

# Adventures in Learning

---



## Spring 2006 Course Offerings

---

**Registration Deadline:**  
Friday, March 10



**Colby-Sawyer College**  
New London, New Hampshire

## Adventures in Learning Spring 2006

The Curriculum Committee of Adventures in Learning is pleased to offer ten courses for the spring term which begins on April 17 and continues through June 16, 2006.

We are delighted to welcome and introduce five new study group leaders whose courses are listed in this catalog. We look forward to the contributions of Jay Bodine, Bill Dowd, Ron Luchsinger, Joe Medlicott and Roger Wells.

### **Membership**

If you have not already paid your dues for the July 2005 to June 2006 membership year, please include the \$40 membership fee when you register.

### **Registration**

To enroll in classes, complete a registration form from 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 Over-Subscribed Courses**

Registrations for all courses will be counted at the end of the business day on February 21. For any course that is over-subscribed, a lottery will be held to randomly select the participants. For this reason, you may wish to list alternate choices on your registration form.

### **Registration Deadline**

Registration for courses with space available continues through March 10.

### **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 throughout the registration period. Assignments for these courses will be made between March 13 and 17, as space permits, based on the order the requests were 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. Photocopied materials prepared by study group leaders in lieu of a textbook may be purchased from the Adventures in Learning Office.

### **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 to 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](mailto:jstlaure@colby-sawyer.edu). Program Coordinator Sharon Ames may be reached at 526-3720 or by e-mail at [adventures@colby-sawyer.edu](mailto:adventures@colby-sawyer.edu).

We wish to thank Lake Sunapee Bank, Tracy Memorial Library and the Town of New London for making space available for our spring classes.

## Adventures in Learning

at

Colby-Sawyer College

### THE SPRING 2006 TERM AT A GLANCE

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

#### MONDAYS

- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Aspects of Verdi / Ron Luchsinger**  
6 weeks beginning April 17 at the New London Town Office Building
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. **The Artful American Home and Garden / Roger Wells**  
6 weeks beginning April 17 at the Tracy Memorial Library

#### TUESDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Current Economic Issues from an Economist's Perspective / Sheldon Boege and Bill Dowd**  
8 weeks beginning April 18 at the New London Town Office Building
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Imagining India / Doug Marshall**  
6 weeks beginning April 18 at the Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room

#### WEDNESDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **"Measure for Measure," a Dark Comedy / George Tracy**  
6 weeks beginning April 19 at the Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room
- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Great Music from the American Theater / Evan Fradenburgh and Jane Ann McSwiney**  
8 weeks beginning April 19 at the Tracy Memorial Library
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. **American Women Who Have Made a Difference / Hilary Cleveland**  
6 weeks beginning April 19 at the New London Town Office Building

#### THURSDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Miss Emily Dickinson / Joe Medlicott**  
3 week MINI beginning April 20 at the New London Town Office Building
- 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Through a Glass Darkly: Reading the Book of Revelation / Jay Bodine**  
6 weeks beginning April 20 at the Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room

#### FRIDAYS

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Climate and Civilization / Jim Moore**  
6 weeks beginning April 21 at the New London Town Office Building

FACILITIES WILL ACCOMMODATE HANDICAPPED PARTICIPANTS

## **Aspects of Verdi**

**Study Group Leader: Ron Luchsinger**  
**Location: New London Town Office Building**

**Mondays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**  
**6 weeks beginning April 17, 2006**

In this survey of operatic works by Giuseppe Verdi, participants will explore operas based on common themes and literary origins.

Among the various aspects will be:

Literary and dramatic sources, notably Shakespeare's "Macbeth," "Othello" and "Falstaff"; Schiller's "Louisa Miller" and "Don Carlo"; and Garcia-Gutierrez's "Il Trovatore" and "Simon Boccanegra";

The influence of French sources and practices on works such as "La Traviata," "Les Vespres Siciliennes" and "Un Ballo in Maschera" and;

Subject matters which particularly inspired the composer, such as parent-child relationships (found in most of his operas), the search for identity in "Nabucco," "Il Trovatore" and "Simon Boccanegra" and deep personal conflicts of love and duty in "Aida," "La Traviata" and "Les Vespres Siciliennes."

Each session will begin with a short introduction and will feature selections on CDs and DVDs from operas that share common aspects. The participants will have the opportunity to compare, contrast and discuss the examples. Each session will close with a summary.



