



Adventures In Learning

at
Colby-Sawyer College

Semester Brochure

Fall 1999



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COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE

Fall Semester 1999

The Organizing Committee of **Adventures In Learning**

Charles Carey

Hilary Cleveland

Mary & Allan Doyle

Sue & Richard Eaton

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Susie & Robert Gray

Sheila Lewis Henry

Priscilla & Julien LeBourgeois

Deniza & Dick Martin

Jean & Peter McKee

Carolyn & Dick Sweetland

Following a very successful inaugural season, **Adventures In Learning** at Colby-Sawyer College is delighted to welcome you to its second full year of course offerings.

The **Adventures In Learning** program was created in September of 1998 to provide adults in the Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee area with additional opportunities for intellectual enrichment. It functions with the support of Colby-Sawyer College but has its own volunteer leadership. Courses, offered on a non-credit basis, are led by volunteer Study Group Leaders during a six or eight week period with a two-hour class once each week. The Fall Semester begins the week of September 27 and ends November 19.

More than 200 enthusiastic members participated in fifteen courses given between September 1998 and May 1999. Offered during that period were such varied areas of study as The Plantagenets, Understanding Poetry, A Mental Fitness Center Workout (math), Green Thumbs and Muddy Shoes (gardening), The Break-up of the Soviet Union, Simplifying Wine, Genetic Engineering (science and ethics), Women and the Stock Market, *The Aeneid*, The Legacy of Napoleon, Ireland—Past and Present, and Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and *King Lear*.

So popular were the classes last year that we will offer six choices for the Fall 1999 Semester. Please peruse the enclosed information and send your annual membership fee along with your course selections to the **Adventures In Learning** office by August 13.

BOUQUETS: The secret of **Adventures In Learning's** successful first year is in no small measure due to the extraordinary skills and great good humor of Sharon Ames who is our liaison with Colby-Sawyer College. She coordinates

all mailings, offers creative and sensible suggestions for improving the **Adventures In Learning** program and keeps us on target. Many many thanks!

Our thanks also to Dr. Anne Ponder, President of Colby-Sawyer, for enthusiastically endorsing the program, to Sheila Henry for her participation in Steering Committee discussions and helping to move the plan along (and, not incidentally for letting us "have" Sharon!), to Ginny Foose at the Tracy Library for the gift of classroom space and to all of the other unsung heroes who have made our experiment such a happy one.

Without Study Group Leaders, however, none of this would have happened. For your generous gifts of time, energy, enthusiasm and knowledge we are truly grateful. You made it work.

The **Adventures In Learning** program is always looking for good Study Group Leaders. There have been requests for courses in art, music, opera, the Geology of New Hampshire, as well as in the ever-popular literature, history and science fields. Public speaking and memoir writing have also been requested. If you or anyone you know might be interested in leading a course, Sharon Ames in the **Adventures In Learning** office has Study Group Proposal forms and would be happy to send one to you. Call her at 526-3720.

In the meantime, to enroll in a course, you will find attached to this brochure a form on which you may list your course selections **in the order of your preference**. A Study Group will usually be limited to twenty members. If there are more applicants for a particular course than there are spaces available, applicants will be chosen by lottery. Those applicants who are not able to enroll in their first choice of courses will be enrolled in their second or third choice if space is available. Please do **not** sign up for a course if you know that you will be unable to attend the majority of the class meetings.

If an applicant does not gain entry to any of his/her first three course selections, the term fee will be returned and the applicant will receive first choice in the winter semester.

Members of the **Adventures In Learning** program pay an annual membership fee of \$35 for the academic year in order to enroll in a Study Group. In addition to the membership fee, the course fee for Fall Semester enrollment will be \$30 per person.

Books for courses will be selected by the Study Group Leader. The total cost of books will not normally exceed \$25 for each course. Most books will be available through Morgan Hill Bookstore in New London.

To participate in the initial selection of courses, an application with the 1999-2000 membership fee and the course fee must be received by 4:00 p.m. Friday, August 13, 1999.

If an applicant desires to participate in more than one Study Group (at no additional charge) he/she may do so on a first-come, first-served basis **after** September 6, 1999.

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Course Offerings – Fall 1999

1. *Othello*, A Study of Domestic Violence

Mondays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

While *Othello* fits the pattern of tragedy as defined by Aristotle, it displays many differences from other Shakespearean tragedies written at approximately the same time. The study of the triangle established by Othello, Desdemona, and Iago invites us to look at relationships where love, jealousy, trust, and hatred play prominent roles.

