private West Branch School in Williamsport for 34 of her 37 teaching years, where she helped to lead the school as a curriculum designer and developer, filled the role of co-school director, and served as a board member. She was also very active in their theatre arts program. For 24 years she was an assistant varsity swim coach at Bucknell University. Wife of Carl Milofsky, Sandy was drawn into the SCI Coal Township Inside/Out discussion group and has served as co-leader of the group, composed of inside and outside people, since Spring of 2022. She has co-taught the BILL Inside/Out class since the Fall of 2023.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

BILL SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC; no membership is required. These programs can provide an introduction to BILL, so please, join us. Special Presentations explore a range of topics with distinguished presenters.

This term, all four Special Presentations have been scheduled at the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village Common, 6 Tressler Blvd., Lewisburg.

Space is limited, so you must register at least five days in advance of each Special Presentation to attend. An invitation with instructions for registering will be emailed to BILL members and contacts before each program. You may also contact the office or use our online registration website. BILL may take photos and video recordings at events, which may be used in promotional material following the event and/or shared with other audiences.

Members are encouraged to invite their friends and neighbors.



PLEASE NOTE:



Tea & Talk presentations begin at 3:30 p.m. Registered attendees may arrive as early as 3 p.m. to enjoy light refreshments and social time before the program begins.



Lunch & Learn presentations begin at noon. When registering to attend, you will be asked if you would like to arrive at 11:30 a.m. to eat lunch. The Village offers prepared meals for \$14 if they are pre-ordered. Lunch orders may not be changed/ refunded less than five days before the event. Registered attendees may also bring their own food to eat in the Village Common; a setting will be laid out for you if you indicate your intention when you register.

THE ED COTTER MEMORIAL LECTURE

In 2023, BILL introduced the Cotter Memorial Lecture to be offered annually among our Special Presentations in honor of Edward “Ed” Cotter. Professor emeritus of geology at Bucknell, Ed was instrumental in forming BILL in 2009 and served as BILL's director for its first six years.

This year’s Cotter Memorial Lecture comes from Michael James, professor of political science at Bucknell University. Professor James’s lecture covers an important current topic, something Ed Cotter would have been interested in.



THURSDAY
JAN 29
NOON

Immigration: Politics, Public Opinion, Policy, and Policy Enforcement

BY MICHAEL JAMES, BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY



No other issue is as much of a hot button in the United States today as immigration. Immigration was perhaps the decisive issue in the 2024 election, and Donald Trump’s subsequent actions to change or enforce immigration policy has raised many of the biggest concerns related to the administration. This lecture will endeavor to improve our understanding of immigration in the U.S. today by outlining its role in the 2024 election; articulating its position in public opinion in the U.S. and elsewhere; examining U.S. immigration policy in historical and comparative perspective; and outlining how enforcing immigration policy has emerged as the most controversial and concerning issue in the second Trump administration.

MICHAEL JAMES has taught at Bucknell University since 1999. He is the author of *Deliberative Democracy and the Plural Polity*, and he has published several articles on the ethics of immigration in various political science and philosophy journals.

Tea & Talk

TUESDAY
FEB. 17
2 P.M.

Otherness of Immigration—rescheduled from last term

BY TULU BAYAR, BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY



This presentation explores immigrant identity and belonging through Mosaic Project, a collaborative art initiative involving recent immigrants who share personal photos, cultural artifacts, and stories through workshops. Using sustainable citrus image transfers, their contributions are transformed into a hand-bound artist book—an intimate archive of migration, memory, and resilience. As an immigrant artist, Bayar reflects on how the project challenges the notion of “otherness” by centering lived experiences and asking, What does home mean to you? Through tactile storytelling and collective authorship, Mosaic Project reframes immigrant narratives as integral to the American experience, inviting viewers to recognize themselves in the mosaic of shared humanity.

