Winter 2012
Course Offerings

Deadlines:
Lottery—Thursday, Oct. 27
Registration—Monday, Nov. 28
### Mondays

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<td>9:30 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Shackleton’s Forgotten Men</strong> / Dan Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-week Minicourse beginning Jan. 16 at Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room, Newport Road, New London</td>
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### Tuesdays

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<td>9:30 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Biodiversity—The Future of Life on Earth</strong> / Charlie Kellogg</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 weeks beginning Jan. 17 at Tracy Memorial Library, New London</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Chronic Disease and the Importance of Self-Management</strong> / Martha Regan-Smith</td>
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<td>4-week Minicourse beginning Jan. 17 at the New London Town Office Building</td>
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<td>1:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>The Films of W.C. Fields</strong> / Chuck Kennedy</td>
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<td>6 weeks beginning Jan. 17 at the Newbury Community Room, Newbury</td>
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### Wednesdays

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<td>1:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>The American Civil War</strong> / Millard Hunter</td>
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<td>6-week lecture series beginning Jan. 18 at the New London Town Office Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Loot! The Plunder of Art from Antiquity to the Modern Era</strong> / Mike Moss</td>
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<td>6 weeks beginning Jan. 18 at the Tracy Memorial Library, New London</td>
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### Thursdays

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<td>9:30 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Emily Dickinson</strong> / Jim Bowditch</td>
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<td>6 weeks beginning Jan. 19 at Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room, Newport Road, New London</td>
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<td>1:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Aging Gracefully</strong> / Louise Cyr</td>
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<td>5 weeks beginning Jan. 19 at the Kearsarge Learning Center, New London</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>The Mysterious Process of Teaching Children to Read</strong> / Tom Graves</td>
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<td>4-week Minicourse beginning Jan. 19 at Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room, Newport Road, New London</td>
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### Fridays

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<td>9:30 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Moral Choice in Public, Private and Professional Life</strong> / Aarne Vesilind</td>
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<td>6 weeks beginning Jan. 20 at the New London Town Office Building</td>
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<td>9:30 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Places Please for Act Two!</strong> / Derek Hunt</td>
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A Minicourse

Shackleton’s Forgotten Men

Study Group Leader: Dan Allen
Mondays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
4 weeks beginning Jan. 16, 2012
Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room,
Newport Road, New London

Sir Ernest Shackleton’s 1915 attempt to be the first to cross the Antarctic continent from sea to sea left a storied legacy of unimaginable bravery and courage in the harshest of icy terrain. This course will trace the exploits of Shackleton and his dramatic 800-mile open-boat journey to find help when his ship was crushed by pack ice. It will also cover the heroism of the men in the small supply party who set out from the other side of Antarctica to lay critical food depots for the explorers who would never come. Marooned by a fierce polar gale, the group had to haul hundreds of pounds of food for themselves and the six members of Shackleton’s party across 2,000 miles of frozen wasteland without proper equipment or any idea if they would be rescued.

A combination of lecture and discussion, the course will provide background details of early 20th century Antarctic exploration, and cover Shackleton’s plan, execution and result, as well as the supply party’s depot-laying journey and the dramatic return.
Biodiversity – The Future of Life on Earth

Study Group Leader: Charlie Kellogg
Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6 weeks beginning Jan. 17, 2012
Tracy Memorial Library, New London

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life forms found in an area, which includes species, variations within species and the variety of ecosystems. Over the past decade, species have been disappearing at a higher rate than at any time since the dinosaurs became extinct. If we were to discover even a simple form of life on another planet, this would be considered one of the most impressive discoveries of all time, yet we take the millions of complex life forms on Earth for granted. Each day, we are destroying many species and once a species becomes extinct, it is gone forever. Many scientists believe that maintaining biodiversity is the most serious challenge that we humans will face over the next 50 years.

Is the problem really this serious? How many species do we really “need”? Are we in for a disaster if we continue on this path of destruction? Can we do anything to slow or halt the rate of extinction? Lecture and discussion, focusing on local and global biodiversity, will be combined to address these questions. A textbook will be used to supplement the lectures.
A Minicourse

Chronic Disease and the Importance of Self-Management

Study Group Leader: Martha Regan-Smith
Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
4 weeks beginning Jan. 17, 2012
New London Town Office Building

