

space availability for study groups as of 09/01/2014 05:15PM

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## Online Study Groups

### **American Cinema 4 cr with Cynthia Bates**

spaces avail **\*CLOSED\*** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | The Arts - fully  
Basic Communications - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

Do you love watching films? Have you ever wanted to learn more about how films are made? Do you wonder how the US film industry shapes our culture, society and/or politics? If so, then this study is for you! In this study, you will view a range of films that help us engage in conversations about race, class, gender and sexuality as presented in US films over the past decade. You will also learn about the film industry in the United States and about the power of the studio system to create what has become common day "culture" in the United States. Students will also learn how to thoughtfully assess a film and to express that assessment both in conversation and in writing. Students should be prepared to rent, borrow, or purchase approximately 12 films to be assigned during the term. This study meets the general education requirements in the Arts and Basic Communication. Students may alternatively elect to count this study as a Humanities general education requirement. This study meets the following Arts area of study guidelines for students developing relevant concentrations: "understanding the historical and cultural context of works of art," "awareness of current developments and critical perspectives," "research skills," and "capacity to formulate, express and communicate concepts and images."

### **American History from 1865 to the Present 4 cr with Kate Dermody**

spaces avail **9** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

We will carefully examine our American culture and what makes us precisely unique. We will connect themes, ideas and main concepts that weave our diverse American tapestry. Specifically, the course will look at the American Dream and how these goals are still relevant today. We will intensively investigate the Industrial Revolution in the United States during the 1880s and connect to the Information Revolution of the 2000s. Will the United States always be innovators? Where is our future going? The goals of this study are to connect the past and future, and to investigate your own direction. We will examine the lives of places, events, and people, it will be your job to find your own sense of historical belonging.

### **Civil War Commemoration 4 cr with Anastasia Pratt**

spaces avail **15** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This online study group will explore the Civil War, as it is remembered and commemorated.

### **Ecological Economics 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann**

spaces avail **8** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

Ecological economics is an emerging field that incorporates fundamental resource constraints and environmental problems into the logic and analysis of approaches for thinking about the economy, markets and public policy. Much of the focus is on systems, global perspectives, and long run concerns. Several topics in the area of ecological economics will be investigated in depth including market failures, globalization, fairness, and sustainable development. Specific problems and possible remedies in areas such as climate change, water and air quality, energy consumption, transportation, biodiversity, or recycling will be examined. Students will gain a better understanding of appropriate roles for government as it relates to natural resources and the environment and the tradeoffs that alternative policy choices entail. A few of the questions we will explore include: Is growth good? Are there better ways to measure progress than GDP? What is sustainable development and what does it look like in terms of everyday practice? Will businesses find it profitable to pursue "green" strategies? This is an advanced level course. This course is designed to meet the SUNY general education Social Sciences requirement and the college's economics expectation for degrees in the Business, Management and Economics area of study.

**Genocide: A Global Perspective 4 cr with Kate Dermody**

spaces avail 11 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Other World Civilizations - fully  
Western Civilization - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This study will examine the concept of genocide as it is defined by the UN charter. We will investigate the climate building up to each global genocide and patterns that emerge in all parts of the world. We will read and analyze primary documents and answer the questions: What constitutes genocide? How do these events occur? How and why do ordinary citizens participate? Who is to blame and who should be held accountable? Most importantly, how can we prevent genocide? We will study: the Holocaust, Genocide in Rwanda, Cambodia, Armenia, Famine – Genocide of Ukraine and the recent events in Darfur

**Stress Management 4 cr with Christine Testani**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This study will introduce students into the biological and psychological influences of stress. The study will also discuss common causes of stress, theories of stress management, and treatment.

**The Art of Memoir 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully  
Basic Communications - fully

\*\* Online Study Group \*\*

This study is part of the Adirondack Environmental Studies Residency with a mandatory on-site meeting October 13-15 (additional 2-credit course Oct. 16) at Camp Huntington in the Adirondacks. For more information on the residency, please visit <http://www.esc.edu/AdirondackRes> Through the ages, peoples' inner lives, their hopes, fears, beliefs and sense of identity were translated into words and ritual, usually in some relation to the natural world. In this course we will learn about the powerful conjunction of nature, ritual, and story, especially in Native American cultures and traditions rediscovered by the ecofeminist movement. Peoples' practice and longing for ritual and the impulse to tell and listen to stories comes from the human desire to make meaning out of our everyday existence. This advanced level humanities study, which meets the SUNY General Education humanities requirement, will enable you to gain an historical perspective of the role ritual (or ceremony) and storytelling have played in the development of our civilization. We will look critically at our Judeo-Christian culture and its roots, and examine the ways our culture suffers alienation from nature, our lack of ritual, and the narrow role we've assigned storytelling.

