

ADVENTURES IN LEARNING

Spring 2001 Course Offerings



Photos: Katie Dow '90

“Adventures in Learning is learning for learning's sake—not for a grade but for mental and spiritual satisfaction. Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee area citizens are curious, knowledgeable, and good at discussion. That makes for a rich classroom environment.”

— Mel Vulgamore
New London, N.H.



Colby-Sawyer College
New London, New Hampshire

Registration Deadline:
Friday, March 2, 2001

Welcome to Adventures in Learning



Katie Dow '90

Charles J. Carey

Dear Friends,

The Curriculum Committee is delighted to send to you the Adventures in Learning course offerings for the spring term, which begins on April 2, 2001. We are pleased to offer six interesting, non-credit courses led by volunteer study group leaders over a six-to-eight week period.

Classes this term will be held in the meeting room at the Tracy Memorial Library, the second floor conference room in New London's newly renovated Town Office Building, and in the Archives room at the Susan Colgate Cleveland Library/Learning Center on the Colby-Sawyer campus. We also will utilize the Community Room at Lake Sunapee Bank in New London.

We welcome several new study group leaders to the program this term and look forward to the contributions of Dr. Charles Kennedy of Newbury, N.H.; Dr. Donald Clark, James Bowditch, and William Tighe—all of New London; and Dusty Logan of Sunapee, N.H.

Many of you know Dusty Logan as the former Curriculum Chair at ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth) and as an ILEAD study group leader. We are especially pleased that she will offer her popular course *Rags to Riches II*, which focuses on decorative textiles, to Adventures in Learning members this spring.

The Adventures in Learning program is currently in its 2000-2001 membership year, which runs from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001. If you have not renewed your membership or are considering becoming a member for the first time, we urge you to return your application with the \$35 annual membership fee. Come and enjoy the fun and stimulation of adult intellectual enrichment here in the Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles J. Carey".

Charles J. Carey
President, Adventures in Learning

A Message From the Program Coordinator



Katie Dow '90

Sharon Ames
Program Coordinator

It's easy to enroll in a spring study group. Simply fill out the application form on the back page and send it, 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 2000-2001 academic year) to the Adventures in Learning office. Registration for the spring 2001 term begins on Monday, February 5, and runs through Friday, March 2, 2001. Please remember that our registration policy is on a first-come, first-served basis. The sooner you submit your application paperwork, the better your chances will be for getting your first choice.

Ideally, a study group will be limited to twenty members. If there are more applicants for a particular course than spaces available, applicants will be assigned to their second or third choice if space is available. For this reason, it is important that a second or third choice be indicated on the application form. 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 leaders and will be available for purchase from the Morgan Hill Bookstore in New London. The total cost of books and/or photocopied materials 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 PM, Friday, March 2, 2001. After that date, 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 and as space permits.

Please note that the Adventures in Learning office is located in Seamans Alumni House on the Colby-Sawyer College campus. The office is open to serve members, applicants, and study group leaders from 9:00 AM to 12:00 NOON and 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. During those hours, I will be available to provide assistance and can be reached by telephone at (603) 526-3720.

Cordially,



Adventures In Learning

THE SPRING 2001 TERM AT A GLANCE

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

MONDAYS

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON *A Short Course on Islam for Non-Muslims – The Archives*
Charles Kennedy

TUESDAYS

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON *Speechcraft – Community Room, Lake Sunapee Bank*
William Tighe

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM *American Literary Renaissance – Town Office Building*
James Bowditch

WEDNESDAYS

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON *The Trial and Death of Socrates – Tracy Memorial Library*
George Tracy

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM *The Personal Physician – Town Office Building*
Donald Clark

THURSDAYS

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON *Speechcraft – Community Room, Lake Sunapee Bank*
William Tighe

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON *Rags to Riches II – Tracy Memorial Library*
Dusty Logan

ALL FACILITIES ARE FULLY ACCESSIBLE.