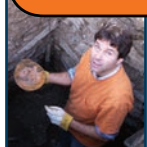
PROFESSOR TULU BAYAR teaches in Bucknell’s Department of Art and Art History. **“Her work is particularly relevant in today’s global climate, where issues of identity, immigration and cultural hybridity are at the forefront of societal discourse”** (<https://www.bucknell.edu/news/bucknells-bayar-explores-immigrant-otherness-new-istanbul-exhibit-0, 2024>).

Tea & Talk

THURSDAY
APR. 30
3:30 P.M.

The Outhouse: History Beneath Our Feet

BY ROBERT E. LEE III, HISTORIAN, ARTIST AND EDUCATOR



Robert E. Lee III has a rather unusual hobby: He excavates long-ago abandoned outhouse sites to recover the hidden history beneath. These sites contain a wealth of information about the past. Robert will share stories about some of the remarkable artifacts he has uncovered from his more than 400 digs over the past 20 years: a money purse with seven 1850s half-dollars, a single-shot pistol dating to mid-1800 and a child’s denture plate with x-ray of gold pins holding porcelain teeth in place, among other things.

ROBERT E. LEE’S love of the old pottery techniques, forms and their uses is what started his use of the pottery artifacts in historic programs. He has been the potter for the Warrior Run/Fort Freeland Heritage Society events for 30 years. He has mentored many who went on to teach the art and history of pottery techniques.

lunch & LEARN

TUESDAY
MAY 5
NOONBrassroots Democracy:
How Jazz Shaped Freedom in the Atlantic World

BY BEN BARSON, BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY



Drawing from the presenter’s book *Brassroots Democracy*, this talk explores how brass bands and Black musical communities in New Orleans forged new forms of democracy and resistance in the 19th century. Through music, ritual and collective joy, these communities created spaces of freedom that challenged slavery, segregation and empire. The presentation will trace how these traditions reverberated through time—from the Reconstruction era to the global struggles for liberation that jazz inspired.

Assistant Professor **BEN BARSON** in Bucknell’s Department of Music is a saxophonist, historian and also an affiliated faculty member in the University’s Latin American Studies program. His work explores the intersections of jazz, Black freedom movement and environmental thought across the Americas. His book *Brassroots Democracy: Maroon Ecologies and the Jazz Commons* (Wesleyan University Press, 2024) was recently recognized with the Robert M. Stevenson Award from the American Musicological Society.

Tea & Talk

TUESDAY
MAY 19
3:30 P.M.

A Light-Hearted Look at Automotive Manufacturing Disasters

BY DAVE ELTON, AUBURN UNIVERSITY



Cars are integral to American culture. Car metaphors fill our vernacular (“put the pedal to the metal”, “it’s a doozy”, “deadman’s curve”). They are part of all our lives. We follow the price of gas religiously, compare notes and gas mileage with strangers and engage in “driveway colloquiums” in the suburbs. We teach our kids to drive, we pay insurance, we use cars daily, we complain about traffic, we stand at stoplights, we get speeding tickets, and we all seek an honest mechanic. Dave Elton will talk about cars, particularly some automotive manufacturing disasters.

Professor Emeritus **DAVE ELTON** was a member of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering of Auburn University, with a doctorate in geotechnical engineering from Purdue University. He stopped working about 10 years ago (although his supervisor might say it was closer to 15). Elton has had a lifelong fascination with cars, including manufacture, history, racing, repair, technical specifications, music, culture and more. He is a member of the Society of Automotive Historians.

GENERAL POLICIES & GUIDELINES

COURSE REGISTRATION

Courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with the provision that online registrations are instantaneous once the member completes their transaction, whereas registrations through the BILL office (in person, by mail or by phone) will be processed in the order they are received, beginning at 11 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 9, 2026. For the best selection, register as soon as possible after registration opens, or mail the membership and course registration form (p. XX) as early as possible. Making sure your membership is active and up to date will expedite your online registration. Enrollment remains open until classes begin. Waiting lists are kept for filled courses and those on a list are contacted on a first-come, first-served basis if space becomes available.

