



senior college at belfast
 the hutchinson center
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SPRING COURSE CATALOG 2018

March 22 to April 26

Welcome to the Spring session of Belfast Senior College which begins Thursday, March 22. Classes run for six consecutive Thursdays, ending April 26. All our classes are offered at the Hutchinson Center on Route 3 in Belfast. You may register any time on line or in person at the Senior College Office on Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Please register early for classes you would like to take to avoid disappointment; be sure to order your text(s) or materials at least two weeks in advance. Please note that you are now responsible for purchasing the text(s) or materials, if required for your course. **N.B.** If in doubt about classes being held due to inclement weather, please call the Hutchinson Center main desk at **338-8099**. There will be recorded message shortly after 6:00 a.m.

Morning Classes 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Afternoon Classes 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Three Abolition Towns: Yankee Reformers on the Frontier	Keep on Gardening
Beginning Conversational French: Part II	Family Story Writing Workshop
“Brave New World” and “1984” –the Sequel	A Magical Mystery Tour of the British Isles
Understanding Technology Today	The Idea of America: Our Values, Our Legacy, Our Future
David Hume: The Limits of Reason	Intermediate Conversational French: Part VIII
U.S. Government: What to Keep, Change, Eliminate, or Add	Chaucer’s “Troilus and Criseyde”
Best Short Stories of the 20th Century	Watercolor Workshop
Figure Drawing	Evolution and Human Society: A Guided Discussion

Thursday Morning Classes, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Three Abolition Towns: Yankee Reformers on the Frontier

Arlin Larson, instructor

In the 1820's, a wave of revivals in Western New York led by Presbyterian/Congregational minister Charles Grandison Finney spawned a national wave of religious renewal and social reform known as the Second Great Awakening. The reformers formed numerous voluntary associations to pursue such causes as temperance, higher education, diet reform, national & international missions, and abolition. Much of the energy was directed toward civilizing the American frontier (at that time the Mid-West), then seen as a hornet's nest of godlessness and immorality as well as a font of economic opportunity. One strategy employed by the reformers was to establish "colonies" to serve as "beacons on the hill" (as their Puritan forebears had thought of Boston). Under the leadership of an enterprising clergyman land would be purchased and a core of colonists recruited, often from the same town or from families in the East. Three of these towns – Oberlin, OH; Galesburg, IL; and Grinnell, IA – were specifically devoted to the abolition of slavery and located close to the boundaries between slave and free states as if to say, "no further". They were even blamed by the Southern press for being responsible for the Civil War. The reforming colonists were primarily New Englanders, including many from Maine. In particular, forty members of the Searsport Congregational Church under the leadership of a Bangor Seminary trained physician, Thomas Holyoke, formed the original core of Grinnell, IA. This course will study the founding of the three towns, the network of personalities and institutions that linked them, and the broader picture of revivalism and social reform in the Second Great Awakening.

No text required

Rev. Dr. Arlin T. Larson. In addition to his being the retired pastor of the church of the Grinnell colonists, Dr. Larson spent a year at Oberlin College as a campus ministry intern and has written on Oberlin history.

Beginning Conversational French: Part II

Lila Nation, instructor

Do you want to awaken those long-lost French skills you learned back in high school or college? Maybe you have been wanting to dip your toes into the beautiful French language but just haven't found a safe enough pond. This is where you want to be! Beginning French focuses on basic sentence structure, vocabulary, and building your confidence so that you will want to continue speaking French. Don't put it off any longer! All are welcome! **Class limit of 15.**

No text required. We only use handouts in class, but if you would like a reference text, "Essential French," is available at bookstores or Amazon for \$15.00.

Lila Nation has been teaching French for over thirty-five years at both the high school and university levels, as well as giving private lessons. She holds an MAT in French and a "certificat de phonétique," has lived in Paris, traveled to France twenty-one times, St. Bart's twice, and Quebec eleven times. By the way, she loves to sing, and will have you strengthening your conversational skills through song...so be prepared!