A Short Course on Islam for Non-Muslims

Study-Group Leader: Charles Kennedy
Location: The Archives at Colby-Sawyer Library

Mondays, 10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
6 weeks beginning April 2

This course grew out of Professor Kennedy's teaching experience with undergraduates. Although Islam is the fastest-growing major religion in the United States (there are more Muslims than Episcopalians), it remains one of the least understood by non-Muslims. Islam is too frequently linked with the words "terrorist" or "fanatic" in the popular press, adding to the misinformation about the religion itself.

Islam sees itself as one of the Abrahamic religions, along with Judaism and Christianity. Abraham's older son was Ishmael, "father of the Arabs to this day." Islam accepts the prophets of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures as true prophets of God, to which company they add the Prophet of Arabia, Muhammad. Their holy book, the Qur'an, acknowledges the "People of the Book," Jews and Christians, who also have scriptures from God, although in an imperfect form. The differences between the three religions are equally important, and the lecture and discussion of these similarities and differences will explore the reasons behind the popular misconceptions about Islam.



Charles Kennedy

Bio:

Charles A. Kennedy is a professor of religion *emeritus* at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia. After receiving his divinity degree at Yale University, he continued his doctoral studies in Near-Eastern languages and literatures in the area of biblical archaeology. Having been introduced to the Middle East while doing field work for his dissertation, Professor Kennedy returned there for a sabbatical leave to study Islam at the Azhar University in Cairo, where he was one of the very few non-Muslims in the program.

His publications have been in the fields of biblical studies and American popular music relating to the Middle East. On the biblical side, he has articles on the cult of the dead and the catacombs of Rome; on the musical side, he has written about Orientalism in American popular culture. He has lectured at the Fairfax, Virginia-based Institute of Islamic and Arabic Sciences in America concerning the depiction of Islam in western operas and cantatas. Family ties and a summer home on Lake Sunapee prompted his retirement to New Hampshire.

Speechcraft: Effective Communication

Study-Group Leader: William Tighe **Tuesdays or Thursdays, 10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON**
Location: Community Room, Lake Sunapee Bank ***8 weeks beginning April 3 or 5**

The fear of standing to speak before a group of people is the number one fear of Americans. Toastmasters International was formed 75 years ago to help individuals develop their presentation techniques and to acquire leadership skills. The goal of the organization is to make effective communication a worldwide reality. The Toastmasters Speechcraft program consists of an eight-week course that includes impromptu speaking, several planned speeches and evaluations, and a series of educational module presentations on the art of public speaking. The participants will learn lectern protocol, speaking and evaluation techniques, active listening, how to organize a speech presentation, and how to develop self-confidence at the lectern.



William Tighe

Bio:

William Tighe earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of New Hampshire and retired in 1993 from United Technologies Corporation after a 35-year career in the aerospace industry. He is a freelance writer and poet and a former local radio talk show host and weekly columnist for a program on food & wine. He has been a member of the Toast of the Valley Toastmasters Club in Lebanon, N.H. for six years; is the founder of the Kearsarge-Sunapee Speakers Toastmasters Club in New London; and the public relations officer for Toastmasters International District 45, which includes Vt., N.H., Me., and the Canadian Maritime Provinces.

For the past five years, he has been an active volunteer member of the AARP/VOTE N.H. state committee and statewide speaker for Medicare and Social Security presentations. He also is president of the University of New Hampshire Alumni Association, New London/Sunapee Chapter. In addition, he has given lectures on public speaking at Colby-Sawyer and to high-school students in North Sutton, Sunapee, and Windsor, Vt. He has conducted Speechcraft courses at Sigma Data, the U.S. Army facility in Hanover, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, and the Swiftwater Girl Scout Council in Manchester.

* Please note that this course is being offered at two different class times. One class will meet on Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays. The maximum number for each class will be 10 people. If the minimum number is not met for each, both the classes may be combined and held on either Tuesdays or Thursdays.

