

# Adventures in Learning

at

Colby-Sawyer College

Semester Brochure

Spring 2000



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at

## COLBY-SAWYER COLLEGE

Spring Semester 2000

### **The Organizing Committee of Adventures In Learning**

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Charles Carey

Hilary Cleveland

Mary & Allan Doyle

Sue & Richard Eaton

Susie & Robert Gray

Sheila Lewis Henry

Priscilla & Julien LeBourgeois

Deniza & Dick Martin

Jean & Peter McKee

Carolyn & Dick Sweetland

Although we've just scarcely begun winter, it is time to THINK SPRING. The Curriculum Committee is pleased to be able to present six course offerings during its second Spring term. The semester begins the week of April 3 and ends six weeks later, on May 11, with the exception of the Toward Understanding China and Dante's *Divine Comedy* courses, which will run for eight weeks.

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.

**BOUQUETS:** To Julien LeBourgeois who has for two years chaired the Organizing Committee that started **Adventures In Learning** and has kept it on track. He has also been an active and enthusiastic member of the Curriculum Committee, led two courses, worked with Colby-Sawyer College, Tracy Memorial Library, and Lake Sunapee Bank to secure meeting rooms, enlisted other study group leaders and, in general, has seen to it that the **Adventures In Learning** program is on secure footing while never losing sight of the value of a sense of humor. For all of your hard, good-humored work on our behalf, we are all most grateful. Julien has stepped down as Chairman and Charlie Carey has been elected Acting Chairman until the **Adventures In Learning** annual meeting in May. In the meantime, Julien continues his active role in **Adventures In Learning** serving on the Curriculum Committee and as Consultant par excellence. Thank you, Julien, for the gift of time, energy, enthusiasm and wisdom.

The **Adventures In Learning** program will break for the summer and then resume classes in the fall. Stay tuned for your brochure and registration mailing sometime in July.

To enroll in a Spring Semester class, please fill out the attached application form and, along with a course enrollment fee of \$30 per person and an annual membership fee of \$35 (if you've not already paid one for the 1999-2000 academic year) forward to the **Adventures In Learning** office as soon as possible. **Please remember** that we are implementing a **first-come, first-served** registration policy so the sooner you submit your application paperwork, the better your chances will be for getting your first choice.

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.

Ideally, a Study Group will be limited to twenty members. If there are more applicants for a particular course than there are spaces available, applicants will be assigned to their second or third choice if space is available. If an applicant does not gain entry to any of his/her first three course selections, the enrollment fee will be returned. Please do **not** sign up for a course if you know that you will be unable to attend the majority of the class meetings.

Books for courses will be selected by the Study Group Leader and will be available for purchase from the **Morgan Hill Bookstore in New London ONLY**. The total cost of books will not normally exceed \$30 for each course.

**To participate in the initial selection of courses, an application with the appropriate fees must be received by 4:00 p.m. Friday, February 25, 2000.**

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 March 6, 2000.

#### PLEASE NOTE

In order to better serve our members, applicants, and Study Group Leaders, the **Adventures In Learning** office, located in the Office of Alumni and Community Relations, suggests that you visit us between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. During those hours, Sharon Ames, Coordinator, or the other members of the Alumni and Community Relations staff will be available to provide assistance. The office is located in Seamans Alumni House on the Colby-Sawyer College campus.

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## Course Offerings – Spring 2000

### 1. The Habsburgs: the Rise and Decline of a Dynasty

**Mondays 10:00 – 12:00 noon**  
**Corral, Ware Campus Center**

For over 700 years, centuries before America was discovered, the Habsburg dynasty made its mark on Europe. Its story is closely connected with the history of Austria, Germany, Spain, Hungary and many other countries of that continent. Eventually, its decline coincided with the emergence of new, liberal, ideas in Western Europe and with the defeat of the Central Powers (Germany and Austria-Hungary) in World War I when the last Habsburg emperor was forced to abdicate.

It can be said that during much of the last millenium the history of the House of Habsburg was inseparable from the history of Europe. For better or worse, the Habsburgs put their stamp on the social and political climate of Europe during the centuries, and are still remembered as one of the leading families on the continent.