**Women at Work: Managing & Leading 4 cr with Kathy Tarrant**

spaces avail 7 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

Although women have made significant inroads into management and leadership positions in today's corporations, women as managers and leaders still continue to lag their male counterparts in the executive suites and boardrooms of most major organizations across the globe. This study, based primarily on the research of Alice H. Eagly and Linda L. Carli as published in their seminal work, *Through the Labyrinth: The Truth About How Women Become Leaders* (2007), will examine the theories and concepts behind the roadblocks women continue to face in their quest for upward mobility. Topics covered will include the historical transition of women's employment, obstacles faced by women such as the glass ceiling, nonlinear career paths, and work/life/family balance, the importance of attracting and retaining talented women, and leadership styles and traits of women. These topics will be supplemented with additional research findings in these fields, articles from current business journals, and case studies of contemporary women in managerial and leadership positions. Do not register for this study if you have taken the CDL course: "Women in Business: Managing and Leading"

**Writing About Art 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail 7

Adv./Liberal

fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully  
The Arts - partially

**\*\* Online Study Group \*\***

This study is designed to strengthen students' critical thinking and writing skills as they explore works of art. One aspect of this study will involve curatorial writing, which accompanies exhibits of all kinds and serves to educate and illuminate works of art and history for the viewer. Students will do the research necessary to create interpretive text. By writing about art in myriad ways students will gain an intimate understanding of works of art and the culture surrounding the works. As a result, students' research and documentation skills will be enhanced. Students will also have the opportunity to write creatively about art work as well.

## Albany Study Groups

### Mondays

#### **Academic Research, Reading and Writing 4 cr with Kate Stockton**

spaces avail 11 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/15, 9/29, 10/6, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8

The purpose of this study is to sharpen students' abilities to read, research, think, and communicate effectively and critically in academic contexts through writing and other formats of presentation (PowerPoint & Public Speaking). The focus of the course will also include academic reading and information literacy research strategies applied to a term long project. Movement from basic to more advanced development of both the mindset and skill set needed to think critically and engage in sophisticated analysis of issues are the key desired learner outcomes of the study. Students will complete a term long academic research project on a topic of their choice. The project will focus on an academic area that is specific for the student's individual needs and interests. Skills such as critical thinking, writing, time management, public speaking, academic research, peer collaboration and portfolio compilation will be incorporated into the project through various assignments.

#### **Public Speaking for Professionals 4 cr with Cynthia Bates**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15

Whether you are a professional in the business world, a case manager in human services, an educator, a community organizer, a political leader, an artist or an expert working in another exciting field, this study will help you learn important skills for presenting yourself and your topic of interest effectively in front of an audience -- be it an audience of two or an audience of two hundred. Students will learn techniques for giving various kinds of speeches and presentations. They will also learn how to overcome the nervousness that public speaking often brings forth and instead to use these natural energies to share important knowledge and ideas with an audience. Students in this study will be expected to read and write about skills related to giving public presentations generally and in their specific fields. They will also be expected to give a number of speeches in our meetings. Please note that our study group will be a "safe space" for all students to learn and/or improve their public speaking skills. This study meets the Basic Communication general education requirement. It also meets the "Communication Skills" guideline for the Business, Management and Economics area of study guidelines. For the Arts area of study, this study meets the guideline "capacity to formulate, express and communicate concepts and images." Additionally, this study is an excellent way to add breadth to degree plans in any area of study. This study group will meet approximately every two weeks from 5:30-7:30pm at the Northeast Center Latham Office, 21 British American Blvd. Meeting dates TBA. For more information, please contact Cindy Bates at [cynthia.bates@esc.edu](mailto:cynthia.bates@esc.edu) or 518-388-0483.