Please be considerate of your BILL peers – BILL asks that members refrain from registering for more than two courses in the first two weeks after registration opens. After Feb. 20, you are welcome to sign up for additional courses with open seats remaining. Thank you.

REFUND POLICY

Course tuition fees will be returned if a request is made before the first class meeting. The membership fee is generally not refundable, but a refund or extension will be considered in cases where a member has not been able to enroll in any member programs.

EXPECTATIONS

Members are expected to treat each other with respect. Course leaders and others in charge of BILL events are expected to maintain an open and respectful learning environment. BILL reserves the right to revoke the membership of anyone whose behavior is disruptive or inappropriate.

Although course leaders as well as their students are BILL members, course leaders have additional authority as BILL volunteers while they are conducting a course. Given course leaders' additional authority relative to their own students, course leaders should recognize that students tend to defer to course leaders in their interactions. Such inequality can persist into casual interactions outside the classroom. Course leaders should maintain appropriate professional conduct, avoid language or behavior that could be perceived as flirtatious or overly familiar, and refrain from unwelcome contact.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS

Registering to become a member of this Institute gives us permission to use any photos and videos that include you in our print and electronic publications. If you do not want us to use your photograph, please notify the photographer at the event.

COMMUNICATION AND COMPUTER USE

If you supply an email address, we will use it to send news, calendars of events, newsletters and invitations. If you do not supply an email address, we will, as much as possible, use the postal service to send the same information. If you do not currently have an email account, we can assist you in setting up a free one. If you do not have computer access, the Union County Library System has computers that are free to use.

NOTE:

To ensure BILL emails do not go to your spam folder, make sure the following email address is recorded in your online address book/contacts: lifelonglearning@bucknell.edu. If you discover you aren't receiving general emails from BILL, contact the office to "opt in" to our email service.

TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASE POLICY FOR IN-PERSON EVENTS FOR SPRING 2026

Attendance at any public event involves certain unavoidable risks such as exposure to or infection by transmissible diseases, viruses and other illnesses (including, but not limited to, COVID-19 and its variants). Your presence at BILL events, including classes, indicates your assumption of any and all such risk as well as your agreement to adhere to those policies intended to mitigate the spread of transmissible illnesses.

Masking at in-person events will be optional; please respect the decision of those who choose to mask. In accord with the new FDA policy, BILL encourages those

over 65 and those under 65 with a high risk condition who did not receive the 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine in the past 6 months to receive the updated 2025–2026 vaccine.

As a member of our community or guest, it is your responsibility to practice basic health, safety and sanitation measures. BILL prohibits your attendance at in-person events if you are symptomatic of any commonly spread transmissible illness.

Transmissible disease precautions are subject to change as conditions change.

FEES AND PAYMENT

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Membership is required to register for courses and to enjoy “members only” privileges. Membership is purchased on an annual basis and includes two consecutive terms with BILL. The cost of the annual membership is \$65.

COURSE TUITION:

\$60 (plus fees to cover any listed materials/supplies) unless otherwise noted in the class description.

Financial aid scholarships are also available for membership and course tuition. Please contact the BILL office to inquire about a scholarship.

PROGRAM FEES:

Many BILL programs are free. When a fee is applicable, it will be listed in the program details of the registration pages and in the advertisements about the program. Some programs are free or offered at a discounted cost to members but may include a fee for non-members.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Payments may be made online with a credit card or by mail with a check, payable to Bucknell University. Tuition and fees for each course or program are due before its start.

HOW TO REGISTER:

Remember, courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. You can register...

ONLINE: starting at 11 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 9, 2026. Go to <https://reg138.imperisoft.com/Bucknell/Search/Registration.aspx> (or access it through www.bucknell.edu/lifelonglearning) and LOGIN with your BILL username and password. If you don't know your username and password, use the link to request an email to reset them, or contact the office for help. Do not create a New User profile unless you are truly brand new to BILL.

