



# Albion Area

# Lifelong Learners

Winter 2016 Newsletter

[AlbionAALL.org](http://AlbionAALL.org)

Participating Member  
**ROAD SCHOLAR**

Adventures in Life Long Learning



Albion College

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## 2016 Winter Assembly

January 14, 2016 Winter Assembly

Speaker: Amy Reimann

Bobbitt Auditorium, Albion College - 10:00 a.m.

Many of us can recall moments of dread in the face of unfamiliar cultural institutions: where do I start? What am I to think of it? How much sociology, history, philosophy should I have paid more attention to in school if I am to get it? Will I pass this course called "museum"?

Amy Reimann, Executive Director of the Ella Sharp Museum and Cell Block 7 Prison Museum in Jackson, MI, will be our confidence-building guide through the museum experience. Join Amy, January 14, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Bobbitt Auditorium on the Albion College campus, for a conversation about how museums are organized, what they are trying to tell us, and what they want us to tell them.





**"First we insert a balloon to open up your artery.  
Then we add helium and a string and bring  
you upstairs to cheer up the sick kids."**

## The Rainbow Connection

The Albion Rainbow Connection, a group of LGBTQ people and allies, strives to develop "safe spaces in places, minds, and hearts" through education and awareness, and by addressing bullying, discrimination, exclusion, and other issues important to the LGBTQ community. The group has asked local area churches, governments, and organizations to help create awareness in Albion and surrounding communities of the group's existence and purpose. Please send an email to [albionrainbowconnection@gmail.com](mailto:albionrainbowconnection@gmail.com) with any questions, to join the group, or to be added the group's private Facebook page and / or private email list.



WINTER CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter 2016 Newsletter

AALL  
P.O. Box 188  
Albion, Michigan 49224

# AALL Course Descriptions, Winter, 2016

**Registration required**

A LOOK AT MUSEUMS. Amy Reimann, MSI-ARM. Mondays 2:00-4:00. February 1, 8, 15, 22. TBA.

There are approximately 850 million visits each year to American museums, more than the attendance for all major league sporting events and theme parks combined (483 million in 2011). This course is designed to take an in-depth and behind-the-scenes look at the philosophy and mechanics behind museums. Each week will focus on a different aspect of museum operations including physical space, visitor services, collections, volunteers, and development. Lively discussion and attendee participation about their museum experiences will be an integral component of the course.

ARCHEOLOGY OF ANCIENT INDIA AND PAKISTAN: THE INDUS CIVILIZATION IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE.

Brad Chase, Ph.D., Anthropology and Sociology, Albion College. Wednesdays 10:00-12:00, February 3, 10, 17, 24. Vulgamore 204. Limit 30.

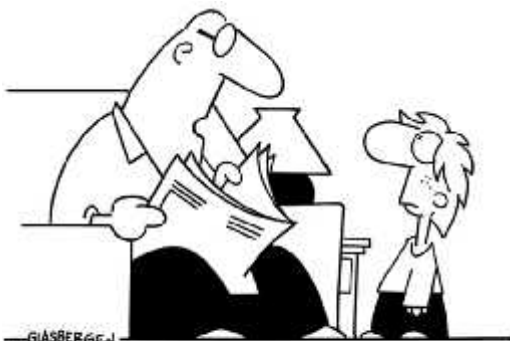
As Egyptians were building the pyramids and Mesopotamians were forming the world's first empire, the residents of what is now India and Pakistan were independently inventing writing, constructing cities, and forming a unique form of government that we are still working to understand. Unlike their neighbors to the west, however, the Indus Civilization was lost to history until its rediscovery in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. As its writing system has not yet been deciphered, it is known exclusively through the study of physical remains that have preserved into the present, i.e., through archeology. This class will focus on four major areas: 1) the emergence of the Indus Civilization, 2) its social dynamics, 3) its decline, and 4) its legacies in South Asia and beyond. Throughout each, comparisons will be made with more popularly known ancient civilizations with the goal of identifying universal processes in the emergence and decline of civilizations.

Book needed before class starts: Kenoyer, J.M. 1998. Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization. Islamabad: Oxford University Press.

HISTORY OF RELIGION IN AMERICA. Jeremy Williams, Ph.D. in Theology (History of Christianity). Mondays 10:00-12:00. February 1, 8, 15, 22. First United Methodist Church, Fellowship Lounge.