“Brave New World’ and “1984” –the Sequel

Peter Reilly, Instructor

This will be a 6-week course that will take a critical look at Aldous Huxley's and George Orwell's novels and how some "tech giants" of today (Microsoft, Amazon, Google, Uber, Air B & B, Facebook, Bitcoin, etc.) might fit into their future predictions. In that context we will study some of today's powerful companies -- what they do, how they started, who started them, how they are changing our world, etc. As we look at these companies, we will not only be learning a little about how to use their services and products, but also thinking about "are they fulfilling the prophecies of Huxley and Orwell?" Aldous Huxley and George Orwell will have much to say each day.

Outline:

- Day 1 - Overview of *Brave New World/1984*, the power of Internet Companies, and introduction to Amazon.com
- Day 2 - Amazon.com continued; Overview of *Brave New World Revisited, 1984* overview, Google, Microsoft
- Day 3 - BNW/1984 Discussion, How we Travel today - Uber, Lyft and Airb&b
- Day 4 - BNW/1984 Discussion, How we learn, stay in touch, get our news etc.
- Day 5 - BNW/1984 Discussion, How we pay for everything, future of currency -- Bitcoins
- Day 6 - BNW/1984 Discussion, How we prepare for the day everything crashes --The Cyber Attack

No text required. Students may read the books ahead of class, but it is absolutely not necessary. There will be a synopsis of each book presented in class, plus a brief handout.

Peter Reilly has presented a number of well-received classes at Senior College on a variety of topics. He holds a BS and MBA from Monmouth University.

Understanding Technology Today

Doug Chamberlin, instructor

What is the Internet? What is the Cloud? What is hacking? What is open source? What is net neutrality? If you struggle to grasp these concepts and have trouble keeping up with technical terminology you hear in the news, this is the course for you! Many of the most common parts of modern technology will be explained in layman's terms. Time will be allocated to answer your specific questions. Note that we will NOT be fixing your computer or addressing specific problems you have encountered. Instead we will provide the missing background that many find they need to live comfortably in our increasingly technical world.

No text required

Doug Chamberlin is a technical generalist and advocate. His principal interest is in seeing technology used appropriately. He has over 40 years' experience writing and supporting software and providing technical support services to a variety of businesses and schools. He was Director of Computing at Phillips Academy in Andover and has worked for Franklin Pierce University, MIT, Harvard, and Boston University.

David Hume: The Limits of Reason

Sara Shute, Instructor

David Hume, 1711-1776, was a major figure in the Enlightenment, also known as the Age of Reason. And yet, as a "skeptic," Hume answered 'no' to the following sorts of questions: Can reason give us knowledge? Can science give us knowledge? Can we know the material world exists? Can we know either that God does, or does not exist? Is there a foundation for moral judgments? Is there a best form of government? Are there any natural rights people have by virtue of being human?

The main purpose of the course will be to understand both the arguments for Hume's skepticism, and what he thought it was legitimate to believe (about science, God, morality, and rights). A secondary purpose will be to understand Hume's powerful influence on another major Enlightenment figure (and close friend), Adam Smith, the "father of free market capitalism." We will discuss how closely they concurred in their beliefs about God, morality, and natural rights, and what connection, if any, Smith's "invisible hand" had to any of these. The idea for this course was inspired by two recent books by political scientist Dennis Rasmussen, "The Infidel and The Professor" (2017) and "The Pragmatic Enlightenment" (2014).

No text required

Sara Shute received her Ph.D. in philosophy in 1977 from Washington University in St. Louis. She taught philosophy at Marietta College, in Ohio, for 26 years. Since retiring to Maine, she has been an adjunct professor of philosophy at four of the University of Maine campuses, and Colby College. This will be the tenth philosophy course she has taught at Senior College.

U.S. Government: What to Keep, Change, Eliminate or Add

Larry Litchfield, instructor

We will examine the founding documents and continue that effort by tracing the major changes in the system since the eighteenth century. My assumption is that the system is in deep crisis today and citizens need to think about what to keep or change. Class discussion will be emphasized over lecturing.

Required Text: “The Constitution of the U.S. and the Declaration of Independence: We the People.” ISBN 13:9781631581489, Race Horse Pub., \$1.99

Larry Litchfield received his Ph.D. in Political Science from SUNY Buffalo. He is Professor Emeritus, Orange County Community College, Middletown, New York. In addition to teaching a wide variety of political science courses prior to retirement, he has taught two courses in politics at Senior College.