The present head of the family, Otto von Habsburg, voluntarily renounced any claim to the throne. As a leading member of the European Parliament, he has been promoting the inclusion in the European Union of new countries that would benefit from free trade and free flow of ideas.

While acquainting themselves with the history of the Habsburgs, those taking this course may expand their knowledge of the history, politics, and culture of Europe throughout the centuries.

#### **Study Group Leader:**

Joseph C. Kun graduated from the University of Budapest and Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. He spent 27 years in government service both in Washington, D.C. and overseas. After retirement he was Director of Central European Studies at the Potomac Foundation, McLean, Virginia. In that capacity he traveled extensively in Central-Eastern Europe and published numerous studies on the expansion of the NATO Alliance. His book titled *Hungarian Foreign Policy-- The Experience of a New Democracy*, was published in 1993 by the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC.

### 2. Understanding Poetry: More of the Same

**Mondays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Tracy Memorial Library**

A continuation of last spring's reading and discussion of poetry for pleasure. We shall read several of the idylls from Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*, a smattering of other great English Victorian poets and some contemporary American poetry from Donald Hall's edition.

**Study Group Leader:** George Doolittle received his BA from Brown University in 1949 and his MA from Columbia University in 1950. He taught English and Humanities at the high school and college level for thirty-two years. He received a coveted John Hay Fellowship to the University of Chicago in 1963, and taught for two years for the New York State Regents Television Project over Channel 11, PBS, in New York City.

### 3. Toward Understanding China: 1790-1999

**Tuesdays 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Archives, CSC Library**

For the past 150 years, China has fascinated, horrified, charmed, and confused the West. From the Opium War, the Boxer Rebellion, Sun Yat Sen, Chiang Kai Shek, Mao Zedong, Deng Hsio Ping, it has been a turbulent period.

In this course, we will attempt to understand why China behaves as she does. Through historical readings, the experience of my in-laws as diplomats and teacher in China from the 1920's to 1941, as well as my husband's life as a child in Shanghai and as a businessman in the People's Republic of China in the 1980's, we will try to find the "real" China.

Participants will be asked to give a report on an individual or event of particular interest. Reading one or all of the following books will provide background for discussion: Sterling Seagrave's *The Soong Dynasty*, Jung Chang's *Wild Swans*, Harrison Salisbury's *The New Emperors*, and Nicholas Kristoff and Sheryl Wu Dunn's *China Wakes*. For historical background, I recommend John K. Fairbank's *The Great Chinese Revolution, 1800-1985*.

**Study Group Leader:** Lorna M. Chang graduated from Goucher College in 1952 with a major in philosophy. In 1955, she married David P.C. Chang who was born in Shanghai, China. His father was a Chinese diplomat and scholar, and his mother a professor. Both parents were educated in the United States. Lorna learned about China from her in-laws and from reading and travel. Her first trip to China was in 1978 and the last in 1998.

### 4. Dante's *Divine Comedy*

**Thursdays 10:00 -12:00 noon  
Corral, Ware Campus Center**

Dante's *Divine Comedy* was the inspiration and model for many literary, imaginary journeys from Boccaccio through Milton and Chaucer and into the twentieth century with Thomas Merton.

In this class we too will take a pilgrimage into an imaginative and unfamiliar territory as we read and discuss the thirty-four cantos of the *Inferno*, the first third of the *Divine Comedy*. Together with Dante and his guide Virgil, we will descend the nine narrowing gyres; here we will meet sins and sinners, all of whom Dante arbitrarily assigned to a specific circle depending on the gravity of the sin.



The *Inferno* gives us great insight into the culture, history and mores of early Renaissance Florence. In addition, the sinners we meet run the gamut from the sympathetic to the debased and ugly and, we will often find contemporary counterparts. We discover that after almost 500 years “plus ca change, plus c’est la meme chose.”

**Study Group Leaders:** Hazel Pomiecko worked in banking and the stock market before returning to finish her aborted college education. Upon graduating, she taught English and Humanities at Stevens High School in Claremont and Humanities at the Hawthorne College extension branch also in Claremont. Since retiring, she has worked in Adult Education and the G.E.D. program.