**Ron Luchsinger**

Ron Luchsinger is director of productions for Opera North in Lebanon, New Hampshire. In addition, he travels through the United States directing for a large number of professional and academic opera companies, recently in Eugene, Oregon; Anchorage, Alaska and Abilene, Texas. Recent productions included "Tosca" and "The Gondoliers" for Opera North, and Puccini's "La Fanciulla del West" and "Turandot." Last fall he served as discussion leader for a course on Wagner and Bayreuth at The Institute for Lifelong Learning at Dartmouth.

## **The Artful American Home and Garden**

**Study Group Leader: Roger Wells**  
**Location: Tracy Memorial Library**

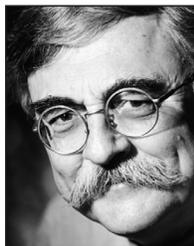
**Mondays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**  
**6 weeks beginning April 17, 2006**

What makes a home and garden exceptional? From any period of history, there are outstanding examples. Are there rules or guidelines that we can discern from these examples to use ourselves? How can each of our homes and gardens have some of the qualities that make them artful?

In this course, the history and styles of the American home and American garden will be reviewed briefly, and the principles of good design will be presented and discussed. An overview of the design process used by the study group leader will be introduced.

Each session will consist of both lecture and group discussion. Photographs of homes and gardens will be presented and analyzed, and participants will be encouraged to take photographs, too.

Supplementary reading will be encouraged, and books will be available for participants to leaf through. Prior knowledge of architectural or landscape history is not required.



**Roger Wells**

Roger Wells has a master's degree in architecture and landscape architecture from the University of Pennsylvania and is a fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects. He has a 12-person land-planning and landscape architectural office in Philadelphia that he founded in 1979. When Roger and his wife moved to New Hampshire 15 years ago, Roger designed and built a complex of collected 18th century structures with gardens in North Sutton. They now live in a Greek Revival house that Roger restored and expanded with a small barn where Roger has an architectural and landscape architectural design firm.

## Current Economic Issues from an Economist's Perspective

**Study Group Leaders: Sheldon Boege, Bill Dowd**  
**Location: New London Town Office Building**

**Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**8 weeks beginning April 18, 2006**

The group will study current issues such as inflation, trade protectionism, outsourcing, public debt, deficit spending and fuel prices using the analytical and normative tools of economists. Simulations and every day examples will be used as illustrative techniques. Class participants will act as central bankers, business leaders, labor leaders and consumers in an effort to understand their economic interests.

The ideas of Nobel prize winners Becker, Akerlof and Schelling will be studied to see their impact on current thinking, along with brief coverage of the classical theories (Smith to Schumpeter) to understand how the foundation of modern economics was laid.

Marginalism, monetarism, Keynesianism and game theory are a few of the modern economic schools of thought the group will study, but the basic intent of the course is to give a better perspective on current events from the unique viewpoint of the contemporary economist.



**Sheldon Boege**

Sheldon Boege has enjoyed a career of more than 30 years in international banking from which he says he is now “utterly retired.” After graduating from Stanford University and earning a master’s degree from Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, he joined Citibank in New York. He went on to successive positions in the Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia and Greece, with his final assignment back in New York. After some independent research on Latin America and two small business ventures, he managed a joint venture Dutch/Saudi bank in Riyadh from 1990-1996.



**Bill Dowd**

Bill Dowd is a graduate of the University of Connecticut with a master’s in finance and economics and of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor’s in chemical engineering. After working in the food business for 30 years, Bill retired from his position as chief operating officer of Fleming Companies, a nationwide grocery chain, and made his home in New London in 1999. He presently consults for Managed Air Systems, a family-owned company in Massachusetts, and serves on several local boards and organizations, including the New London Hospital Board of Trustees.

## Imagining India

**Study Group Leader: Doug Marshall**  
**Location: Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room**

**Tuesdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**  
**6 weeks beginning April 18, 2006**

We will read the works of three authors who address the myths and realities of one of the world's oldest and most complex civilizations. The authors portray India from a colonialist, native and emigrant perspective. E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India* depicts the sharp delineations of class and race that characterized the last decades of the British Raj. In *Freedom Song*, Amit Chaudhuri offers presentations of life in contemporary India. Jumpa Lahiri's collection of short stories, *Interpreter of Maladies*, furnishes vignettes of Indians in America trying to make sense of their ethnicity.