American Literary Renaissance: 1840 - 1860

Study-Group Leader: James Bowditch
Location: Town Office Building, New London

Tuesdays, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
8 weeks beginning April 3

This course will cover six major American authors who wrote much of their best work during the two decades prior to the Civil War: Dickinson, Emerson, Hawthorne, Melville, Thoreau, and Whitman. Emerson, Hawthorne, and Melville will be represented by short works, Thoreau by *Walden*, and Whitman and Dickinson by selected poems. The format will be entirely group discussion. We will focus on the major themes and artistic features of each writer as well as pay particular attention to the two competing philosophical/religious ideologies of the time, Calvinism and Transcendentalism, that informed the mind-sets of the writers. Participants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these two currents of thought and to bring their own opinions of the writers to the sessions.

Participants are expected to have *Walden* in hand at class and have relevant pieces by Emerson, Hawthorne, and Melville, which will be on reserve at both Tracy Memorial Library and Susan Colgate Cleveland Library/Learning Center at Colby-Sawyer. Photocopies of the Whitman and Dickinson poems will be supplied.



James Bowditch

Bio:

James Bowditch received a B.A. in English and Humanities from Stanford University and a Ph.D. in American Studies from Harvard. He taught at Ripon College, Wisconsin, for eight years and then became the head of Francis W. Parker High School in Chicago. He spent the years between 1974 and 2000 overseas as headmaster of such institutions as the America Overseas School of Rome, the ACAT School in Torino, Italy; the International School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and for the past fifteen years as professor of English and History at John Cabot University in Rome. Now retired, he is the author of four published books of poetry, essays, and a novel, as well as eight unpublished novels.

The Trial and Death of Socrates

Study-Group Leader: George Tracy
Location: Tracy Memorial Library, New London

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 12 NOON
6 weeks beginning April 4

The writings of Plato arguably are the most influential philosophical documents in Western thought. Such thought had its foundation in his “teacher,” Socrates, who is the central figure in the four dialogues we will study. In the year 399 B.C., Socrates was brought to trial on a charge of not believing in the gods of the city of Athens and was accused of introducing new gods, thereby corrupting the youth of the city. This was a capital charge and Socrates was found guilty and put to death.

The dialogues that we will study do not make his death a central issue. Rather, the dialogues highlight the ideas that Socrates felt to be far more important than his death. In order to escape death he could abandon his search for virtue. This he preferred not to do, in spite of the advice of friends and loved ones, for he held firm the conviction that “the unexamined life is not worth living.”

Such an examination will be the substance of our study. The method employed will, of course, be Socratic.



George Tracy

Bio:

George Tracy was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and was educated in the United States and the United Kingdom. From 1953 to 1993, he was a teacher of classics at St. Paul's School, Concord, N.H., where he held for many years the Cochrane Mastership in Greek. In 1974, he began teaching Elizabethan Literature, both in The Advanced Studies Program at St. Paul's, as well as in the regular school.

George has led such popular courses for Adventures in Learning as *The End Crowns All: A Study of Two Tragedies* in the fall of 1998, and *Othello, A Study of Domestic Violence* in the fall of 1999.

Notes

Application Form

- Spring 2001 -

Enclosed is my payment of _____ \$35 for my 2000-2001 annual membership fee and _____ \$30 for my course enrollment fee. If already paid, annual membership fee is not required.

My course selections are:

FIRST Choice _____

SECOND Choice _____

THIRD Choice _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please make checks payable to Colby-Sawyer College and return this form by 4:00 PM, Friday, March 2, 2001 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 Form for Second Person

- Spring 2001 -

Enclosed is my payment of _____ \$35 for my 2000-2001 annual membership fee and _____ \$30 for my course enrollment fee. If already paid, annual membership fee is not required.

My course selections are:

FIRST Choice _____

SECOND Choice _____

THIRD Choice _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____



Adventures in Learning

Colby-Sawyer College
100 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
(603) 526-3720

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Adventures in Learning • 2nd Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 24, 2001 • 4-6 PM • Colby-Sawyer College