What is chronic disease? How does it differ from acute disease? What is involved in the comprehensive care for a patient with chronic disease? These are among the topics this course will cover, primarily in group discussion format augmented with photocopies of selected readings. Participants will be encouraged to use self-reflection and knowledge of friends and family with chronic disease to inform the discussion. The impact of chronic disease on the patient’s family, friends, work and social life will be explored. Self-management, what it includes and how it helps the patient and family deal with chronic disease, will be a particular focus. The Flinders Model of chronic disease management, developed at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia, will be presented, and the class will discuss how its emphasis on self-management fits into the new Chronic Disease Care Model promoted by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Martha Regan-Smith
Martha attended Vassar College, the University of Southern California School of Medicine and Harvard Graduate School of Education where she received an Ed.M. and Ed.D. in teaching, curriculum and learning environments. Her clinical training in internal medicine and rheumatology was at New York University-Bellevue. She began teaching in 1973 and taught at Dartmouth Medical School from 1981 to 2007, when she retired as a full professor of medicine and of community and family medicine. She is now an active professor emerita and continues to teach graduate students at The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice.
The Films of W.C. Fields

Study Group Leader: Chuck Kennedy
Tuesdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
6 weeks beginning Jan. 17, 2012
Newbury Community Room, Newbury

The self-proclaimed “world’s greatest juggler,” W.C. Fields travelled around the United States and Europe on his way to starring roles in the Ziegfeld Follies and the young motion picture industry. By the mid-1930s he would become the sixth-highest salary earner in America and a star of vaudeville, radio and motion pictures. In some ways his movie career was an extension of the routines he perfected on stage, be it juggling, billiard tricks, hat tricks or golfing.

This course will begin with a screening of a biography of Fields as well as some early short films, then move on to “International House” (1933) and “Poppy” (1936). The second half of the course will examine “You Can’t Cheat An Honest Man” (1939), “The Bank Dick” (1940) and “My Little Chickadee” (1940) with the incomparable Mae West.

Class discussion will focus on the social background of these films and their commentary on American life during the Great Depression, as well as an appreciation of Field’s comedic skills.
There is substantial agreement among historians that the Civil War was the central event in our history as a nation. As one historian put it, “All our history led up to the Civil War, and all subsequent history descended from it.”

This lecture series will begin with a two-hour explanation of the events leading up to the war, including the politics of secession and the political turmoil and upheaval following that event, along with the initial engagements. The first hour of succeeding classes will describe the principal campaigns of the war and the concurrent political responses by the opposing administrations. The second hour will highlight other facets of the war, featuring speakers on the evolution of slavery in the country, the economics of the war, the personal experiences of individuals and families, and a special two-hour lecture by David Pook on Lincoln’s role in the conflict.

While speakers will use a lecture format throughout the course, questions and comments will be welcomed at any time. James McPherson’s acclaimed Battle Cry of Freedom will serve as the textbook for the course. An additional reading list will be provided to those who wish to delve more deeply into the war.
The plunder of art has been called the second oldest profession. From antiquity, the ownership of art taken from its native land has been cause for debate throughout the world. Examples are many and varied. More recently, revelations of World War II Nazi art plunders, or ‘fuzzy’ museum purchases have garnered public attention. Additionally, legally sold art from one collector to another in a different nation has caused periodic uproar, threatening the loss of a national treasure.

With the earlier advent of archaeology and the popularity of ‘digs’ throughout the antique world, enormously important objects such as the Rosetta Stone, Elgin Marbles and numerous obelisks of Egypt have been removed, and placed in public parks, museums and sometimes even private collections. Many claim they are rightfully owned. Or are they?

Was Napoleon a thief? Or was he the West’s first museum curator? Was Lord Elgin a great destroyer, or a savior of the great Parthenon marbles from the subsequent destruction of warring Turks? Were the sacred and tribal artifacts taken from Native Americans removed as souvenirs? Or did the U.S. Army secure their long-term preservation by placing many objects in museums? Was it souvenir hunting or conservation?

This course will examine the history of art plunder and the questions it continues to raise. We will look also at the legal protections that prohibit cultural property from leaving countries of origin. Both the United Nations and national congresses throughout the world are again recognizing the inherent cultural meaning of artifacts and where they should best serve civilization. Do the existing laws ensure the maximum cultural benefit of artifacts for a few or many citizens?
Emily Dickinson

Study Group Leader: Jim Bowditch
Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6 weeks beginning Jan. 19, 2012
Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room,
Newport Road, New London

A n eccentric spinster, a recluse who rarely left her room for the last 26 years of her life and who had less than a half-dozen of her almost 1,800 poems published during her lifetime, Emily Dickinson is now considered one of America’s major poets. Breaking all the accepted rules of poetry, her crabbed, often cryptic style is often electrically alive, capturing in a few short lines images, thoughts and emotions that few other writers can match. Although her poems cover a wide range of themes and moods, she is particularly concerned with death and immorality, not in a morbid way, but with penetrating, and at times, disturbing insight. It has been said of Dickinson that she thinks emotions and feels ideas.