BY REGISTRATION FORM

Page 32—mailed/emailed to the BILL office. All requests will be entered in the order they are received, starting at 11 a.m. on Feb. 9, 2026. You are also welcome to come in person during office hours. Call 570-522-0105 to make sure someone is in the office.

SPECIAL NOTE: As a member you can sign up for a course to hold your spot. Payment is due before the first meeting. (If you mail in your registration form, please post-date your check and include a note of your intention to hold payment until that date.)

CANCELLATION POLICIES

Occasionally a BILL course or Special Presentation may have to be canceled.

IN CASE OF SEVERE WEATHER AND OTHER EMERGENCIES:

Classes and Special Presentations will be canceled when the Lewisburg Area School District closes due to inclement weather. BILL classes will be held as scheduled when the school district is running on a delayed opening schedule. Be alert to the potential for midday cancellations and check information sources accordingly.

Online: www.lasd.us and www.pahomepage.com/weather/closings/

On television: WNEP or WYOU; on radio: WKOK.

BY A COURSE LEADER:

Participants will be notified by email or telephone if a class session is canceled. Makeup dates and times will be arranged by the course leader in consultation with course members.

BY A SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS SPEAKER:

If a speaker is unable to meet his or her commitment, BILL may cancel the session if adequate notice can be given and we cannot schedule a substitute speaker.

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE:

BILL reserves the right to change class size and to cancel classes if there is insufficient enrollment. A specific class schedule or location assignment may be altered in response to unforeseen circumstances. The ability to offer classes in person may depend on public health considerations, including decisions of Bucknell University or governmental authorities. Registered participants will be contacted to notify them of changes to the scheduled program.

Travel With BILL

Trips and tours offer a different kind of engaged learning for BILL members and friends.



BILL INTERNATIONAL TRIPS

Go beyond the typical tourist experience to include meaningful contact with local people and their daily lives. BILL offers one or two of these international adventures annually, advertised about a year in advance of the departure dates. In January 2026, Thom Travis will take a group from BILL on Overseas Adventure Travel's Soul of India tour. Sept. 9-23, 2026, a group of 16 will visit Jewels of Bohemia, another OAT tour selected by Thom. Although our trip to India is full, OAT will accept reservations for BILL group #G6-27309 Jewels to Bohemia trip until filled. Call Overseas Adventure Travel Reservations (800-955-1925) to join our booking, or email lifelonglearning@bucknell.edu to inquire if openings remain.

These trip groups are limited in number to make the experience as rich as possible, and reservations quickly fill the capacity set by OAT. When we have the details, the current membership will be emailed to announce the next BILL international destination.



A NEW DOMESTIC TRIP WITH BILL

BILL has contracted with Premier World Discovery to offer a 7-day domestic tour. Departing on June 10, 2026, our travelers will fly out of Baltimore (BWI) to join other lifelong learners in Rapid City, South Dakota where we will discover the wonders of this western U.S. region. From jeep safaris among buffalo to chuck wagon suppers, visits to the Mount Rushmore and Crazy Horse memorials to roaming the streets of Deadwood, our group will be immersed in the past and present of the Black Hills and Badlands. To check whether or not space remains in our BILL Group #204454, call Premier World Discovery toll-free: (877) 953-8687 or email: info@premierworlddiscovery.com. They will continue to accept reservations on a first-come, first-served basis until all space is filled.

Details for local, domestic and international trips will be announced to the BILL membership before registration opens to others. Our online registration pages are updated frequently as more activities are added; link to these from www.Bucknell.edu/lifelonglearning. You can also catch the latest announcements on our Facebook group page posts, as well as see photos from participants as they learn "on the go" with BILL.