Best Short Stories of the 20th Century

Barbara LeGendre, instructor

Come enjoy and evaluate the best short stories of the twentieth century! See what you might have missed and read old favorites. At the first class we’ll discuss Annie Proulx’s “The Half-Skinned Steer,” (p. 754), Sherwood Anderson’s “The Other Woman” (p. 38), and E.B. White’s “The Second Tree from the Corner” (p. 281).

Required Text: “The Best American Short Stories of the Century”: eds. John Updike, Katrina Kenison, ISBN 0-395-84367-7 **Class limit of 20.**

Barbara LeGendre has taught for Belfast Senior College and Coastal Senior College over the past three years and always enjoys a lively discussion group. A PhD literature graduate of Case Western Reserve University, she taught writing at Cornell for 22 years and is now living in Union, having moved back to Maine in 2012.

Figure Drawing

Sandi Cirillo, instructor

In this six-week class, we will be exploring the human figure, its form and structure using various drawing materials. The first few weeks will focus on how the parts of the figure compose the whole through drawing exercises and discussion. The last four weeks we will have two models, one male and one female, who will be posing nude for us so we can use what we have learned to complete several drawings. All students should bring their own drawing materials to class. If you've done some figure drawing in the past or would like to give it a try, then this is the class for you. Everyone is welcome from beginners to advanced students.

A \$20.00 modeling fee per student will be collected by the instructor to cover the cost of the two models. **Class limit of 14.**

Sandi Cirillo, a retired art educator, has been teaching drawing, fiber and art history classes at Senior College for 5 years now. She is an accomplished fiber artist who gives workshops in various media all over the Northeast and North Carolina, working with various arts organizations and businesses. Influences for her artwork come from her love of hiking and photographing the natural world and from her love of the beauty of coastal Maine. Sandi’s artwork is featured on her website, www.especially-for-ewe.com as well as a listing of the workshops she teaches in her Searsport studio and at other venues.

Thursday Afternoon Classes, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Keep on Gardening

Liz Stanley, instructor

In this 6-week program, we'll explore tools, techniques, and designs to help us grow and stay active in the garden. We'll also look at ways we can deal with new pests, plant diseases and problems caused by changes in our growing season. Guests will include instructors from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, AgrAbility, nursery professionals, and local farmers and gardeners.

No text required

Facilitated by: The University of Maine Cooperative Extension, with guests from AgrAbility, nurseries, and local farmers and gardeners.

Family Story Writing Workshop

Mel Regnell, instructor

For those who have attended "Capturing Your Family Stories", this follow-on course offers a continuation of writing, review, critique, and exploration of methods and tools for getting family history captured before it disappears. This is a hands-on, writing-focused, workshop. **Class limited to 20. (If you completed "Capturing Your Family Stories" with me, please sign up immediately to reserve your space.)**

No text required

Melinda Regnell recently self-published volume I of her own family memoir, "Keeping Faith" — the early years of Faith Graves Sawyer from Gorham, Maine. She writes regularly for her blog, "D4msquared." Regnell has over 20 years of experience writing and publishing blogs, articles, and technical training content. She has a Masters in Adult Education and has had an extensive career writing and teaching for several global corporations. She has also taught classes at the University of New Hampshire, the University of Southern Maine, and Colby College. She is an avid writer, reader, and sometime First Mate aboard the Melinda Jane out of Searsport.

A Magical Mystery Tour of the British Isles

Nancy Perkins, instructor

Join us for a "magical mystery tour" of the British Isles via British mystery writers and their endearing detectives. From the Shetland Islands to the metropolis of London, this geographic trip will include Scotland, Ireland, and England, as well as the discovery of what makes a great mystery endure and why we are drawn to the genre. **Class limit of 18.**

No text required

Nancy Perkins: A relative newcomer to Senior College, Nancy has been a lifelong mystery aficionado from Nancy Drew as a child through the latest good mystery yarn. While she was descended from a long line of teachers, she has never taught but has made a number of presentations on popular 20th and 21st century whodunits. She double-majored in English and History at Westhampton College of the University of Richmond, Virginia. Following graduation, she took 18 hour of education courses in preparation to teach but instead sought another career as a fundraiser. She was invited some years ago to make a presentation to the Anglophile Club of a Senior Retirement home and developed several presentations on British culture and history including mystery writing, Tudor Stuart History, and the British Raj and its impact on Britain today. She remains an avid anglophile, mystery fan and tea drinker!

