

Adventures in Learning

Fall 2007
Course Offerings



Registration Deadline:
Friday, August 17, 2007



Colby-Sawyer College
New London, New Hampshire

Welcome to the Adventures in Learning 2007 fall term.



Adventures in Learning is a community-based program of educational enrichment for adults living in the Kearsarge-Lake Sunapee region. Sponsored by Colby-Sawyer College, Adventures in Learning provides a peer learning experience for those who wish to continue their intellectual growth in an informal setting.

The Curriculum Committee of Adventures in Learning is pleased to offer twelve courses for the 2007 fall term which begins on **September 17** and continues through **November 9**.

We are delighted to welcome and introduce three new study group leaders whose courses are listed in this catalog. We look forward to the contributions of Bill Helm, André Hurtgen and Dick Schwemm.

Membership

If you have not already paid your dues for the **NEW JULY 2007 TO JUNE 2008 MEMBERSHIP YEAR**, please include the \$40 membership fee when you register.

Registration

To register in courses, complete the form found at the back of this catalog (or downloaded from the Web site) and send it to Janet St. Laurent, Adventures in Learning, Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257.

Lottery for Oversubscribed Courses

Registrations for all courses will be counted at the end of the business day on **July 31**. For any course that is oversubscribed at that time, a lottery will be held to randomly select the participants. For this reason, you may wish to select alternate choices on your registration form. You will be notified if we are unable to enroll you in your first choice.

Registration Deadline

Registration for remaining courses with space available continues through **August 17**.

Additional Course Policy

Following the registration period, there is sometimes space available in a course that would interest you. Requests for a course of equal value to the one you are registered in may be made at no additional charge during the registration period and until August 24. Assignments for these courses will be made, as space permits, based on the order the requests are received.

Books and Other Reading Material

Books that are selected by study group leaders are usually available for purchase at a discounted rate from Morgan Hill Bookstore in New London, N.H. Photocopied materials prepared by study group leaders are offered at cost from the Adventures in Learning Office.

Guest Policy

Many of our courses are oversubscribed and have a waiting list. As a courtesy to our membership, please remember that attendance in Adventures in Learning courses is reserved only for those members who have registered and have been enrolled in the course.

Adventures in Learning Office

The office is located in the Colby Homestead on the Colby-Sawyer College campus to the right of the Main Street entrance for the Dan and Kathleen Hogan Sports Center. Program Assistant Janet St. Laurent is available Monday through Friday to assist with administrative matters and term registrations. She may be reached at 526-3690 or by e-mail at jstlaure@colby-sawyer.edu. Program Coordinator Sharon Ames may be reached at 526-3720 or by e-mail at adventures@colby-sawyer.edu.

We wish to thank The Fells, Lake Sunapee Bank, Tracy Memorial Library and the towns of Newbury and New London for making space available for our fall courses.

Adventures in Learning

at

Colby-Sawyer College

THE FALL 2007 TERM AT A GLANCE

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

MONDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***The Brothers Karamazov / Ben Acard***
7 weeks beginning September 17 at the Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room
- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***Sunnis and Shi'as / Chuck Kennedy***
6 weeks beginning September 17 at the Newbury Community Room
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. ***Othello, the Moor of Venice / Anne Carey***
4 week MINI beginning September 17 at the Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room

TUESDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***Great Voices from Opera and Theater: The Art and Craft of Great Singing / Ron Luchsinger***
6 weeks beginning September 18 at the Tracy Memorial Library Meeting Room
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. ***An Introduction to Japan, Its Language and Culture / André Hurtgen***
6 weeks beginning September 18 at the New London Town Office Building
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. ***The Birth of Modern Science / Dick Schwemm***
4 week MINI beginning October 16 at the Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. ***The Life and Art of Edna St. Vincent Millay / Gladys Dowd***
4 week MINI beginning September 18 at the Tracy Memorial Library
New Hampshire Room

WEDNESDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***Goodbye Dolly: A Biotechnology Update / Judy Bohn***
6 weeks beginning September 19 at the New London Town Office Building
- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***Natural Hazards and Catastrophes / Jim Moore***
6 weeks beginning September 19 at the Fells Gatehouse
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. ***The Question of God: Discussions with C.S. Lewis, Sigmund Freud and Sam Harris / Art Rosen***
8 weeks beginning September 19 at the Newbury Community Room

THURSDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***Russia - The Past Hundred Years / Bill Helm***
6 weeks beginning September 20 at the New London Town Office Building
- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. ***The Evolving American Dream: 1600-1850 / Ann Lang and Julie Machen***
5 weeks beginning October 4 at the Tracy Memorial Library Meeting Room

FACILITIES WILL ACCOMMODATE HANDICAPPED PARTICIPANTS

The Brothers Karamazov

Study Group Leader: Ben Acard

Mondays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Location: Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room

7 weeks beginning September 17, 2007

One of the finest Russian novels of all time, *The Brothers Karamazov* by Fyodor Dostoevsky, is the story of a Russian family whose strengths and weaknesses of body, mind and spirit are inherent in the lives of each character.