The class will follow a discussion format in exploring the life and work of Emily Dickinson, with participants encouraged to share their reactions and insights, and to suggest poems other than those the leader assigns.

Jim Bowditch

Jim 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 in Wisconsin for eight years and then became the head of Francis W. Parker High School in Chicago, Ill. Between 1974 and 2000, he worked abroad as headmaster of America Overseas School in Rome, Italy; the ACAT School in Torino, Italy; the International School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and as professor of English and history at John Cabot University in Rome. Now retired, he is the author of four published books (poetry, essays and a novel), as well as eight unpublished novels.
Aging is a gift, a challenge, an inspiration, an unknown, a blessing, a progression, a visible changing along with invisible lessons. During this five-week series, we will explore the many dimensions of aging, including purposes and concerns, struggles and surprises, the potential and joys. The goal is to cherish the blessings of aging and overcome its challenges, embrace older age as a natural part of life, and become aware of the profound purpose of these capstone years. To live these years well, we need to look at every dimension with gentle awareness. Life is not about the length of years we manage to eke out of it, but about growing older with grace.

This series offers the opportunity for like-minded individuals to come together to share experiences of aging and learn from one another. Conversations will be based on The Gift of Years, by Joan Chittister, written when she was 70 years of age. Topics for the first session will be chosen by the facilitator for pre-reading. The remaining three or four topics per session will be selected by the participants.
A Minicourse
The Mysterious Process of Teaching Children to Read

Study Group Leader: Tom Graves
Thursdays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
4 weeks beginning Jan. 19, 2012
Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room,
Newport Road, New London

This course will examine the confusion and controversy surrounding the fundamental task in our public schools—teaching children to read. We will consider the importance of learning to read, why some children learn easily while others struggle to keep up, how the classroom teacher meets these challenges, and what effect learning in these first years has on achievement in the later grades. We’ll hear about the work of Dr. Samuel Orton in learning disabilities, the landmark study by Professor Jeanne Chall, whose research team visited more than 600 classrooms, and federal legislation mandating certain policies in our schools. We’ll see how educational publishers affect what teachers choose to do. We’ll look at the decades-long dispute, continuing to this day, and discuss why educators can’t agree on a “best way” to teach this fundamental part of the school curriculum. As time allows we will go into other areas on the subject of reading, writing and spelling that will cast light on how and why we do what we do to our innocent, and unsuspecting, young students.

Each class will begin with a lecture of about 30 minutes, supplemented by class handouts. No prior reading is required. The lectures will elaborate on the issues listed above. A discussion with class members will follow. The goal is to encourage a free exchange in which everyone can take away new ideas and a better understanding of the importance about key issues in our public schools.

Tom worked as a systems analyst with IBM for 28 years, including seven years as an instructor at IBM’s NYC Education Center. He taught at a public high school before joining IBM. Tom became very knowledgeable about how children are taught and learn to read when his son was diagnosed with dyslexia in grade school. He discussed the issues of this learning disability with superintendents, principals, teachers and parents’ groups, read widely on the subject and took a course in reading instruction. Tom lives in Grantham.
Moral Choice in Public, Private and Professional Life

We make moral decisions every day, and often we don’t even recognize they have anything to do with morality. For example, is it okay to tell a “white lie” when everyone seems to benefit from it? Is it okay to break a promise to a friend in order to assist an elderly neighbor? Is it okay to accept too much change from a store clerk? Is it okay for an elected official to use confidential information for personal investments? Is it okay for me to torture my cat if nobody else knows about it? If not, why not? And how about my goldfish?

Understanding morality and making moral decisions is not easy. For more than 2,500 years, very smart people have tried to understand how we ought to treat each other. As if personal ethics were not hard enough, in the past few hundred years we have added professional ethics to the mix. And in the last 50 years or so we have started to ask if morality also applies to non-human nature.

This course will be half lecture and half discussion. We will use readings from *The Elements of Moral Philosophy* by James Rachels. Participants will be encouraged to contribute ethical dilemmas with which they are either personally familiar or which have appeared in the press. The overall objective will be to understand how moral decisions are made in private, public and professional life.
Have you ever wanted to be on stage, or just have the opportunity to “try out” for a favorite role? Well, here’s your chance. In this course class participants will read and discuss three full-length plays—dealing with business, politics and family matters. It follows last winter’s course, “Places Please for the First Read Thru!,” but that course is not a prerequisite for this course.