Armchair Travel

Vicarious vacations exclusively for BILL members

Do you have photographs, digital pictures, and fond memories you would like to share with BILL? We are always looking for new Armchair Travel “agents” among the membership. Instead of leaving those old albums to collect dust or sit unseen in a box, show them off! Talk with the BILL coordinator or Armchair Travel volunteer MaryAnn Griffin about scheduling your slideshow. We can help with planning and getting your presentation digitally ready to project.

BILL members come from a range of backgrounds; many have traveled or lived elsewhere. Others have had rich experiences that you may find new or fascinating. Armchair Travel is a series of free programs by and for BILL members. These slideshows provide our membership the chance to share both a photographic journey of places, people and experiences, and the stories and perspectives behind them.

BILL aims to offer four-to-six slideshows per term in the Public Library for Union County. Each presentation lasts approximately an hour, with time for questions and discussion immediately following.

Thursday, Jan. 8, 4 p.m.
Thom Travis shares the Russian Republic of Tatarstan.

Thursday, Feb. 26, 4 p.m.
Lois Huffines will take us to Spain and Portugal.

Thursday, March 12, 4 p.m.
Janet Jones guides us through Easter Island.

Watch your email inbox and the registration pages for announcements about these and future “destinations.”

Local Treasures and Field Trips

BILL organizes “field trips” –small group visits to local museums, Bucknell campus facilities, nearby arboretums, historic homes and art exhibits. Current members receive priority registration, but often the tour site can accommodate friends, as well. Consider joining some of our upcoming expeditions. This winter and spring, members and contacts can expect to be invited to participate in three or more activities. For example...



On Jan. 21, enter the kitchen of Le Jeune Chef at the Pennsylvania College of Technology where culinary arts students learn to perfect their skill and master methods. See where aspiring chefs express their creativity by developing recipes using fresh regional and seasonal ingredients. Then enjoy a tasty lunch in the restaurant described as “a culinary gem” in Williamsport.



On Feb. 10, tour the Bucknell Department of Biology’s Museum Greenhouse with caretaker Tasha Hall. Since the 1940s, the department has maintained a collection from around the world, providing a wide array of plants for study. Meander the greenhouse, learn about characteristics of the various ecosystems and see rare specimens. Biology Professor Chris Martine will also showcase some of the Wayne E. Manning Herbarium’s vibrant collection of over 25,000 preserved plant specimens dating back to the 1800s.



April will allow us to learn about ice cream production and more at the Old Mill Creamery, a single family, farm-to-food venture, specializing in providing local dairy products. Located in the little village of Cowan, near Mifflinburg, the creamery is located in a historic, restored water-powered mill built in 1829-30. The operators have been producing quality milk for the wholesale market since 1993, milking approximately 58 cows year-round. They provide A2A2 milk which may be easier to digest for those with lactose sensitivities.

Details about each of these fun and educational outings (with more to follow) will be posted on our registration pages and shared with our contacts by email and in Facebook group posts.

MEMBERSHIP & COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

(one form per participant, please)

You must have an active membership in BILL to take classes, receive discounts/priority registration on most activities, and enjoy free programs like the Armchair Travel slide shows and the end-of-term reception. Annual memberships subscribe twice a year: academic terms run July to June; calendar year terms last January to December. If you don't have a current academic year membership good through June 30, 2026, it's time to join BILL with a new **2026 Calendar Year Membership**. *BILL membership is individual; each person must have their own.* **Financial assistance is available; contact BILL for more information.**

ARE YOU NEW TO BILL? ☐ no ☐ yes

How did you hear about BILL? _____

Your name: _____

Do you prefer to be addressed by another name in class/on name tags? _____

Mailing address (street/ PO Box, city, state and zipcode):

Phone number(s): _____ Email address: _____

MEMBERSHIP

I would like a new 2026 Calendar Year membership (good through 12/31/2026)—\$65 \$_____