Required reading will be the Dover Giant Thrift Edition, translated by Constance Garnett.

Weekly discussions will include aspects of philosophy, religion, morality and family relationships within the text. To enhance these discussions, biographical information about Dostoevsky's life will be added and the film starring Yul Brynner may be viewed.



Ben Acard

Ben received a B.A. degree and majored in American colonial history. After serving in the Air Force for several years, he spent his working years marketing forest products worldwide, traveling and establishing branch offices in Asia, Europe, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Russia.

Sunnis and Shi'as

Study Group Leader: Chuck Kennedy
Location: Newbury Community Room

Mondays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
6 weeks beginning September 17, 2007

During the last four decades the re-emergence of Islam into world politics has attracted a great deal of attention. This course will provide an overview of the two divisions in the Islamic world, the majority Sunnis and the minority Shi'as. It is the minority branch that has pushed its way into the headlines with the Lebanese civil war and the Iranian Revolution and its successor government of President Ahmadinejad.

The course will begin with an outline of the basic beliefs of Islam, then examine the ways the Muslim communities have organized themselves into governments and dealt with matters of personal status. The external threats of Crusades and the internal divisions of dynasties will be considered, followed by the impact of Arab nationalism in the 20th century.

Finally, the Shi'a Crescent and the threat of an Islamic bomb will be studied with concluding thoughts on the competing notions of a war on terror and jihad/struggle, depending on your point of view.

Readings will be provided and discussion will be encouraged.



Chuck Kennedy

Chuck is professor emeritus of religion at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). He did his undergraduate work at Yale and then taught for two years at the Kamehameha Schools in Honolulu, Hawaii. He attended Yale Divinity School and earned a doctorate in Near Eastern languages and literatures at Yale. He taught undergraduate courses in biblical studies and world religions at Austin College in Sherman, Tex., then at Virginia Tech where he concentrated on the Hebrew Scriptures and Middle Eastern religions. He pursued advanced studies at al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, and has traveled in Europe, the Middle East, India and Asia. Chuck is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

Othello, the Moor of Venice

Study Group Leader: Anne Carey

Mondays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room 4 weeks beginning September 17, 2007

A Minicourse

Shakespeare's "Othello" is an adaptation of a 1565 Italian tale into which he brings the villainous character Iago.

Trusting to false appearances and allowing reason to be guided by passion is a theme of many Shakespeare comedies, but in "Othello" the tragic consequences of such a theme are shown.

Participants in this course will view two films of "Othello" with Ian McKellen playing Iago in one and Kenneth Branagh playing Iago in the other.

Discussion will focus on the differences between the performances, the behavior of the characters and the meaning of the play.

Required reading will be *Oxford School Othello*, Oxford University Press, 1989, edited by Roma Gill.



Anne Carey

Anne enjoyed a 30-year career in Human Resources with GTE in the Boston Area. She has led courses in "King Lear" and "Macbeth" at both Adventures in Learning and ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth) and courses in astrology and Greek mythology at ILEAD.

Great Voices from Opera and Theater: The Art and Craft of Great Singing

Study Group Leader: Ron Luchsinger

Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Tracy Memorial Library Meeting Room 6 weeks beginning September 18, 2007

Participants in this course will explore the nature and process of singing including analyses of the vocal ranges of soprano, alto, tenor, bass and everything in between and of vocal types such as coloratura, lyric, spinto and dramatic.

Illustrations from live performances will show how the singer's art has evolved over time with recordings and films beginning in 1903 and for times prior to 1903 through selected reviews and written references.

Recommended reading will be *Great Singers on Great Singing* by Jerome Hines, Doubleday, 1982.



Ron Luchsinger

Ron has happily led two previous discussion groups on operatic themes for Adventures in Learning. At other times he has been busy as Director of Productions for Opera North in Lebanon, N.H., as Artistic Director of Commonwealth Opera in Massachusetts and traveling as a freelance opera director. His formal education includes degrees from the University of Dubuque, Iowa, and the Hartt School of the University of Hartford, Conn.

