



**SENIOR  
PROFESSIONALS**  
*Illinois State University*

*Providing Lifelong Learning and University Engagement*



**HYBRID CLASSES**

**Spring / Summer 2025**

# **Academy of Seniors & Mornings with the Professors**

[seniorprofessionals.illinoisstate.edu](http://seniorprofessionals.illinoisstate.edu)

# ACADEMY OF SENIORS

## FORMS OF PARTICIPATION:

1. **Attend in-person** at Illinois State University's Alumni Center, 1101 N Main St, Normal
2. **Watch online** via Zoom.

Register online at [seniorprofessionals.ilstu.edu](http://seniorprofessionals.ilstu.edu) or call (309) 438-2160.

Zoom participants will receive a Zoom link a week prior to their classes and again the morning of their classes.

### Fees:

- **\$35 for Senior Professional members**
- **\$45 for non-members**
- **\$15 for single-session** (in-person only, payable at door).

For in person, pricing is **per person**. For ZOOM, one registration **per household**.

### Price includes:

- Four 2-hour sessions (one Academy of Seniors class) **or**
- Five 2-hour Mornings with the Professors lectures

## Karl Marx in America

February 28

To read Karl Marx is to contemplate a world created by capitalism. People have long-viewed the US as the quintessential anti-Marxist nation, but Marx's ideas have inspired a wide range of people to formulate a more precise sense of the stakes of the American Project. Historians have highlighted the imprint made on the US by Enlightenment thinkers such as Adam Smith, John Locke, and Thomas Paine, but Marx is rarely considered alongside these figures. In his forthcoming book *Karl Marx in America*, historian Andrew Hartman argues that even though Karl Marx never visited America, the country has been infused, shaped and transformed by him.

**Andrew Hartman**, Professor of History, ISU

## The Patriot Atlantic: The Transnational Entanglements of the American Revolution

March 5

In the popular imagination, the American Revolution was a singular and predestined event that created the US. Yet during the mid to late eighteenth century, revolutionary movements in Ireland and the Dutch Republic emerged that were deeply interconnected and remarkably similar to the American Revolution. This lecture will discuss the American Revolution in this transatlantic context and will examine what made the American Revolution similar and exceptional compared to other Patriot revolutions in this period.

**Matthijs Tieleman**, Assistant Professor of History, ISU

## Spiritualities and Histories in Africa and the Americas

March 7

From 1492 to 1900, fifteen million enslaved Africans were transported to the western hemisphere in slavery. They carried their spiritual beliefs and knowledge with them, and on arrival in the western hemisphere, acted to recreate the spiritual world known before slavery. Rather than dismissing these creations as voodoo, how do historians and others use their senses and the archives to understand this important aspect of African and African diaspora history? This lecture will focus on the U.S. Virgin Islands to examine the methods and evidence used to learn the history of African heritage spirituality in the western hemisphere.

**Greg Carter**, Instructional Assistant Professor of History, ISU

## 1. NEW RESEARCH IN HISTORY: LOOKING BACK THROUGH A MODERN LENS

February 26, 28, March 5, 7  
(Wednesdays/Fridays), 9:30-11:30 am

### Retribution or Rehabilitation? U.S. Prison Systems in Historical Perspective February 26

The United States incarcerates more people per capita than any other democracy in the world. To many people, this fact signals the retributive and repressive nature of our criminal justice system. Yet, modern prisons were conceived, some two hundred years ago, as institutions for criminal rehabilitation, and the US stood at the forefront of a global movement to integrate convicted criminals back into society. This lecture will look at the tensions between retributive justice and a rehabilitative ideal in the nineteenth century when our modern prison system came into formation.

**Amy Louise Wood**, Professor of History, ISU

## 2. CHANGING SEASONS: THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON AGRICULTURE

March 19, 21, 26, 28 (Wednesdays/Fridays)  
9:30-11:30 am

### Session 1: An Evolving World: Rising Temperatures and Falling Water Tables

A growing amount of evidence exists that, regardless of cause, the earth's climate is changing. What exactly does this look like both at home and abroad?

### Session 2: Salvation in Alternative Proteins?

As the climate continues to change and populations continue to grow, some have presented the idea that new and alternatives to traditional protein sources are the answer. Could the future be one in which our food is manufactured in a lab?

### Session 3: Finding Direction in the Rearview Mirror

As the agriculture industry continues to feed us, vastly different views exist on how exactly to do that as the climate continues to change. While some continue to push the envelope of technology, others look to our past for answers.

### Session 4: Where Do We Go From Here?

Amidst the smoke of wildfires, we attempt to find a crystal ball as people, policy, and economics interact to manage an issue we can't even agree exists. What does this changing landscape mean for the role of higher education in agriculture?