COURSE REQUESTS

You can register for up to two* BILL courses online, or you may request the coordinator to assist you. Making your requests as early as possible is advised. All registration requests will be kept until the programs open for registration at 11 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 9, 2026. Registrations will then be entered in the order they were received. Members will be waitlisted for any requested programs already full at the time of attempting to make the registration. **After Feb. 23, you will be welcomed to sign up for a 3rd and 4th class.*

☐ 1st course requested (\$60 tuition unless noted in the description) _____ \$_____

If this course is unavailable, instead register me for: _____

☐ 2nd course requested (\$60 tuition unless noted in the description) _____ \$_____

If this course is unavailable, instead register me for: _____

SUPPORT

I would like to add a tax-deductible donation for BILL

Specify: ☐ the Operations Fund ☐ the BILL Endowment
\$_____

TOTAL PAYMENTS DUE: \$_____

You may include a check with this form, payable to BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY. (You may add BILL to the memo line, if you like.) Or, you may wait to pay until after you receive confirmation that you have been successfully registered for your requested courses. Paying by credit card is available through your online BILL account.

Return this form to the BILL office:

Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning, 115 Farley Circle, Suite 111, Lewisburg PA 17837.

THANK YOU!

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERS

Bucknell Institute for Lifelong Learning (BILL) is a self-sustaining program and relies on donations of funds and time from the many volunteers who serve in multiple capacities. When you lead a course, serve on a committee, present an Armchair Travel slideshow, deliver catalogs to your local library, send a check or write a thank you note to a BILL host, you are contributing to BILL and being purposeful in your support of lifelong learning.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Genie Gerdes
Vice-chair: Janice Butler
 Pam Benfer
 Bill Byron
 Adelyn Elliott
 Jeff Evans
 Elaine Hopkins
 Steve Guattery
 Bob Kallin
 Carole Madle
 Katharyn Nottis
 Betsy Noyce
 Irmgard Seidl-Adams
 Heather Wolf, coordinator

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Chair: Elaine Hopkins
 Logan Coney
 Andy France
 Carl Milofsky
 Gary Nottis
 Julie Sholtis

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Steve Guattery
 Christine Buffinton
 Jeff Evans
 Tony Massoud
 Becky Perez
 Paul Susman
 Mary Zimmerman

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Bill Byron
 Ann Beaver
 Andy France
 Jane Parker
 Mary Sholley
 Margaret Snow
 Facebook: Carole Madle

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Bob Kallin
 Pam Benfer
 Adelyn Elliott

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL:

MaryAnn Griffin

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:

Thom Travis

SPECIAL EVENTS AND FIELD TRIPS:

Janice Butler

HOSPITALITY TEAM

Beverly Bayer
 Janice Butler
 SueAnn Roadarmel
 Margaret Snow
 Mary Welker
 Heather Wolf

Thank you to each and every member, donor, and volunteer who make this vibrant organization possible.

GIVING TO BILL: AN INVESTMENT FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

Since our founding in 2009, BILL has grown and thrived under the stewardship of many dedicated volunteers and donors. Our courses and programs are largely volunteer-driven. Our modest operating budget supports the salary of a sole employee, our part-time coordinator, as well as office rent and supplies, plus all publications, member receptions and special programs.

While membership fees and course tuition provide the majority of BILL's income, charitable contributions account for 17% of our budget revenue. Until recently, all donations were designated for our Operations Fund. Now, BILL leadership has established a permanent **Endowment Fund**, the annual income from which will support BILL priorities in perpetuity.

This BILL endowment will help underwrite program expenses; it is actively managed as part of Bucknell's overall endowment portfolio. Launched in October 2024, our short-range goal is to raise at least \$100,000 over the next few years. So, our current fundraising priority is growing our endowment.

If you are interested in learning more about the endowment, please contact Bob Kallin through the BILL office. Your email or phone message will be forwarded to Bob, and ALL conversations are confidential.

2026

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

Bucknell Institute
for Lifelong Learning

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