An Introduction to Japan, Its Language and Culture

Study Group Leaders: André Hurtgen

Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Location: New London Town Office Building

6 weeks beginning September, 18 2007

Modern Japan has maintained a strong attachment to its origins preserving many ancient customs and traditions. The Japanese are taught a correct way to do just about everything: greeting, addressing each other, pointing, counting, and even walking and sitting, always with the proper consideration for others.

In what other part of the world is drinking tea a ceremonial occasion? Where else do religious rituals precede a wrestling bout? What other army encourages its soldiers to engage in flower arranging or writing poetry?

Written Japanese requires three concurrent writing systems. Spoken Japanese involves multiple levels of speech with consideration for one's relative social position.

Participants will examine the long history of a people whose imperial line began over two and a half millennia ago. They will explore the arts and crafts of kabuki, noh, bunraku, ikebana and haiku as well as trying their hands at brush calligraphy and origami. Time permitting, a Japanese movie and a Japanese novel will be included.

Recommended reading will be *The Japanese Today* by Edwin O. Reischauer, President Kennedy's ambassador to Japan. Supplementary materials will be available for participants to consult.



André Hurtgen

André came to the United States on a Fulbright Scholarship after earning a B.A. at the Université de Louvain in Belgium. He earned an M.A. degree at the University of Vermont and did further study at Cornell University. From 1960 to 1997, he taught French and Spanish at St. Paul's School in Concord, N.H. At age 49, he became interested in Japanese and after two years of studying the language, he spent a sabbatical year learning and teaching at Seikei Gakuen in Tokyo. Upon returning to St. Paul's, he developed the course "An Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture" which he taught in the Advanced Studies Program from 1985 to 2005. He has returned to Japan many times and tries hard to maintain some degree of proficiency in Japanese.

The Birth of Modern Science

Study Group Leader: Dick Schwemm

Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room

4 weeks beginning October 16, 2007

A Minicourse

This will be a course about science, not a science course. No math or science background is required, only an open mind.

By reviewing the history of astronomy from ancient times until the time of Isaac Newton, participants will explore how myth evolved into natural philosophy and natural philosophy evolved into modern science. The inquiring nature of the human species will be examined as will the humanity of individual scientists.

The important role of concepts and theories in scientific endeavors will be highlighted, and an attempt will be made to determine whether or not there is a “scientific method.” Finally, we will try to discern the causes of the age-old conflict between science and religion and discuss how this conflict continues to play out in today’s world.

There will be no required text. Background information and discussion questions will be provided for each topic. A bibliography will be developed, and participants will be encouraged to do research and reading on their own.



Dick Schwemm

Dick is a graduate of Amherst College and holds a Master’s Degree in physics and math from the University of Illinois. He retired from IBM in 1993 having completed a 33-year career in systems, marketing and general management. He and his wife Barbara have lived in New London, N.H. for the past 10 years.

The Life and Art of Edna St. Vincent Millay

Study Group Leader: Gladys Dowd

Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Tracy Memorial Library New Hampshire Room 4 weeks beginning September 18, 2007

A Minicourse

Thomas Hardy once said that America had two great attractions: the skyscraper and the poetry of Edna St. Vincent Millay. This may have been only a slight exaggeration, because when Millay read her poetry, crowds gathered to hear her thrilling voice and to see the tiny figure with milky white skin and bright red hair dressed in a long shimmering gown.

She was the poet of the Jazz Age, a powerful voice for a generation of young women defiant of convention and experiencing significant social change in the 1920s and 1930s. Millay achieved a popular appeal that has rarely been equaled. She was like a rock star, the Madonna of her time, dazzling critics and the public with her startlingly original and sexually provocative verses, her caustic observations, her cynicism and biting wit.

Millay's lifestyle was bohemian. She lived in Greenwich Village, drank, smoked in public and took many lovers (men and women, single and married). A best-selling poet even during the Depression, she grew rich from her art and was the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry which was awarded to her in 1923.

Participants in this course will explore the artistic achievement of Edna St. Vincent Millay in the context of her life.

Required reading will be *Collected Poems of Edna St. Vincent Millay* published by Harper Perennial, 1981.