America has provided the most fertile environment in all of history for the planting and growth of new religious movements. We won't be able to examine every one, but we'll look at some of the new movements of the last three hundred years, their interactions, and social changes that have helped shape the present. Included will be Native faith traditions, Catholics and Anglicans, Reformed, Presbyterians, Baptists (including several varieties), Quakers, Methodists (including several varieties), Universalists, Unitarians, Jews, Orthodox Christians, Mormons, Swedenborgians, Spiritualists, Pentecostals, Buddhists, Muslims, Baha'is and Sufis.

Because of the length of the class, we will focus on groups that have had the widest influence and largest participation. Some of the main factors affecting religious change in America are organizational politics, colonial and state politics, waves of immigration, social conflict, and philosophical development. We will examine the distinctive theological understandings of each group and the organizational history that helped it grow.



"When I was a young man, love made the world go around. Then it was money. Now it's prunes."

## **AALL Officers**

President :	Robin Reed
Vice President:	John Kondelik
Treasurers:	Alice Cook
Secretary:	Kathleen Seidl
Editor, Newsletter:	Dick Lewin

PERMACULTURE: FRINGE MOVEMENT OR A PATHWAY TO SAVE THE WORLD? Tim Lincoln, Ph.D. Geology. Thursdays 2:00-4:00. February 4, 11, 18, 25. TBA.

I first encountered permaculture when preparing to teach a new course, "Sustainable Living." Permaculture combines the words permanent, agriculture, and culture. Initially captivated by permaculture's promise of ecological gardening, I am increasingly drawn to the cultural side. I have since participated in a week-long permaculture design course and have visited organic, permaculture, and biodynamic gardens, farms, and communities around the country. My objectives in the AALL class are to talk about forest ecology, discuss permaculture as well as better-known organic farming and lesser-known biodynamic agriculture, share some of my experiences, and ask participants to help me think through some of the ideas to which these experiences have led me.

Permaculture advocates agriculture in the form of self-sustaining ecological systems coupled with compatible human cultural systems. Start with nitrogen-fixing plants and plants that attract birds who donate droppings while controlling insect populations. Throw in some fungi to distribute nutrients and water through symbiotic relationships with plants. Then think how people will inhabit the place from social and aesthetic perspectives, and you are on your way to permaculture design.

I hope to explore several questions collaboratively. Does it work? Reaction against large-scale commercial agriculture has led to a distinct anti-scientific thread in permaculture circles. Is there room for scientific permaculture? I lost interest in biodynamic agriculture when people started talking about "aligning with the earth force currents." But last spring we visited a biodynamic vineyard and saw an idyllic place that makes an excellent product. How do I think about that? Finally, can we apply these ecological ideas to the design of human communities? Can we draw parallels between the symbioses that develop in an old-growth forest and the systems, physical and cultural, that develop in a mature urban area? What changes when we view a community through this lens?



TRAVELOGUE 2016. Various presenters. Tuesdays, 2:00 - 4:00. February 2, 9, 16, 23. Naomi Lane Room, Albion District Library.

February 2: Jim Seidl and Dave Farley. "The Rhine River."

February 9: Abby and Dick Mortensen. "China."



February 16: Barb and Bill Rafail. "Normandy and Paris, A Look Back to World War II."

February 23: Pat Tomasik, Sharon Gray, Carol Gnich, and Cathy Campbell. "England, Wales, and Scotland."

SYMMETRY AND ASYMMETRY: UNIVERSAL APPLICATIONS. Andrew French, Ph.D., Chemistry. Tuesdays 10:00-12:00. February 2, 9, 16, 23. TBA.

The world we live in can be viewed through any number of lenses. Biologists and philosophers differ in the way they look at nature. Training and life experiences change these lenses as we go through life. One lens that we may be aware of is the lens of symmetry and its opposite asymmetry. We often look at a maple leaf and marvel at its symmetry, and we are often curious why some people are left-handed (asymmetry).