## 5. The Claremont Conundrum

Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Tracy Memorial Library

The Claremont Case has become one of the most hotly debated issues in New Hampshire. In order to have a solution, one needs to accurately identify the problem(s). What is the Claremont Case? Is it an education lawsuit, a tax reform action, or both? As an educational matter, what are the appropriate issues that need to be addressed? If solutions must involve new funding mechanisms, what is fair to New Hampshire taxpayers and healthy for New Hampshire’s economy? This course will explore the history of the suit and will examine education policy issues, as well as funding concerns. Whenever possible, guest speakers will include people who are involved in the Claremont Conundrum, from town hall to statehouse, to think tank, to courtroom. Reading will include the Claremont cases, some briefs, background education articles, and public policy studies.

**Study Group Leader:** John Burwell Garvey joined the law firm of Sulloway & Hollis in Concord, NH in 1981. Prior to joining the firm, while serving as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps, he successfully defended the first military doctor ever charged with manslaughter arising out of the death of a patient.

John devotes his time to a wide range of litigated matters, with an emphasis on plaintiff’s personal injury, commercial litigation and medical malpractice defense. As counsel to the plaintiff in commercial and personal injury matters, he has successfully tried cases that rank among the largest verdicts and settlements in New Hampshire and Vermont. Additionally, he was one of the principal attorneys in the Claremont case, which resulted in a successful constitutional challenge to New Hampshire’s present method of funding and educating its children.

Selected for *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Who’s Who in American Law*, and AV-rated in *Martindale-Hubbell*, John is a frequent presenter to lawyers and judges on issues of trial practice and evidence. Also, he was formerly an adjunct professor at Franklin Pierce Law School, where he taught evidence. A graduate of the prestigious Leadership New Hampshire program, he graduated with

honors both from Harvard University in 1974 and Suffolk University Law School in 1978.

## **6. A History of Communications**

**Fridays 10:00 – 12:00 noon  
Tracy Memorial Library**

The object of the course is twofold. Primarily, to learn about the important personalities, their struggles, and the ingenious ways in which they overcame the many hurdles that led us all the way from the single-wire telegraph to the Internet. Secondly, to acquaint the group with some of the pre-electrical era methods of communication.

Heavier emphasis will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> and early and mid-20<sup>th</sup> century inventions. The very modern advances that are not yet “history” will be covered more lightly. Although the course necessarily deals with technical matter, it will be presented with the student with minimal technical background in mind. Anyone with a natural curiosity to learn the answers to “who did that and how did they do it?” should benefit. Class time will be divided approximately equally between lecturing with a Q&A period, discussion, and essay contributions by each participant.

### **Study Group Leader:**

Mac Plante has spent his entire career in the field of telecommunications beginning with the U.S. Navy during World War II. For most of his nearly 33 years with the Bell System he was engaged as a design and development engineer with Bell Laboratories on a diversity of systems covering the frequency spectrum from voice to microwave radio. He retired from the Bell system in 1981 and then joined Wang Laboratories where he designed and managed a telecom terminal equipment compliance laboratory, interfacing extensively with the FCC. During this time he was Wang’s representative to the Telecom Industries Association. Following his retirement from Wang in 1992, he was associated for several years as a Technical Expert with the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Institute of Standards and Technology where he was responsible for assessing telecom measurement labs for NIST accreditation.

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## THE SPRING 2000 SEMESTER AT A GLANCE

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

### MONDAYS

10 – 12 noon Joe Kun – The Habsburgs: the Rise and Decline of a Dynasty

2 – 4 p.m. George Doolittle – Understanding Poetry: More of the Same

### TUESDAYS

2 – 4 p.m. Lorna Chang – Toward Understanding China: 1790 to 1999

### THURSDAYS

10 – 12 noon Hazel Pomiecko – Dante's *Divine Comedy*

2 – 4 p.m. John Garvey – The Claremont Conundrum

### FRIDAYS

10 – 12 noon Mac Plante – A History of Communications

FACILITIES WILL ACCOMMODATE HANDICAPPED PARTICIPANTS



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Application Form - Spring 2000

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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PLEASE make checks payable to Colby-Sawyer College and return by 4:00 p.m. Friday, February 25, 2000.

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

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## APPLICATION FOR A SECOND PERSON

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Application Form - Spring 2000

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If already paid, Annual Membership fee is not required.

My selection is:            FIRST Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
   SECOND Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
   THIRD Choice \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_