Gladys Dowd

Gladys has both a bachelor's and a master's degree in English from Trinity College, Hartford, Conn. She was born in Germany and came to the United States with her family when she was 11. During her professional life, she created a line of aviation Christmas cards which she marketed to the aviation industry, worked in computer-based education at Aetna Institute and taught English at West Chester University and English as a Second Language at Temple University. Gladys and her husband moved to New London, N.H., in 2000 after living in seven states. She is presently enjoying creating Web sites for small businesses.

Goodbye Dolly: A Biotechnology Update

Study Group Leader: Judy Bohn
Location: New London Town Office Building

Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6 weeks beginning September 19, 2007

Ten years ago the cloning of Dolly the sheep made newspaper headlines. That announcement was the basis for “Genetic Engineering: From the Discovery of DNA to the Cloning of Dolly the Sheep,” one of the first courses offered by Adventures in Learning. It was followed by a second course that included Dolly and stem cell research.

This final course in the series will summarize the advances and discoveries made by an important and controversial technology over the last decade. Some of the topics covered will be the genetic engineering of food and medical products, the cloning of animals, the significance of the Human Genome Project, the use of stem cells to cure chronic diseases and the possibility of creating artificial life. Discussions will include the moral issues involved in altering life as we know it.

Visual aids, videos and demonstrations will help participants understand the basic science behind this technology. No background in biology is necessary to join this study group. There will be no required reading, but participants will be asked to collect and discuss relevant articles in the news.



Judy Bohn

Judy received her B.S. degree from Pennsylvania State University and a master's degree from Rutgers University during the height of some of the most important discoveries in genetic engineering. In addition to 25 years of experience in medical microbiology and laboratory work, she has been an adjunct professor at William Paterson College in New Jersey and has taught basic cell biology and microbiology at Colby-Sawyer College. Judy has conducted study groups for ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth) on several topics including the Dolly series.

Natural Hazards and Catastrophes

Study Group Leader: Jim Moore

Location: The Fells Gatehouse

Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

6 weeks beginning September 19, 2007

Emphasized in this course will be the descriptions of hazards occurring as a result of atmospheric origins including cyclones, thunderstorms, tornadoes, extreme frontal conditions, droughts, floods and large fires from natural causes; as a result of oceanic origins including sea level changes, coastal erosion and sea ice; and from geologic origins including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, and land instability.

The format will include lecture with graphic illustration to explain the hazard formations and their consequences with plenty of time for questions and discussion. The subjects of extra-terrestrial collisions and species extinction may also be explored.

Required reading will be *Cartographies of Danger* by Mark Monmonier, University of Chicago Press.



Jim Moore

Jim's education includes a bachelor of science degree from MIT, a master's degree from Boston University, and graduate work at Carnegie Mellon and MIT. He was a metallurgical engineer at ALCOA prior to service in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. After several years in metallurgical research and development, he held the positions of director and vice president of National Research Corporation. He then returned to graduate school to prepare for teaching in the geosciences and became a full professor and department chair in that field. Jim has served on the Lakes Region Planning Commission, Gilford Land Use Committee and the New Hampshire Governor's Panel on High Level Nuclear Waste. He is currently an Honorary Director of the New Hampshire Lakes Association and an active member of the Board of Directors of the Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation and Development Council.

The Question of God: Discussions with C.S. Lewis, Sigmund Freud and Sam Harris

Study Group Leader: Art Rosen
Location: Newbury Community Room

Wednesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
8 weeks beginning September 19, 2007

“God’s in His heaven—all’s right with the world”* was a comforting line embraced by a comfortable people but even then there were some who questioned the nature of God, some who had trouble reconciling a just God with an unjust world, and some who asked whether religion was part of the problem or part of the solution.

Participants in this course will explore these and other issues in small group discussions. In the first five sessions we will review the Public Broadcasting Service DVD *The Question of God* seeing dramatizations of the life and words of C.S. Lewis and Sigmund Freud. These will be contrasted and used as lead-ins for our discussions.

In the next two sessions, we will discuss the book *End of Faith* by Sam Harris. Harris’s views of God, faith and religion will be outlined and used as prompts for discussion.

In the final session, course participants will present one-page papers outlining their reactions to the material and/or their views on the issues.

Required reading will be *End of Faith* by Sam Harris. Optional reading will be *The Question of God* by Armand M. Nicoli, Jr.

Registration will be limited to 15 participants who promise a close reading of the material and active participation in the discussion.

* From “Pippa’s Song” by Robert Browning



Art Rosen

Art is a graduate of Yale University, Brooklyn College and the Columbia University Executive Marketing Program. His career was spent in advertising with such companies as Young & Rubicam and Grey Advertising. He is now vice president of Adventures in Learning and has been a study leader at Adventures in Learning and ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Education at Dartmouth) for the past seven years.