If the plays of Shakespeare formed a body of literature entirely removed from modern society, it would be easy to pass over them merely as examples of literary excellence but of an age long gone. Such, however, is not the case for we experience circumstances in our daily lives, perhaps not quite so dramatic, yet too often parallel to these beautiful paradigms.

In the eight sessions, which we will spend together looking at *Othello*, we shall have a chance to examine the emotions, which are part of the tragedy, and we will be able to read carefully some of the most beautiful poetry Shakespeare ever composed. The course will consist of a careful reading of the text, essays concerning the play, films done in fairly recent years and, most importantly, your thoughts about what we read and see.

Study Group Leader:

George Tracy was born in Canada in the city of Halifax, Nova Scotia. He was educated in the United States and the United Kingdom. From 1953 to 1993, Mr. Tracy was a teacher of classics at St. Paul's School, Concord, NH, where he held for many years the Cochrane Mastership in Greek. In 1974 Mr. Tracy began teaching Elizabethan Literature both in The Advanced Studies Program at St. Paul's as well as in the regular school. During this time he has covered the entire canon of Shakespeare many times as well as having directed and acted in many of the plays. While the classical languages of Latin and Greek remain his first love, the writings of Shakespeare occupy much of his study and his heart.

2. Utopian and Millennial Communities of the 19th Century

Tuesdays 10:00 – 12:00 noon

America in the last century was a "burned-over district" of religious enthusiasm, including the development of mass revivalism (Finney and Moody) and social reform societies such as anti-

slavery and temperance. The quest for “perfection” led to millennialist speculation and communal experiments, the best known of which are the Shakers and Mormons. We will look at these and others such as the Oneida and Amana communities, with an eye toward our own millennial anticipations.

Selected chapters from one general text will be required and each class member will be encouraged to research one ideal community, which may be as old as Plymouth Colony or as recent as the Israeli Kibbutz (no fair choosing New London!). The time will be evenly divided (roughly) between lecture and discussion.

Study Group Leader: Mel Vulgamore was Chair and Professor of Religion at Ohio Wesleyan, Provost and Vice President of the University of Richmond, and President of Albion College in Michigan. His interests are the history of Christian thought, American religious thought, and contemporary theology. He is a specialist in the philosophical theology of Paul Tillich, his teacher at Harvard.

3. The Evolution of Modern Physics

Tuesdays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Modern physics did not begin with the Greeks, but some of their attempts to explain the nature of natural phenomena are of interest as an introduction to later developments. Kepler, Gallileo and others of the Renaissance era began to work things out more logically and laid a foundation for Newton and others. However, the real evolution began in the late 19th century at the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University where Thomson and Rutherford labored. Their work led to an understanding of the structure of the atom, which enabled Bohr and Einstein to carry on from there. The course will discuss the work of many scientists as well as the very clever experimental work that enabled them to prove their hypotheses. There will be lecturing punctuated by discussion and some voluntary prepared participation by class members.

Study Group Leader: Peter Q. McKee, Instructor In Physics Emeritus at Phillips Academy, Andover, MA, majored in physics at Middlebury College and received an EdM in science education from Harvard. He also studied at an Academic Year Institute at Harvard sponsored by the National Science Foundation. While teaching at Andover, he served as Chairman of the Science Division, Dean of Faculty, Associate Headmaster and Acting Headmaster.

4. Conundrums of the Law

Wednesdays 10:00 – 12:00 noon

Stories about law are often front-page news these days, and they can trigger strong, if not emotional, reactions among ordinary citizens. A common reaction to such stories is that the law did not get it right—the solution of the legal system came up short of what many “right thinking” persons think the law “oughta” be. In this course, we will consider a number of legal problems that have in recent years captured the public’s attention, and have generated considerable criticism as to how the law has responded to these problems. We will discuss whether the law did get it right, and if not, what the law should be.

Study Group Leader: Richard Pearson received a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Michigan, and law degrees from Boston University and Yale University. He practiced law for six years in Concord, NH, and began his law teaching career in 1962. He has taught at a number of law schools, but primarily at Boston University and the University of Florida. He is presently “semi-retired” from the University of Florida, and spends the summer and fall in New London.