### Tuesdays

#### **Bullying: A Psychosocial View 4 cr with Richard Gotti**

spaces avail \*CLOSED\* Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/16, 9/30, 10/14, 10/28, 11/18, 11/25, 12/9

What is the nature of bullying? How does it differ from other forms of violence? Why is it important to define it, how do we intervene in it, and what kind of culture supports it in schools and the workplace? We will explore relevant psychological, social, cultural and legal perspectives in order to place bullying, including cyberbullying, in a meaningful and contemporary context. In addition to meeting fully the Gen Ed for Social Science, this study meets two specific CHS guidelines under Knowledge--"human beings and their behavior individually and in groups" and "impact of social factors on individuals and communities" and two areas under Skills --"prevention and intervention skills." For HDV concentrations, this study will apply to Biopsychosocial Development (2,3,4,5) and Contexts for Development. For Educational Studies, this study applies to Social Context of Learning. For students with other concentrations, the study should prove informative and helpful as an elective.

#### **Cultural Diversity Competence 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**

spaces avail 8 Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16

This study in human diversity enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate and provide culturally sensitive and competent human services to members of diverse groups. The study gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural development and to be more sensitive to others. Upon completion of this study, students would be expected to demonstrate the ability to evaluate and apply informed perspectives on the social, cultural and political influences that commonly impact individuals and communities in contemporary societies.

**Principles of Management 4 cr with Irene Norsworthy**spaces avail **\*CLOSED\*** Intro/Non-Liberal

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/9

This study is an introduction to the study of management through which a modern business organization can be understood as a functioning system. The focus is on learning practical applications of management concepts in the work environment. The study will cover the role of the manager in modern business and the functions that define the scope of managing including decision-making, planning, organizing, staffing, leading, motivating and controlling.

**Social Welfare Policy 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**spaces avail **6** Adv./Non-Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/16, 9/30, 10/14, 10/28, 11/25, 12/9

This study is designed to provide students with a substantial understanding of social policies and the social welfare system in the United States. Rational and political frameworks for policy analysis are developed across multiple areas of social welfare policy including poverty, disability, welfare, hunger, healthcare, education, employment, services for children and elderly, and policies surrounding mental illness and substance use. The study will explore issues of diversity in terms of social welfare policies directed at achieving racial equality, civil rights and gay rights. Students will examine ethical issues of policy making and policy implementation. Students will be encouraged to think critically about the role of politics and policy in the delivery and sustenance of human rights and social and economic justice.

**Writing to Change the World 4 cr with Claudia Hough**spaces avail **11** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully  
Basic Communications - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2

"You write in order to change the world...and if you alter, even by a millimeter, the way...people look at reality, then you can change it." -- James Baldwin. The best writing happens when we, as writers, feel deeply about our topics. Passionate and well articulated ideas can and do change the world. As individuals and community members we are concerned about social and ethical issues such as poverty, human rights or environmental crisis. We seek to make sense of these issues and to act individually and collectively to create social change. Throughout the term, you will read works by authors who have used writing as a form of activism and respond to their ideas. You will also have an opportunity to discover and engage with issues that you care deeply about by crafting your own creative and well reasoned essays. This study meets the general education requirement for Humanities OR Basic Communication, not both.

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Wednesdays

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**Ethics and the Public Sector 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**spaces avail **15** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 12/3, 12/17

Public sector professionals face a host of ethical issues everyday, whether they realize it or not; and decisions made by public sector practitioners have consequences in the lives of real people. This study is designed to facilitate students in developing an understanding of ethics for practicing public sector decision-making. We will take the approach that moral philosophy is an activity that allows individuals to think critically about what we can know, how we should act, and what type of service delivery and governance is best for us. To this end, this study will allow students the opportunity to study major ethical frameworks and relevant applications in the evaluation of competing options and optimal public sector decision-making.

**Interviewing Skills in the Human Services 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba**spaces avail **14** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 12/10

The study will provide background knowledge of "Interviewing" as a skill and a professional tool in the Human Services, including the different forms/types of interviewing, and salient purposes of interviewing in the Human Services. The purposive and intentional nature of Interviewing will be highlighted. Students will learn fundamental skills such as active listening, attending, observation, reflecting, interpretation, reframing, feedback, and the pertinent ethical issues in interviewing. The study will focus on the theory and hierarchy of the microskills as well as general skills and techniques of interviewing in relation to different levels and contexts of human service practice.

**Liberty and Justice for All? : U.S. Politics, Policy, and Process 4 cr with Joseph Yogtiba**

spaces avail 14 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

Despite what many of us think, politics matters! This study, being co-facilitated by a consortium of Northeast Center mentors, is designed to engage contemporary debates over important issues in U.S. politics such as religious freedom, power and privilege, voting rights, education reform and funding, economic policy, social welfare, and immigration. The purpose of this study is to provide an interdisciplinary framework for understanding critical issues and institutions in U.S. politics as they intersect various aspects of public and private life. Students in multiple areas of study, especially Public Affairs, Community and Human Services, and Social Science, will find this study particularly relevant as they explore and examine issues through different disciplinary lenses.

