Academy of Seniors & Mornings with the Professors

seniorprofessionals.illinoisstate.edu
1. BALANCED ILLINOIS BUDGETS AND LONG-TERM DEBT REDUCTION: DREAM OR POSSIBILITY?

September 19, 20, 26, 27 (Wednesdays/Thursdays)
9:30-11:30 am

The Unraveling of Illinois: What or Who Got Us Into this Mess?
Wednesday, September 19
Getting out of a hole and not falling back in must start with an understanding of how one got there in the first place. Is Illinois on the brink of fiscal collapse (despite the illusion of a balanced budget) because of bad politics, bad policies, bad leaders (too corrupt, too weak, too timid) or bad luck? Learn about people, policies, events and circumstances that got Illinois to this point and what is needed to set a different fiscal course for Illinois.

Kent Redfield, Professor Emeritus, Political Studies, University of Illinois – Springfield

Fiscal Challenges Evident in the Governor's Fiscal Year 2019 General Fund Budget
Thursday, September 20
Fiscal Year 2019 marks the first full-year budget signed by Governor Bruce Rauner, but that doesn’t mean the state is out of the fiscal woods yet. Learn about Illinois’ dire current fiscal climate – including its disinvestment in public services and rapidly ballooning pension debt – and possible solutions to move Illinois to sustainable fiscal health.

Ralph Martire, Executive Director, Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, Chicago

The Balancing Act: The Illinois State Budget and the Evolving Role of the Branches of Illinois Government
Wednesday, September 26
The Illinois Constitution provides the power of the purse, the appropriation authority, to the Illinois General Assembly. Recent history has provided additional context to the scope and limits of this authority. Information presented will include the process of building the annual line by line budgets for agencies and also the increasing extent to which spending authority is locked in before the legislature begins the appropriation process.

Clayton Klenke, Executive Director, Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, Springfield

2. THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC: A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

October 16, 18, 23, 25 (Tuesdays/Thursdays)
1:30-3:30 pm

OVERVIEW
Tuesday, October 16
Opioid Epidemic: How Did It Start and What Can Be Done?
What are opioids? For what purposes are they used? How did this get to be an epidemic? Davis will share the background of opioid prescription use and the scope of opioid abuse, both nationally and locally. Learn about the alarming rate of drug abuse, overdose deaths and current statistics for McLean County.

Kathy Davis, McLean County Coroner

ENFORCEMENT
Thursday, October 18
How Opioids are Changing Law Enforcement
The latest opioid epidemic is changing how law enforcement deals with abusers in many ways. Learn what is being done to combat the epidemic and what services may be offered when dealing with someone who is addicted. What additional safety precautions are necessary for officers?

Jon Sandage, Sheriff, McLean County

Combatting the Crisis
What responsibilities and challenges do the State’s Attorney’s office face when it comes to the opioid crisis? Why are certain situations handled the way they are? What is “drug induced homicide” and why do statutes make it difficult to charge individuals for this?

Jason Chambers or a Representative from the McLean County State’s Attorney’s Office

Fees Per Class:
Each Academy class includes four two-hour sessions
$35.00 for members
$45.00 for non-members
$15.00 for a single session (payable at door)
JUDICIAL
Tuesday, October 23
Drug Court: An Alternate Road to Recovery
Drug court, an alternative to incarceration, places non-violent drug addicts in a supervised treatment plan where participants must adhere to strict guidelines. Discover what McLean County is doing with drug court in helping addicted offenders with long-term recovery.

Casey Costigan, McLean County Circuit Court Judge

Emerging From the Fog of Addiction
Hear a success story from a drug court graduate. What was involved in the recovery process? What obstacles were faced along the way? Who was instrumental in her achieving success? How did drug court change her life?

Hannah B, Cook County Drug Court Graduate

MEDICAL
Thursday, October 25
Pain Management in the Era of Opioid Crisis: Facts vs. Fiction
What are non-opioid, non-surgical options for pain management? Successful outcomes depend on research, education and advocacy. Hear from Benyamin, who testified in February of 2018 before the U.S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health during the "The Opioid Crisis: Removing Barriers to Prevent and Treat Opioid Abuse and Dependence in Medicare" session.

Ramsin Benyamin, MD, President, Millennium Pain Center

CLASSROOM JOURNEY
Reading and Writing: A Trip to Newberry Library and American Writers Museum in Downtown Chicago
Tuesday, October 9
7:00 am – 8:30 pm
Newberry Library, an independent research library, has been in existence since 1887. Encounter exhibits in this recently renovated site that comprise a broad array of special research materials such as rare books, maps, manuscripts and other printed materials related to the civilizations of Europe and the Americas. Enjoy a special exhibition about the 1893 World's Fair.