Each of these works presents the reader with a concept of India that is the product of the author's imagination. We will discuss the commonalities and differences between these three creations of a people and a nation. As we do, we will seek to discover how each author's relationship to India informs his or her perspective. Assignments will require about 150 pages of reading for each class.



**Doug Marshall**

Doug Marshall received his B.A. in English from Princeton University and his Ph.D. in classical studies from the University of Pennsylvania. He taught classics at Oberlin College, Dartmouth College and St. Paul's School. At St. Paul's, Marshall succeeded George Tracy as head of the Classics Department and later served as dean of faculty. He has published various articles on ancient and Medieval Latin literature. He retired in 2002. Marshall's principal retirement project is the writing of a biography of George Shattuck, the founder of St. Paul's School. His other interests include travel, especially in France and Italy, and maintaining his proficiency in Greek and Latin.

## **“Measure for Measure,” a Dark Comedy**

**Study Group Leader: George Tracy**

**Location: Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room**

**Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

**6 weeks beginning April 19, 2006**

When the *First Folio* was published in 1623, Shakespeare’s friends and fellow actors listed the plays in the table of contents as Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies. Around the year 1600, which incidentally seems to be the accepted year for the composition of “Hamlet,” three plays were written: “Troilus and Cressida,” “All’s Well That Ends Well” and “Measure for Measure.” All of these were classified as comedies, but most critics today, as well as the reading and play-going public, find that they have strayed a long way from the comic mold. Today they are usually referred to as Problem Plays. No play is more of a problem than “Measure for Measure.”

The setting of the play is Vienna, a city abounding in squalor and vice. There is also in that vicious city a young woman who has vowed to follow a monastic calling. She finds herself in conflict with a newly appointed governor who has sworn to rid his city of corruption. Such a vow causes him to examine the law and himself.

We shall examine these two people, as well as others, who leave their impression on them. In so doing, we make an examination of ourselves. The play is difficult but compelling.



**George Tracy**

George Tracy earned a degree in classics from King’s College in his native city of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and a master’s degree in classics from Dalhousie University in Halifax. From 1953 to 1993, he taught classics at St. Paul’s School in Concord, New Hampshire, where he held the Cochrane Mastership in Greek for many years. In 1974, he began teaching Elizabethan literature in both the Advanced Studies Program and the regular school at St. Paul’s. George has led popular courses for Adventures in Learning such as *The End Crowns All: A Study of Two Tragedies*, “Othello”: A Study of Domestic Violence, and *The Trial and Death of Socrates*.



## **American Women Who Have Made a Difference**

**Study Group Leader: Hilary Cleveland**  
**Location: New London Town Office Building**

**Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**  
**6 weeks beginning April 19, 2006**

This study group will include three presenters in addition to the leader. American women who have made an impact in their fields of endeavor, and perhaps even on the course of American history, will be discussed. From Mercy Otis Warren's writings during the Revolution to Emily Post's influence on manners, women have definitely made a difference.

The course will be a combination of lecture and group discussion with the participants themselves doing research on women who interest them. These women could include artists, scientists, literary figures, activists and any other area of specialization. There is no required reading, but suggested books include:

- *A History of Women in America*, by Hymowitz and Weissman, Bantam Books, 1978
- *Founding Mothers*, by Cokie Roberts, Harper Collins, 2004 or Perennial (paperback), 2005
- *Women's Letters: America from the Revolutionary War to the Present*, The Dial Press, 2005



**Hilary Cleveland**

Hilary Cleveland received her B.A. from Vassar College and completed her graduate work at the Institute of International Relations at the University of Geneva in Geneva, Switzerland. She started teaching history and government at Colby Junior College in 1955 and has been teaching at the same institution (now Colby-Sawyer College) ever since. She is an active member of the New Hampshire Historical Society and the League of Women Voters.

## Miss Emily Dickinson — A Mini Course

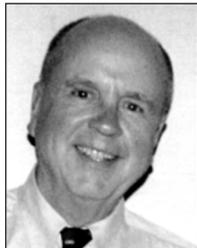
**Study Group Leader: Joe Medicott**  
**Location: New London Town Office Building**

**Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**3 week MINI beginning April 20, 2006**

Emily Dickinson was a mystery to her friends and family. For the last 20 years of her life, she remained a recluse in her father's home adding to the myths, the half-truths, the gossip and the legends about this remarkable poet.