Class members will read assigned roles aloud, similar to a first “read thru” rehearsal. Best of all, no previous acting experience or auditions are required for this class. When the curtain falls on the final act, the class will discuss the playwright’s main themes and concept and its production. So, warm up those vocal chords, and sign up now. Broadway waits! “Places Please for Act Two” will get you started.

Plays will include “The Voysey Inheritance” by Harley Granville-Barker adapted by David Mamet and “The Best Man” by Gore Vidal, in addition to one other play.

Study Group Leader: Derek Hunt
Fridays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6 weeks beginning Jan. 20, 2012
Tracy Memorial Library, New London

Derek Hunt
Derek has been involved with theatre production and facility design throughout his career. After graduating from the Yale Drama School, he taught at Williams College for a year before going to Stanford University, where he was a faculty member and production director of the Drama Program and the Stanford Repertory Theatre. At Stanford and later San Francisco State University where he is professor emeritus, he taught technical production and management, lighting design, stage management, theatre engineering and theatre architectural design. For more than 40 years he served in various professional capacities with performing arts companies, among them the American Conservatory Theatre, New York City Center Opera Company, OSFA, San Francisco Opera Company, the Joffrey Ballet and Walt Disney Productions. He has contributed lighting designs and production management to more than 350 productions of drama, musicals, opera, ballet, dance and industrial shows.
If one of my first choices is not available, my second choice is:

__________________________

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

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Additional third course at no charge if space available:

__________________________

Registration
You have two options for submitting your registration form, which is dated as it is received in the Adventures in Learning Office. Confirmation of your enrollment in a course will be sent on Dec. 8.

Registration by mail
Include a check made payable to Colby-Sawyer College, along with your registration form, and send them to Adventures in Learning, 541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257.

Registration in person
As a courtesy to the staff at the Homestead, walk-in service is only for dropping off completed registration forms. If you need assistance to complete your form, please call the office at (603) 526-3690. Thank you for your understanding as we strive to provide the highest level of customer service. The office is on the first floor of the Colby Homestead, the building located to the right of the entrance to the Hogan Sports Center parking lot. Office hours are Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Please make checks payable to Colby-Sawyer College.

Registration forms for any courses that are oversubscribed as of Oct. 27 will go into a lottery. We will call you by Nov. 1, if we are unable to enroll you in your first choice(s). Remaining course assignments will be made by the date registration forms are received.

This form must be returned no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 28, 2011 to:
Adventures in Learning
Colby-Sawyer College
541 Main Street • New London, NH 03257

Note: Each member should send a separate registration form. Please make a copy of this form, or you may download one from www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures/register.html.
The Curriculum Committee of Adventures in Learning is delighted to bring you 11 course offerings for the winter 2012 term, which begins on Jan. 16 and continues through March 9, 2012.

This term we welcome and look forward to the contributions of two new study group leaders—Louise Cyr and Martha Regan-Smith. We thank all of our volunteer study group leaders and moderators for giving so generously of their time and expertise to make the winter courses possible. We also wish to thank Lake Sunapee Bank, SAU 65, the towns of Newbury and New London, and Tracy Memorial Library for making space available for our winter courses.

Registration Process
► If you have not already paid your dues for the July 2011 to June 2012 membership year, please include the $50 membership fee when you register.
► To register for courses, complete the form found in this catalog or downloaded from the website.
► For any course that is oversubscribed on Oct. 27, a lottery will be held to randomly select the participants. For this reason, you may wish to select alternate choices on your registration form. We will call you by Nov. 1, if we are unable to enroll you in your first choice(s).
► Following the lottery date, registration for remaining courses with space available continues through Nov. 28. Assignments will be made based on the date the registration form is received.
► If you have signed up and paid for two courses, you may sign up for a third course in this term at no additional charge until Dec. 2. Placement in these third courses will be made, as space permits, on a first come, first served basis. Please enter your no-charge third course request in the column beside the course listing on the registration form.
► Confirmation of your enrollment in a course will be sent on Dec. 8 via e-mail unless we do not have an e-mail address for you.

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. 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.

Inclement Weather Policy
Adventures in Learning follows the Kearsarge Regional School District policy on weather closures and delays. For information on the district’s cancellations call (603) 526-2051 ext. 224. If a question remains about a course cancellation, please call your study group leader.
Administration Office
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.

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(603) 526-3690 / adventures@colby-sawyer.edu

Staffed by: Kathleen Carroll, Marianne Harrison and Janet St. Laurent