5. Leadership Challenges 2000

Thursdays 10:00 – 12:00 noon

This course will provide an overview on contemporary leadership theory and practice in business, not-for-profit, and government organizations. We will focus on state and local community issues such as economic development, education, health and human services, criminal justice, arts and culture, technology and the environment. For each of these issues the group will meet with a local or state leader knowledgeable in that subject. Discussion will revolve around the leadership challenges into the next century. You are encouraged to form and articulate your own theories on leadership from course readings, from talks with our guest lecturers and from your own life experiences. Please be prepared to read at least one book as well as to do individual research in order to provide for lively discussion. If enough members of the study group are interested, we will schedule a field trip to the State House for discussions with government leaders “in the field.”

Study Group Leader: Cotton Cleveland is President of Mather Associates, a leadership and management consulting firm based in New London. She received a B.S. with honors from the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at the University of New Hampshire in 1974 and has been working in and consulting to corporations and not-for-profit organizations. From 1991 to 1998, Cotton was the founding Executive Director of Leadership New Hampshire. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for Northeast Utilities, National Grange Mutual and the Ledyard National Bank, and is a Trustee with the

Center for New Hampshire Public Policy. She previously served on the Board of Directors for First NH Bank; Chair of the Board of Trustees for the University System of New Hampshire; Co-Chair of the Governor's Commission on New Hampshire in the 21st Century.

6. Understanding Central Europe

Fridays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

This course will help us understand the centuries of oppression suffered by Central Europeans, their short-lived dream of democracy and their possibility for democracy today! The study group will cover the desperate efforts to save the doctrines of the Middle Ages and the strange combination of forces, which led to the emergence of a religious and social revolution. Special attention will be given to John Wycliffe, John Hus and John A. Commenius, and their importance for us today, as well as the tragic consequences of the trial of John Hus, and the centuries of serfdom. Our conclusions will lead us to an inevitable consideration of the techniques of surviving oppression, in terms of marriage, family and education. The study of the twentieth century will introduce us to such memorable thinkers and statesmen as T.H. Masaryk, Edward Benes, and Vaclav Havel and their importance for us today. Included in the course are three video presentations on John Wycliffe, John Hus, and John Amos Commenius (his contribution to modern education, and to the founding of Harvard University).

The course will move according to the major interests of the participants. Since literature on the development and history of Central Europe is extremely limited, some materials will be reproduced for the participants. Volunteers will be given an opportunity to give a presentation on subjects such as the Black Death, or reading related literature to enrich the course. The goal of the course is not only to understand Central Europeans but also primarily to understand the civilization which has created it and of which we are a part.

Study Group Leader:

Dr. Zdenek F. Bednar is a native of Prague and a graduate of Charles University. He earned his theological degrees (B.D. and S.T.M.) at Hartford Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. in History and Social Ethics from Boston University. As a minister, he has served churches in greater Boston, Vermont, Connecticut and New Hampshire. During the communist era, he was a speechwriter for Radio Free Europe. He is the author of *Where Is My Home?* published in 1998 by Pickwick Publications.

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THE 1999 FALL SEMESTER AT A GLANCE

This schedule is offered as a convenient way to review the semester.

MONDAYS

2 – 4 pm G. Tracy – *Othello*, A Study of Domestic Violence

TUESDAYS

10 – 12 noon M. Vulgamore – Utopian and Millennial Communities
of the 19th Century

2 – 4 pm P. McKee – The Evolution of Modern Physics

WEDNESDAYS

10 – 12 noon R. Pearson – Conundrums of the Law

THURSDAYS

10 – 12 noon C. Cleveland – Leadership Challenges 2000

FRIDAYS

2 – 4 pm Z. Bednar – Understanding Central Europe

FACILITIES WILL ACCOMMODATE HANDICAPPED PARTICIPANTS

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Colby-Sawyer College
Application Form - Fall 1999

Enclosed is my payment of _____ \$35 for my 1999-2000 Annual Membership fee and _____ \$30 for my Course enrollment.

My selection is: FIRST Choice _____
 SECOND Choice _____
 THIRD Choice _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

PLEASE make checks payable to Colby-Sawyer College and return by 4:00 p.m. Friday, August 13, 1999.

to

Sharon Ames
Adventures In Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
100 Main Street
New London, NH 03257

NOTE: Each member of a family should send a separate application.

If you have any questions, please call Sharon Ames at 526-3720

APPLICATION FOR A SECOND PERSON

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Application Form - Fall 1999

Enclosed is my payment of _____ \$35 for my 1999-2000 Annual Membership fee and _____ \$30 for my Course enrollment.
If already paid, Annual Membership fee is not required.

My selection is: FIRST Choice _____
 SECOND Choice _____
 THIRD Choice _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____