



Albion Area Lifelong Learners



Participating Member
ROAD SCHOLAR
Adventures in Life Long Learning

Fall 2017 Newsletter

AlbionAALL.org



Albion College

2017 AALL FALL ASSEMBLY

Speaker: Jan Blixt

Why Shakespeare:

Classical Theatre as Societal Connection and Legitimate Entertainment

The Michigan Shakespeare Festival's Producing Artistic Director, Janice L. Blixt, will talk about the trials and tribulations of being the public face of a classical theatre: from the honest aspects of being an arts organization in a socially, politically, and financially divided America to how she answers the constantly posed question "Why do you bother to produce Shakespeare?"

Janice L Blixt has just concluded her eighth award-winning season as the Producing Artistic Director of the Michigan Shakespeare Festival. As a director and adapter, her most recent works include a world premiere production of a new translation of Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*, an original adaptation of *Henry IV*— a combination of both Henry IV plays into one epic production, and acclaimed productions of *Julius Caesar*, *Richard II*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Richard III*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Romeo & Juliet*, Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, and Karen Tarjan's play of Michael Shaara's novel *The Killer Angels*.



Thursday, September 7, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Herrick Auditorium, Dow Center (Theatre Department)

BLUES AT THE BOHM



Best Entertainment Value Possible
for 3 hours of the Blues
Food Available
Bring an Instrument — Jam with the best

Think Albion — Think Music

Help Needed!



Have You Traveled Lately?
AALL's February Travelogue Needs YOU!
Present your photos...
Talk about your trips...

Say Yes!

Contact:

Martha O'Kennon mokennon@albion.edu
or

Jim Seidl seidljames@sbcglobal.net



FALL CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall 2017 Newsletter

AALL
P.O. Box 188
Albion, Michigan 49224

AALL Course Descriptions, Fall, 2017

Registration required

SEARCHING FOR TRUTH: DOCUMENTARIES AT THE BOHM. Nancy Doyal, 2:00 p.m. — 4 :00 p.m. October 3, 10, 17, 24. Bohm Theatre I.

Documentaries tell stories about real events and real people using, for the most part, actual images and objects. They record what is currently happening in the world or explore what has already taken place. They introduce viewers to ideas, people and experiences that they otherwise might not have encountered or challenge them to question what they already know. Like fiction films, documentaries can be funny, moving, disturbing, thought-provoking and entertaining.

- “Lo and Behold: Reveries of the Connected World,” directed by Werner Herzog (2016) is a documentary about the significance of the Internet in our daily lives and our digital habitat. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc1tZ8JsZvg>.
- “13th,” directed by Ava DuVernay (2016) challenges the notion of progress, particularly the language of our political system that both veils and reveals a profound and devastating truth: slavery was never abolished here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V66F3WU2CKk>.
- “If You’re Not in the Obit, Eat Breakfast,” directed by Danny Gold (2017) is a documentary about nonagenarians and a celebration of their vitality. “Was it luck, genes, modern medicine, or are we doing something right?” asks Carl Reiner. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yr85allrDHU>.
- “Unacknowledged,” directed by Michael Mazzola (2017) focuses on the historic files of the Disclosure Project and how UFO secrecy has been ruthlessly enforced and why. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-duAulqsOQ>.

Nancy Doyal holds a degree in Arts Management. Nancy has over 30 years of experience in the Arts Management field including at the California Film Institute, the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor, and the Albion Bohm Theatre where she serves as Executive Director.

CURRENT ISSUES IN Space III. Nicolle Zellner, Ph.D., Planetary Science. Mondays 2:00 — 4:00. October 2, 16, 23, 30. Norris 104.

This course follows up on ideas presented in “Current Issues in Space I” (Winter 2010) and “Current Issues in Space II” (Fall 2012), though participation in those courses is not a requirement for this one. I will offer a broad range of astronomical topics for discussion, from recent explorations of Pluto, Vesta, and Ceres; to providing updates on the history of lunar bombardment based on new orbital and sample data; to talking about life on any of the >3400 (confirmed) exoplanets that have been discovered; to talking about the 45th anniversary of Apollo 17 and whether or not we’ll actually get back to the Moon. We will learn about each of these topics (and more), with the possible use of hands-on activities to reinforce ideas. If you’ve ever looked up at the stars and - just wondered - this course is for you.

TUMOR BIOLOGY. Robert Armstrong, Ph.D., Biochemistry. Mondays 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. October 2, 9, 23, 30. Ludington Center.

This course will attempt to answer the following questions in lay terms: (1) What are the ways the body controls cell division? (2) What is the difference between normal and cancer cells? (3) Can we use these differences to treat cancer? (4) How have approaches to treat cancer changed over the last 30-40 years? (5) How do most cancer cells evade the immune system? (6) How can we help the immune system to fight cancer?