**Liberty and Justice for All?: U.S. Politics, Policy and Process 4 cr with Nadine Wedderburn**

spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

Despite what many of us think, politics matters! This study, being co-facilitated by a consortium of Northeast Center mentors, is designed to engage contemporary debates over important issues in U.S. politics such as religious freedom, power and privilege, voting rights, education reform and funding, economic policy, social welfare, and immigration. The purpose of this study is to provide an interdisciplinary framework for understanding critical issues and institutions in U.S. politics as they intersect various aspects of public and private life. Students in multiple areas of study, especially Public Affairs, Community and Human Services, and Social Science, will find this study particularly relevant as they explore and examine issues through different disciplinary lenses.

**Liberty And Justice For All?: U.S. Politics, Policy, And Process 4 cr with MaryNeil Morgan**spaces avail 13 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
Social Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 12/17

Team-taught by the faculty of the Northeast Center and Units

**The Life & Times of Pete Seeger (and his music too) 4 cr with Efrat Levy**spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
The Arts - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 11/25 (Tuesday), 12/9 (Tuesday)

This interdisciplinary, team-taught study group will look at a variety of topics by reflecting on the life and legacy of Pete Seeger. In each study group meeting, alongside other readings, one or more songs brought to the public by Seeger will be used in order to more fully examine and analyze historical and social issues. These will include: the historical roots of life and culture in Appalachia; the fight against fascism in World War II; the McCarthy era; music and civil rights; environmental activism; folk music as a vehicle for social change.

Thursdays**Addiction & Recovery: Theoretical Approaches & Healing Stories 4 cr with Cathy Davison**spaces avail 7 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully  
Natural Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4

Addiction is a disease that exacts a devastating toll on individuals, families, communities, and society. In this study, students will explore the effects of addictive drugs on brain function, and the changes caused by chronic drug abuse. Using this biological perspective, students will understand the phenomena of drug use, addiction and dependence, tolerance, withdrawal, treatment, relapse, and recovery. Students also will read memoirs written by people affected by addiction to gain an appreciation for the human face of the suffering that addiction causes, and ultimately the healing that can result with treatment and rehabilitation.

**Addiction & Recovery: Theoretical Approaches & Healing Stories 4 cr with Claudia Hough**spaces avail 6 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully  
Natural Sciences - fully

21 British American Blvd, Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4

Addiction is a disease that exacts a devastating toll on individuals, families, communities and society. In this study, students will explore the effects of addictive drugs and alcohol on brain function and the changes caused by chronic drug abuse. Using this biological perspective, students will understand the phenomena of drug use, addiction and dependence, tolerance, withdrawal, treatment, relapse, and recovery. Students also will read memoirs written by people affected by addiction to gain an appreciation for the human face of suffering that addiction causes, and ultimately the healing that can result with treatment and rehabilitation.

**No Ordinary Time: America in the Depression Years (1929-1941) 4 cr with Christopher Grill**

spaces avail **19** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
Social Sciences - partially

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:45-8:15 p.m. 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/20, 12/4, 12/11

This study will offer a comprehensive overview of one of the most trying and transformative decades in American history: the 1930s. Key social, cultural, economic, and political events and developments during the era will be explored. Topics to be addressed include the collapse of the economy and emergence of a new "school" of economics; the immediate impact and lasting legacies of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal; protest movements; how the Great Depression challenged and to some degree reshaped core American values and beliefs; the emergence of a "golden age" in American popular culture during a time of terrible hardship; and why this period still matters today. Students will be encouraged to choose a topic of special interest for their primary research assignment.

**Statistics 4 cr with Amy Salvati**

spaces avail **2** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Mathematics - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18

This study covers the fundamental concepts and methods of descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will gain an understanding of statistical concepts and statistical methods in summarizing and interpreting information. Major topics include data distributions, data relationships, producing data, probability, inference, regression, and analysis of variance. Students should have a working knowledge of algebra.

**United States History 1 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail **13** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 12/4, 12/18

United States History 1 is designed to introduce the student to the emergence and development of the American nation. We will examine the contributions of the Chesapeake and New England regions, and how the events and ideas of the colonial era led to the Revolutionary War. Those changes will be the contextual foundation for the Early Republic and the Industrial Revolution, as well as the numerous social/political conflicts that culminated with the Civil War. Throughout the period of study, culture, and the role of ideas, will be emphasized as a means of analyzing and connecting the people and events that make up the trajectory of history.