**Bryon Wiegand**, *Professor of Meat Science and Director of the Division of Animal Science, University of Missouri-Columbia (Sessions 1 & 2)*

**Justin Rickard**, *Professor of Animal Science, Department of Agriculture, ISU (Sessions 1-4)*

## 3. JAZZ AS PROTEST: STILL THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

March 25, April 1, 8, 15 (Tuesdays)  
9:30-11:30 am

Jazz has a long history of being music of the people and the soundtrack for a social justice movement. This class will touch on some pivotal pieces and musicians who have taken a claim in the movement, which in recent years has grown in volume, intensity and urgency.

Artists will include:

- Nina Simone and Mississippi Goddamn
- Art Blakey and Lift Every Voice and Sing
- Charles Mingus and Fables of Faubus
- Jon Baptiste and We Are

**Jenelle Orcherton**, *Artistic Director/Founder, Campaign-Urbana Jazz Festival*

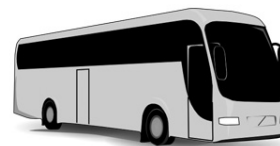
## 4. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: DEMON, ANGEL OR SOMETHING IN-BETWEEN?

April 14, 16, 21, 23 (Mondays/Wednesdays)  
1:30-3:30 pm

More than any other form of contemporary technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has brought the Baby-Boomers' sci-fi-fantasies (or nightmares) to reality. Originally coined in 1956, the term artificial intelligence has emerged as a headline grabber, tied to everything from drone warfare to intelligent, "living" art shows. In fact, AI has forced contemporary culture to reexamine ancient questions related to authenticity, authorship and "being" in both scientifically profound, and very personal ways. This class will examine whether we should love, run away from or simply learn to live with the new "un-reality" that is AI.

**Tom McCulley**, *Associate Professor of Humanities, Heartland Community College*

## CLASSROOM JOURNEY



### THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION, ST. LOUIS, MO

Wednesday, May 14  
7:00 am – 7:00 pm

**\$90 for members | \$110 for non-members**

The National Museum of Transportation's rail, auto and transit collections have grown to encompass more than 190 exhibits. The collection is recognized as the largest collection of transportation vehicles in the world. Since its founding in 1944, the museum staff has worked to curate this amazing collection while protecting and interpreting North America's transportation heritage. Many vehicles were the first of their kind with significant technological breakthroughs. At least three rail items may have run through McLean County. Join us for a guided tour. There will be a lot walking (outdoors and indoors), so wear comfortable clothing and sturdy shoes.

Mike Matejka will join us on the journey.

*Cost includes transportation, site fees, snacks and lunch.*

*The bus will depart from ISU's Office of Parking and Transportation lot, 709 N. Main St., Normal.*

# MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSORS



**April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 (Fridays),  
9:30-11:30 am**

Classes will be held at ISU's Alumni Center,  
1101 N. Main St., Normal, IL

## **ASSESSING THE START OF THE SECOND TRUMP PRESIDENCY**

**April 4**

Dr. Bradley will assess whether all, some, few or none of the campaign promises made by President Trump have been fulfilled. Have grocery prices dropped sharply? Has the war in Ukraine ended? Has the federal workforce been significantly cut? Have millions of undocumented immigrants been deported? Have the January 6th rioters been pardoned? Does the Department of Education still exist? Is Liz Cheney in jail? Is Canada the 51st state? These and other promises will be explored, including whether Americans are less polarized.

**Robert Bradley**, *Professor Emeritus, Politics and Government, ISU*

## **THE ART OF RESISTANCE: CREATIVE OPPOSITION TO DICTATORSHIP IN CHILE (1973-1990)**

**April 11**

In Chile on September 11, 1973, a military coup violently ushered in the brutal military dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet, which would last through the transition to democracy in 1990. With freedom of expression under assault, many opponents of the regime left the country, either forced into exile or voluntarily seeking asylum. The so-called "brain drain" was crucial for denouncing human rights violations and organizing international opposition to the dictatorship. So too were the efforts of those who remained in Chile, forging their own modes of resistance from within. In a context where freedom of expression is compromised and political opposition violently persecuted, creative forms of protest emerge in every sphere of creative expression: visual art, literature, theater, film, music, craft, and everything in between.

**Juliet Lynd**, *Associate Professor of Spanish and Chair of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, ISU*

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*A limited number of scholarships are available.  
To inquire, call (309) 438-2160 and ask for Laura.*

## **ANIMAL WELFARE, HUMAN INFLUENCE AND THE ROLE OF REPUTABLE INSTITUTIONS LIKE MILLER PARK ZOO**

**April 18**

Each year, millions of visitors visit reputable zoos and aquariums across the nation. Tremendous activity occurs behind the scenes and on a global scale, contributing to conservation and public education. This session will include a brief history of zoos, along with their role in acting as stewards for animals and nature, while encouraging the same in everyone. Examples from our own Miller Park Zoo will be included, providing glimpses into what the future may hold for MPZ's little accredited facility.