AALL Officers

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

GERMANY IN 2017: RELUCTANT LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD? Patrick McLean, M.A., Political Science; M.A., International Relations. Thursdays 9:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m. October 5, 12, 19, 26. Olin 112.

With the impending British exit from the European Union following the Brexit vote in 2016, and with the continued leading role of the German export-based economy in world markets, Germany finds itself as the de facto leader of Europe. Germany also finds itself playing a larger role as the guardian of liberal values within the global community as the United States prevaricates under the Trump administration.

The nation responsible for the Holocaust did not seek this increasingly dominant role on the world stage. In many ways, this leadership role runs counter to the consistently preferred policies of the German Federal Republic during the post-war world.

This course seeks to make sense out of present-day, re-unified Germany by drawing on the post-war past, the role of the European Union and the political and electoral structures that have resulted in unprecedented stability for Germany. Along the way, we will include travel issues, the lingering east-west divide, the reemergence of Berlin as a global city, the unifying role of football, and we will examine some of the key German leaders (post-war). We also will discuss the September 2017 election in the Federal Republic.

Underlying the entire discussion will be the question of whether the re-emergence of Germany as a global leader is a force for stability or instability in Europe and the global arena.

Students are encouraged to regularly read the international version of Der Spiegel (which is in English). Additional materials, mostly online, will be forthcoming.

MASS INCARCERATION AND RACE. Scott Melzer, Ph.D., Sociology. Wednesdays 10:00 — 12:00. October 4, 11, 18, 25. Ludington Center.

The number of incarcerated people in the United States has increased sevenfold since the 1970s, spiking to well over two million people. We lock up more people today than any nation has in the history of the world. At front and center of this transformation is race. The proportion of the prison population who are African American is triple that of their proportion of the U.S. population. This course will explore the various racial components of mass incarceration.

We will focus especially on changes in law enforcement practices and criminal justice policy, media coverage of race and crime, and the politics of race and crime. Is mass incarceration The New Jim Crow (as legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues)? In other words, is it simply the contemporary means through which our society enforces a racial caste system? Alexander's book will guide us as we discuss "colorblindness," racial profiling, the War on Drugs, benchmark legal cases and court decisions, and the lifelong stigma and far-reaching consequences of incarceration.

Proposed reading: Alexander, Michelle. 2011. *The New Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New York: The New Press. Additional readings/handouts will be provided.

GENDER AND BIBLICAL INTERPRETATIONS. Jocelyn McWhirter, Ph.D., New Testament. Thursdays, 2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m. October 5, 12, 19, 26. Vulgamore 103.

The Bible is an ancient book. And, needless to say, we live in a different world from the world that produced the Bible. Perspectives on gender are among the many changes that have taken place in the Western world during the last century. The roles of men and women, both at home and in the workplace, have come under scrutiny in the wake of women's rights movements. In addition, the development of more effective birth control, and the gay rights movement, have revolutionized our society's sexual ethics.

In response to these changes, faithful Jews and Christians have been forced to re-evaluate their traditional beliefs by critically examining the Bible stories and commandments that inform those beliefs. Many – including feminist interpreters who were among the first women to join the all-male guild of biblical scholars – began to re-interpret the Bible in light of gender issues raised in contemporary society. In many cases, these new interpretations were driven by the desire to alter religious practices now regarded as discriminatory. Others, observing that the Bible's authority was losing ground to contemporary cultural values, made a bid to retain the tradition. The tension between these two camps is felt among Jews and Christians today.

The study will be of some of the Bible texts related to gender and sexuality in family life, the public sphere, sexual relationships, and the concept of God, paying attention to historical contexts, contemporary debates, and ethical issues. Proposed reading: A Bible. Preferred versions: New Revised Standard, Revised Standard, New International Version, New American Bible.

AALL Course Registration Form – Fall 2017

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. If you are unable to attend a course for which you have registered, fees can be refunded up until the start of the course.

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<u>MEMBERSHIP FORM</u>	___ Yes, I am 55 or older (spouse/partner could be younger)
(To be completed by those needing 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 _____

AALL Membership

If you are not already an AALL member, or if you have not paid your 2017-2018 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@alummail.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

Fall Assembly on September 7, 2017 @ 10 a.m. in Herrick Auditorium (Dow Center) Theatre Department.

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.

Fall Class Registration deadline is **Sept. 14, 2017**. Regretfully, class applications after that date cannot be accepted.

Registrants for all classes will receive a letter shortly after **Sept. 14, 2017** 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 up until the beginning of the course.

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.