**Western Civilization 1 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail **20** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Western Civilization - fully

21 British American Blvd., Latham Thursdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/11

Western Civilization 1 is designed to introduce the student to the emergence of the first civilizations and the trajectory of their development into Western society. We will examine the contributions of Greece and Rome and how they expanded their empires; how ideas are conceived, put into practice, and have social consequences; how and why empires collapsed; how people and societies existed during the Middle Ages; how numerous cultures developed values and coexisted/clashed with others; and how a broken Europe, after several starts, reinvigorated itself with the Renaissance, and split again in the Reformation. Throughout the study, culture and the role of ideas will be emphasized as a means of analyzing and connecting the people and events that make up the trajectory of history.

[Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published](#)

**History of the Witchhunts in the Middle Ages 4 cr with Joan Harrington**

spaces avail **\*CLOSED\*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully  
Western Civilization - partially

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

Over at least 3 centuries, thousands to perhaps millions of people, most of whom were women, were put to death under the guise of "witch hunts," particularly in Europe. This shocking annihilation of these people, from all walks of life is explored in this study. Often termed the "unrecognized holocaust" or "ethnic cleansing" of independent women during the Middle Ages -- this subject as well as the residual attitudes that continue to influence our culture are examined.

### **Introduction to Women's Studies 4 cr with Joan Harrington**

spaces avail **\*CLOSED\*** Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

What are Women's Studies? What are feminism and feminist theory? Where did these subjects come from and why do they deserve to be studied? This study provides students with an interdisciplinary approach to the study of feminism, gender, sexuality and the concept of power. We will define the concept of feminism and understand it as a human rights issue and not a concept of radical ideas and actions. We will review women's rights and their connection to issues of status, self concept and power.

### **Liberty and Justice for All?: U.S. Politics, Policy and Process 4 cr with Christopher Grill**

spaces avail **12** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

Despite what many of us think, politics matters! This study, being co-facilitated by a consortium of Northeast Center mentors, is designed to engage contemporary debates over important issues in U.S. politics such as religious freedom, power and privilege, voting rights, education reform and funding, economic policy, social welfare, and immigration. The purpose of this study is to provide an interdisciplinary framework for understanding critical issues and institutions in U.S. politics as they intersect various aspects of public and private life. Students in multiple areas of study, especially Public Affairs, Community and Human Services, and Social Science, will find this study particularly relevant as they explore and examine issues through different disciplinary perspectives.

### **Walking in the History of Albany 4 cr with Anthony Anadio**

spaces avail **14** Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | American History - fully  
The Arts - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

Albany has a rich and relatively undiscovered architectural history. The city and its surroundings have been a nexus for many important moments in history from the terminus of Henry Hudson's famous voyage, to Dutch settlement, the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, the capital of New York State, a terminal hub for the Erie Canal, and then finally as a symbol of the struggle of America's big cities. There will be a total of 6 study group meetings - the first and last meetings will be held at the Northeast Center in Latham, and the other mandatory meetings will consist of walking tours (rain or shine) through various sections of Albany. On those tours, we will explore the incredible array of architectural styles and discuss the cast of characters who built, occupied, and left their mark on the buildings and history of Albany. Students are encouraged to take pictures, though it is not required. The city shall be undiscovered no more!

### **Women Leaders in the Business World: The 30% Solution 4 cr with Joan Harrington**

spaces avail **\*CLOSED\*** Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

This study involves reimagined leadership and the roles and approaches of women in the context of the business world. In particular, we will study the concept of the 30% solution -- the movement of a critical mass of women into leadership roles. The need for more women in all realms of power has been surfaced and is a worldwide conversation today. Why this is important and how we get there will be the basis of this study, beginning with understanding why the critical mass of 30% representation of women is important, and then understanding how we can strategically move in that direction. Often, women feel devalued and unheard in work settings. The feeling that their ideas and opinions are disregarded or simply not given an audience is a common perception. We will explore Centered Leadership and examine examples of successful women in leadership roles and their experiences. We will also explore approaches these women used to be successful in their leadership positions. This study fully meets the general education requirement in Social Sciences.