Russia–The Past Hundred Years

Study Group Leader: Bill Helm

Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Location: New London Town Office Building

6 weeks beginning September 20, 2007

From the early 20th century to the present, Russia has undergone significant change in leadership, society and economic stability.

This course will trace the development of Russian politics, economics and social change from the leadership of Tsar Nicholas II to President Putin.

An initial lecture will set the historical stage of the years leading to the Revolution of 1917. In the ensuing weeks, a combination of lecture and group discussion will trace life in Russia under Lenin, Stalin, Krushchev, Brezhnev, Gorbachev and Yeltsin, culminating in a real time discussion of Russian society today.

Required reading will be *Russia and the Russians* by Geoffrey Hosking.



Bill Helm

Bill retired to New London, N.H., in 2001 following a career in business management. He has taught an introductory course in government at Colby-Sawyer College and currently serves as a Colby-Sawyer College trustee. He is also on the boards of New London Hospital and ASLPT (Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust). He has had a lifelong avocational interest in world affairs and geography, and particularly benefited from living in Switzerland for three years.

The Evolving American Dream: 1600-1850

Study Group Leaders: Ann Lang and Julie Machen
Location: Tracy Memorial Library

Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
5 weeks beginning October 4, 2007

“The Republic is a dream. Nothing happens unless first a dream.”
Carl Sandburg

Using an interdisciplinary approach, we will take a broad look at the formative years of our Republic, illuminated by historical analysis and specific examples from literature, art and architecture.

In particular, we will focus on the morphing of divergent dreams into an American identity; the changing assumptions about the individual, God, government and nature; and the relationship between history and the arts of the Puritan, Revolutionary and Romantic periods.

The contributions of Franklin, Jefferson, Paine and Jackson will be highlighted as will the writings of Edwards, Irving, Emerson and Thoreau. Featured artists will be Copley, West, Cole, and Durand.

The course will include both lecture and discussion.



Ann Lang

Ann received a B.A. in English and philosophy from Cornell University, and an M.A. in English from the University of Tennessee. After working as a researcher at Time Inc. and as an adjunct instructor at University of Connecticut-Stamford, she taught English in Connecticut at Darien High School for 25 years where she developed an interdisciplinary American Studies course. Now retired, Ann lives in Wilmot, N.H.



Julie Machen

Julie received her B.A. in history and English from DePauw University. She spent her junior year at the University of Durham in England. She also earned a master's degree and the equivalent of a second master's degree taking post-graduate courses in history and writing. Before retiring to New London, N.H. in 2002, she taught American History and Advanced Placement European History at Greenwich High School in Connecticut.

Registration Form

- Fall 2007 -

___ Please check if you are a first time member.

Prefix: _____ Name: _____ Nickname: _____
Mr., Mrs., etc

Mailing Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Town, State, Zipcode: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

No.	Course Name	Day and Time	Cost	Cost of first choice(s)
1.	<i>The Brothers Karamazov</i>	Mon., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
2.	Sunnis and Shi'as	Mon., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
3.	Othello	Mon., 1:30-3:30 p.m.	\$20	
4.	Great Voices	Tues., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
5.	Japan	Tues., 1:30-3:30 p.m.	\$35	
6.	Modern Science	Tues., 1:30-3:30 p.m.	\$20	
7.	Edna St. Vincent Millay	Tues., 1:30-3:30 p.m.	\$20	
8.	Goodbye Dolly	Wed., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
9.	Natural Hazards	Wed., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
10.	<i>The Question of God</i>	Wed., 1:30-3:30 p.m.	\$35	
11.	Russia	Thurs., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
12.	American Dream	Thurs., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	\$35	
	Add annual membership dues if you have not already paid for the July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008 year.		\$40	
			Total	

If my first choice is not available, my second choice is:

If my second choice is not available, my third choice is:

Name of additional course I would like to take at no charge (see page 1), if space is available:

Note: Each member should send a separate registration form.

Be sure to register early as course sizes are limited.

Registration forms for any courses that are oversubscribed as of July 31 will go into a lottery.

This form must be returned no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, August 17, 2007 to:

Adventures in Learning, Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257

Please make checks payable to Colby-Sawyer College.

You will be notified by phone if we are not able to register you in your first choice course(s).

Confirmation packets will be mailed during the week of September 3.



Adventures in Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
541 Main Street
New London, NH 03257
(603) 526-3690

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