This class will introduce the theoretical underpinnings of this lens and give the student an opportunity to "play" with the many expressions of symmetry and asymmetry. In addition, we will connect this lens to fields of study including languages, music, and the sciences, and then end with medicine and pharmacology. Students will learn to build molecules and convert two-dimensional drawings into three-dimensional models. They will also arrive at an understanding of how the medicines we take interact with our bodies to impart therapeutic benefit or detriment. Each student will need a Molecular Modeling Kit HGS Molecular Structure Model ISBN-13: 978-4902897357 or ISBN-10: 4902897350, @Albion College Bookstore for approximately \$23.00).

# AALL Course Registration Form – Winter 2016

## Registration Instructions – Please Read Carefully

1. Fill in the blank below (on the left) for yourself. If you have a spouse/partner who is an AALL member, use the blank (on the right).
2. For each course for which you wish to register, place a number in the box in front of the course name: 1 for the course you most wish to take, 2 for the second course you wish to take, etc. Note: If you only wish to take one course, indicate only one (1) course (mark it with the number 1) — see instruction 4 below.
3. In the column marked FEE, indicate the appropriate cost. Your first course (each term) is free with your AALL membership; simply write FREE in the FEE column. For each additional course, the fee is \$10.
4. If you wish to indicate an alternate choice (in case one of your choices above is oversubscribed and you are not admitted to that course), mark an X in the box before your alternate choice.

**IMPORTANT:**

1. Use numbers in the boxes to indicate which course(s) you wish to take; use an X only to indicate alternate courses.
2. If you are registering for a course with limited enrollment, make sure you mark it number 1 (only those indicating a course as their first choice are entered into the random selection).

"If there are additional class fees for supplies, these fees need to be paid at the time of registration and are non-refundable unless the class is canceled."

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**MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
 (To be completed only by those wishing to renew their membership in AALL)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$20 per year per person      Spouse's E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Yes, I am 55 or older (spouse/partner could be younger)



A suggestion was made at the AALL Board Meeting that members could bring their own coffee mugs to classes to help reduce landfill issues. The impact of this decision may seem to be of small significance, but it is one way that we can reduce our environmental "FOOTPRINT". AALL will continue to provide cups for those who don't bring their own.

## AALL Membership

If you are not already an AALL member, or if you have not paid your 2015-2016 dues, a membership form is included at the bottom of the "Course Registration" form. Dues are \$20 per person, per year, with the year running from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

Members may take one (1) free course per term (fall, winter, spring). There is a charge of \$10 for each additional course taken in any term. Members who are not sure whether they have paid dues for the current year should contact Alice Cook, AALL Treasurer, at 517-629-6432 or e-mail: [acook@alumnimail.albion.edu](mailto:acook@alumnimail.albion.edu).

## Registration Information

The Registration form attached to this newsletter should be sent, with payment (if any), to:

**AALL Registrar**

**P.O. Box 188**

**Albion, Michigan 49224**

or brought to the

**Winter Assembly on January 14, 2016 @ 10 a.m. in Bobbitt Auditorium, Albion College .**

**"If there are additional class fees for supplies, these fees need to be paid at the time of registration and are non-refundable unless the class is canceled."**

### AALL Lottery Policy for Over-Enrolled Classes

When a course with limits is over-enrolled, the names of all of those who had it listed as #1 shall be entered in a lottery. Those randomly drawn shall be placed in the class. Those not selected will comprise the waiting list and also be given first access if that course is offered again. The registrar will keep a record of those on the waiting list until the course is offered again.

Those selected for the course in its first offering will not be eligible to retake it until all those on the waiting list have had the opportunity to take the course.

Those who have signed up for a class with limits and listed it as #1 are encouraged to sign up for at least one additional class. Members are also encouraged not to sign up for a course with limited enrollment if they know they won't be there for all four sessions.

Registrants for all classes will receive a letter shortly after **January 14, 2015** that will acknowledge their registration, and provide additional information about the course(s) for which they have registered.

If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees will be refunded **ONLY** if the AALL Registrar, Mary Deardurff (517-629-9661) is notified **no later than one week prior to the start of the class.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** AALL incorporated as a separate NONPROFIT organization in January 2010 under the incorporation laws of the State of Michigan. However, we have NOT yet become a TAX EXEMPT organization under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service. Therefore, any donations and/or fees paid to AALL are NOT tax deductible. The AALL Board is currently weighing the costs and benefits of applying for tax-exempt status, but no decision has yet been reached.