## Empire State Plaza Study Groups

Meeting dates/times/locations not yet published

### **Cultural Diversity through Literature 4 cr with Robert Congemi**

spaces avail 15 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully

\*\*\* Meeting dates/time/location not yet determined \*\*\*

The principal aim of this study group is to increase the students' awareness of cultures through selected readings in Latin, Asian, Arabic, African literature, as well as in those works that bring insight into American sub-cultures. The study group will address such themes as signature cultural characteristics, social and political justice, cultural stereotypes, cultural traditions and rituals, cultural disorientation and transition, quality-of-life and poverty issues, racism and misogyny, and imperialism.

## Saratoga Study Groups

Mondays

### **Critical Thinking & Writing 4 cr with Elaine Handley**

spaces avail 4 Intro/Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Basic Communications - fully

111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs 175 Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15

This study is a very practical one: because everything we do or want or feel is influenced by our thinking, it makes sense that we should study how we think and cultivate the best possible thinking skills. Without developing critical thinking skills we often rely on biased, partial, uninformed, distorted or prejudiced thought processes to make decisions, which often don't involve good judgment. We now know that writing and thinking are intricately linked--by improving one you improve the other. So in addition to improving how you think this study will help you hone your college writing skills. Through a variety of lively activities, projects, readings and writing assignments we will develop strategies for looking at the complexity of issues and reasoning them through. The skills developed in this study should enhance your academic ability (especially writing), work and personal life. This study fully meets the general education requirement in Basic Communication as well as the competency in Critical Thinking.

### **Identity, Self and Gender in Literature, Film and Popular Culture 4 cr with Tom Akstens**

spaces avail 13 Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Humanities - fully  
Social Sciences - partially

113 West Ave., Saratoga Springs 228 Mondays 6:00-8:00 p.m. 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19

This course begins with a question: Is there an essential self? If not, then are our identity and gender simply products of cultural determinants? Are they performance, rather than expressions of a core, personal selfhood? In this course, we will study texts, films and other cultural artifacts that seem to provoke these questions, even as they offer insights that may lead us to productive conclusions. We will pay particular attention to the status of literature in our own cultural context, and to its viability in a technological, consumer culture. The material will include: The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Danish Girl, Zelig, Hamlet, M Butterfly, Boys Don't Cry, Photographs by Cindy Sherman and Yasumasa Morimura, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, Southern Comfort and "Deacon Blues" by Steely Dan.

### **Unsolved Crimes: Forensic Science in Historic Cases 4 cr with Thomas Jones**

spaces avail 10 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs 104 Mondays 6:00-8:00 p.m. 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/15

This study examines cases that have captivated observers for years, including Jack the Ripper, the Jon Benet Ramsey murder, the Black Dahlia, Dr. Sam Sheppard (the case that inspired The Fugitive), the Zodiac Killer, O.J. Simpson, the Cleveland Torso Killer (was this connected with the Black Dahlia?), and others. Rather than simply using conjecture, as is common in popular books on these cases, we will utilize methodologies and theories from forensic science to develop new ideas and test hypotheses put forth by others who have looked at the same cases. In some cases, we will attempt to determine how methods that were not available at the time might be used to re-examine evidence that may have been missed -- could modern methods help determine if Jack the Ripper was right- or left-handed and perhaps how tall he (or perhaps she) was, or the shape of the weapon/item used in the murders? Could pollen analysis have provided definitive proof of guilt or innocence in the O.J. Simpson case? Might there have been hidden DNA evidence in the Zodiac cases that has since degraded as items sit in boxes? In other cases, we will try to determine how mistakes were made and how evidence can be re-evaluated once it has been weakened by errors -- the Jon Benet Ramsey murder and the Dr. Sheppard case were famously mishandled, even though evidence was found.

## Troy Study Groups

Tuesdays

### **Health Care Policy 4 cr with Duncan RyanMann**

spaces avail 12 Intro and Adv./Liberal fulfills SUNY gen. ed. req | Social Sciences - fully

216 River Street, 3rd Floor, Troy Tuesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. 9/16, 9/30, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2

Students will learn about the process of making health care policy and some of the institutions responsible for creating health care policy at the federal and state levels. Students will gain an understanding of the complexities and trade-offs inherent in the development and implementation of health care policy. Students should find this study of benefit in understanding and evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the government sector and market mechanisms in making production and distribution decisions in the health sector. Students will study the major public insurance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, and consider various proposals for reform of the health care system in the U.S. Students will examine the functions and effects of public health insurance on access, cost and market efficiency, and quality of health care. Students will investigate several topics in health care policy in some detail; these may include the uninsured, long term care, pharmaceuticals and patents, medical malpractice, and international comparisons of health care policy.