Today, a great deal is known about her, yet the stories persist of “the white nun of Amherst” and “Mr. Dickinson's half-cracked daughter.”

Participants in this course will discuss authenticated facts about Emily Dickinson's life and probe her relationship with her family and the tiny village of Amherst, Massachusetts, in the 19th century. Representative selections of her poetry will be read, and participants will examine how her avant-garde work influenced so many of today's most distinguished poets.



**Joe Medicott**

Joe Medicott was born in Springfield, Massachusetts. After World War II service as an Army paratrooper, he entered Dartmouth College and graduated in 1950. For several years, he worked as a newspaper reporter for the Springfield, Massachusetts, *Union*. Then he went to Seattle where he received his Ph.D. in American and English literature at the University of Washington. He stayed there to teach until he became professor of English for 20 years at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. In 1980, he moved to Deerfield, Massachusetts, where he was master of English at Deerfield Academy. In 1990, he retired to Piermont, New Hampshire, where he and his wife lovingly tend a pack of German shepherds and three horses.

## Through a Glass Darkly: Reading the Book of Revelation

**Study Group Leader: Jay Bodine**  
**Location: Lake Sunapee Bank Community Room**

**Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**  
**6 weeks beginning April 20, 2006**

Often treated as a “doomsday timetable” by which to determine the meanings of events in the daily news, often dismissed as the wild ravings of a deranged person, often ignored, Revelation has maintained a singular place, influencing such disparate figures as William Blake and Hal Lindsey.

With the year 2000, speculation about the accuracy of Revelation reached a new pitch, as it had when 1000 CE approached. For many contemporary readers, events in the Middle East, particularly those in or affecting Israel, point directly to Revelation. Much Christian support for Israel is based on assumptions from Revelation about what must take place before the end of the world. The popular “Left Behind Series” are novelistic renderings of a particular interpretation of Revelation and other apocalyptic sections of the New Testament.

Always controversial, Revelation is more often seen “through a glass darkly” than clearly. Participants in this course will seek understanding of what it may have meant to its first-century audiences and what it means to those who read it now. Each session will be a combination of lecture and group discussion. The required text for the course is the book of Revelation found in any contemporary translation of the Bible. The New Revised Standard Version is recommended for its clarity.



Jay Bodine

Jay Bodine, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, is pastor and teacher at The United Church of Warner. His undergraduate degree is from St. John’s College (where Revelation was not a topic for discussion!). He holds a bachelor’s of divinity and a Ph.D. in the history of religions from Hartford Seminary Foundation. He has served three pastorates in New Hampshire and at churches in Connecticut. He lives in Warner with his wife Wilhemina Thea and their daughter Courtney Joy, a student at Colby-Sawyer College.

## **Climate and Civilization**

**Study Group Leader: Jim Moore**  
**Location: New London Town Office Building**

**Fridays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**6 weeks beginning April 21, 2006**

The first half of this course will be spent reviewing the profound influences that climate has had on the development of civilization throughout prehistory and history. The second half will review the new scientific research tools that have enabled us to interpret the evidence of ancient climates locked in the Greenland and Antarctic ice caps and deep-sea sediments.

Required reading assignments will be *The Long Summer: How Climate Changed Civilization* by Brian Fagan, and *Climate Crash* by John D. Cox. These assignments will draw on the findings of archaeology, anthropology, geosciences and history to develop the emerging picture of the role of climate in the development of mankind. There will be some lecture format with PowerPoint to help expand the content of the readings, and productive group discussion will be encouraged.



**Jim Moore**

Jim Moore graduated with a B.S. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and pursued graduate studies at Carnegie Mellon Institute, MIT and Boston University, where he received an M.S. He served in the Air Force as a squadron navigator for long-range reconnaissance during World War II. In 1946, he joined National Research Corporation to do metallurgical research and progressed to divisional general manager and finally director. Leaving the corporate life in 1970, he taught for 15 years at North Shore Community College in Danvers, Massachusetts. Jim is currently an honorary director of the New Hampshire Lakes Association and on the board of the Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation and Development Area.