**Jay Pratte**, *Director, Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL*

## **MADE IN KANKAKEE: AN INSIDE LOOK AT ILLINOIS' HOME FRONT IN WWII**

**April 25**

Few people today are aware of the range of military supplies that Illinois produced during WWII or the significant role played by the Kankakee Ordnance Plant (later, along with the Elwood Plant, redubbed the Joliet Arsenal). Drawing on recorded fact and inside stories, this presentation will offer an overview of Illinois' contribution to home-front production. With a focus on the Kankakee plant and the explosion at the Elwood Plant (deadliest ammunition plant disaster in US history), this presentation combines history with science, offering insights not available through most sources. Learn about how vast the production was and the employees who worked there, how the sudden influx of people changed the area towns, how dangerous the work was and how it affected the lives of those who served.

**Mary Ryder**, *Distinguished Professor Emerita of English, South Dakota State University*

## **THE LEGACY OF MEDIEVAL ANTI-JUDAISM May 2**

Discover the medieval origins of anti-Judaism and its connection, if any, to modern antisemitism. Until around 1050 the Jews were largely integrated into northern European society, but, paradoxically, the church's subsequent attempt to establish on earth a society governed in accordance with Christian norms, the movement that emphasized a personal relationship with Christ, preaching, the building of Notre Dame and the founding of hospitals and universities led to the demonization, massacre and expulsion of the Jews.

**John Freed**, *ISU Emeritus of History, ISU*

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*Your registration gives consent for photos taken at programs to be used for advertising and/or publicity purposes by ISU, its licensees and/or member organizations; you waive all claims for any compensation for such use or for damages.*

# REGISTRATION #1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
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**WALK-INS:** Payment for \$15.00 single-sessions (cash or check) will be collected at the door. No pre-registration will be accepted for walk-ins.

## CLASSES

To attend in-person classes, the cost is per person. To attend virtual classes, only one registration per household is required.

	Member (In-Person) \$35	Non-Member (In-Person) \$45	Member (Virtual) \$35	Non-Member (Virtual) \$45
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>1. NEW RESEARCH IN HISTORY: LOOKING BACK THROUGH A MODERN LENS</b> (all four sessions)	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>2. CHANGING SEASONS: THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON AGRICULTURE</b> (all four sessions)	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>3. JAZZ AS PROTEST: STILL THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE</b> (all four sessions)	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>4. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: DEMON, ANGEL OR SOMETHING IN-BETWEEN?</b> (all four sessions)	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>5. MORNINGS WITH THE PROFESSORS</b> (all five sessions)	_____	_____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>6. CLASSROOM JOURNEY BUS TRIP</b>	Member \$90: _____		Non-Member \$110: _____	
<b>Total:</b> _____				

**PAYMENT METHOD** To pay online, go to [SeniorProfessionals.IllinoisState.edu](http://SeniorProfessionals.IllinoisState.edu).

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 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Other Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
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**BY MAIL:** Senior Professionals, Illinois State University, Campus Box 8610, Normal, IL 61790-8610

**BY PHONE:** (800) 877-1478 or (309) 438-2160, Mon. - Fri., 8:00 am - 4:30 pm,

**ON-SITE:** Conference Services, Illinois State University Alumni Center,  
1101 N Main St, Normal, IL, Mon. - Fri., 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

**REFUNDS:** To receive a full refund for MWP or Academy classes, your registration must be cancelled no later than one week prior to the start date of each class; a \$10 processing fee will be charged after that date. To receive a full refund for the Classroom Journey bus trip, cancellations must be received no later than one week prior to the trip unless there is a wait list and another individual can fill the seat.

### JOIN SENIOR PROFESSIONALS AND PAY A REDUCED RATE TO ATTEND CLASSES

Senior Professionals is an organization open to persons of retirement age. No prior affiliation with ISU required. Members select their level of involvement, with opportunities to get involved in a variety of ways, including socializing at special events, attending classes, mentoring students, conducting mock interviews, reviewing resumes and planning programs.

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

To sign up, download a form at [www.SeniorProfessionals.ilstu.edu/Membership](http://www.SeniorProfessionals.ilstu.edu/Membership) or request one at [lakowa2@ilstu.edu](mailto:lakowa2@ilstu.edu) or (309) 438-2160. Membership forms MUST be processed separately from class registrations.



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