The American Writers Museum, a museum of American literature and writing, opened in May 2017. The first of its kind in the country, the museum showcases America’s literary past using multimedia installations. Explore innovative, interactive exhibits about the spoken and written word. Gain insight into how writers think, including the daily discipline and habits necessary to succeed.

Kathleen Kirk will join us on the bus to enhance the learning experience. Kirk is a published writer, actress and librarian. In the 1980s she worked at the Newberry Library while pursuing an acting career.

$90.00 for members I $105.00 for non-members

Cost includes transportation, museum fee, snacks, lunch, and boxed dinner.

AMERICA IN CRISIS: 1968 & 1969
November 5, 7, 12, 14 (Mondays/Wednesdays) 1:30-3:30 pm
Fifty years ago, the United States faced its gravest crisis since the Civil War. While war raged in Vietnam, the streets of America were also battlegrounds. Divisions between generations, races, genders and classes ripped apart the social fabric of American society. Gain new understanding of the issues and events that traumatized the nation in 1968 and 1969 and why those issues still plague us today.

Michael Weis, Professor of History, Illinois Wesleyan University

4. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF ILLINOIS A.D. 100
January 8, 10, 15, 17 (Tuesdays/ Thursdays) 1:30-3:30 pm
Two thousand years ago, a new way of Native American life appeared around present-day Havana, Illinois. Based on hunting and gathering and some cultivation of native plants, the Havana-Hopewell way of life consisted of villages along the Illinois River and the construction of large mounds of earth that served as cemeteries. Within three centuries, this way of life disappeared. Join us to explore this remarkable chapter in Illinois history.

Michael Wiant, Retired Director, Illinois State Museum and Dickson Mounds
Fees (for all five MWP lectures):
$35.00 for members
$45.00 for non-members
$15.00 for a single session (payable at door)

September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26 (Fridays)
9:30 - 11:30 am

John Wesley Powell: The One-Armed Naturalist from Bloomington Who Became the Nation's Greatest Explorer
Friday, September 28
Learn about John Wesley Powell, a bigger-than-life character who looms large in the history of westward expansion, having led the first recorded exploration down the Colorado River and through the Grand Canyon in 1869. He spent much of his adult life mapping and defending the arid lands of the West. Before earning a national reputation, Powell lived and worked in the Twin Cities.

Bill Kemp, Librarian, McLean County Museum of History

Medieval Heritage and Modern Racism
Friday, October 5
Popular culture made medieval studies a hot topic, but since the September 11th attacks medieval history has attracted new acolytes among the far right and dangerously, among white supremacists. How and why have the Middle Ages become politicized and even weaponized in this country, and where we go from here?

Kathryn Jasper, Associate Professor, Director of European Studies, Department of History, Illinois State University

Foreign Involvement with U.S. Elections: Lessons Learned and Possible Remedies
Friday, October 12
From the inception of our nation, concerns were expressed about foreign interference with our elections. In fact, the Framers instilled provisions in the Constitution to prevent such interference. Despite their efforts, foreign governments have tried to influence election outcomes in America. Bradley will examine several of these attempts and discern what can be learned from them to develop strategies for preventing future interference and preserving our democracy.

Robert Bradley, Professor Emeritus, Politics and Government, ISU

We Must Do Better Than This: Dr. Seuss as a Social Critic
Friday, October 19
Dr. Seuss is remembered for coaxing children into literacy with such whimsical creatures as The Cat in the Hat, Star-bellied Sneetches and Tweedle Beetles. But, he was also challenging the rest of us to wake up to social injustice. In Seuss’ words, “Nonsense wakes up the brain cells. If you can see things out of whack, then you can see how things can be in whack!”

Dick and Charline Watts have been interpreting the work of Dr. Seuss in talks and classes for decades, most recently at the Chautauqua Institution in 2017.

The Ashcan School: Urban Realism in Early 20th Century American Painting
Friday, October 26
After early careers in Philadelphia, a group of artists moved to New York where they redefined themselves as a new American avant-garde. Their topic was urban life. They were an alternative to more staid, conventional painting of the period. Unable to exhibit in established venues, the group conceived of an alternative so successful it set in motion events leading to the famous Armory Show of 1913.

Timothy Garvey, Professor Emeritus, Art History, Illinois Wesleyan University

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A limited number of scholarships is available. To inquire, call 309-438-2160.
REGISTRATION #1

Please register no later than one week prior to the start of class to receive confirmation materials.

Name____________________________________________________________________________________

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Address___________________________________          City________________St_______Zip___________

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The cost to join is an annual tax-deductible donation of $125.00 made payable to ISU Foundation. Monies go to support program offerings, expenses and student scholarships.

Members are eligible to receive a Redbird Card, which allows use of Milner Library, Tech Zone computer services, a computer help line and more.

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