The Idea of America: Our Values, Our Legacy, Our Future

Duncan Newcomer, instructor

The tattered fabric of our nation can be reweoven on the loom of history. Our values and our legacy can reframe our future. This course uses the vocabulary of values, such as Equality and Unity, with the legacy of our past

leaders, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Martin Luther King, Jr., to strengthen our participation in the future of our country and world. Along with readings, lecture and discussion, our home-grown (Game Loft) method of dramatic enactment will be used to deepen and enliven our role in the common good and the development of our best selves.

Required text: “The Idea of America,” ISBN 978-0-87935-291-2

Duncan Newcomer has taught this course and “The Spiritual Life of Lincoln” at Senior College in Belfast and Brunswick. The course is a part of a national program from the Idea of America Network with a curriculum originally prepared by Colonial Williamsburg. This format is being taught in similar locations throughout the country. Rev. Dr. Newcomer is a psychotherapist, minister, and writer living in Belfast with his partner, Rebecca Jessup, poet and Latin teacher.

Intermediate Conversational French: Part VIII

Lila Nation, instructor

Ce cours est pour ceux qui ont déjà étudié le français pendant au moins trois ans et qui voudraient soit réclamer leur niveau de compétence soit le continuer. Pour cette raison ce cours se conduit tout à fait en français sauf des explications de grammaire de temps en temps. Mais n'ayez pas peur! On révisé continuellement, et si vous pouvez lire cette description, vous êtes dans le même bateau que les autres.

Texte exigé: French All-in-One for Dummies,” disponible à travers Amazon pour \$34.99. ISBN: 978-1-118-22815-9 (On emploie ce texte pendant les deux ans passés.) **Limite de 15 élèves.**

Lila Nation has been teaching French for the past thirty-six years at both high school and university levels, as well as giving private lessons. She holds an MAT in French and a Certificat de phonétique, has lived in Paris, visited France twenty-one times, St. Bart's twice, and Québec eleven times. She has also taught Spanish and Latin, is currently taking cello lessons, studying Italian, and loves to sing!

Chaucer’s “Troilus and Criseyde”

Juliet Baker, instructor

William Chaucer’s lyrical masterpiece, “Troilus and Criseyde” (1380’s), is a tragic romance written in five sections of flawless rhyme royale and set in the besieged city of Troy. Taking his text from Boccaccio’s “Filostrato,” Chaucer, like him, emphasizes the “urgencies, glories, pains and absurdities of sexual love.” Under Chaucer’s stewardship, the story’s intensity grows in passion and beauty— Troilus, overwhelmed by love, Pandarus, doing all he can to please the lovers, but failing, and Criseyde, so in love, but more cautious. In Criseyde, Chaucer strikingly realizes and humanely develops a woman unlike other female characters known to medieval readers. There is nothing cynical about these lovers. The story is as honest as it is heartbreaking. While we read, we will refer to Shakespeare’s very different treatment in his “Troilus and Cresside,” but remain aware of 14th Century history and philosophy, especially Boethius, and we will become far more cognizant of the beauties of Middle English!

Required Text: We will read the text in Middle English—“Troilus and Criseyde.” (Penguin Paper Back), edited by Barry Windeatt. Amazon- \$17.00. Used copies from \$10.00 to \$1.38. It’s easy to find good ones. Barry Windeatt also has an excellent translation, “Troilus and Criseyde,” (Oxford World Classics), Amazon-\$10.93. Used copies \$7.95-3.98.

Juliet Baker has taken and taught many courses here at Senior College, specializing perhaps in Nineteenth Century British novels (Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, George Eliot, to name a few) and literature from the British Middle Ages, such as Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and works by Chaucer. She has always loved this stuff, and she loves teaching you even more!

Watercolor Workshop

Nancy Blatz, instructor

Watercolor painting is a great way to exercise your brain. Planning and thinking before painting eliminates many of the problems that plague watercolor. Even when you think you are done, there are techniques you can use to improve the final presentation. Critiquing is a great way to analyze what you like and what you don't like. Classmates' fresh eyes add wonderful nuances to your work. Lots of individual instruction will be available, so if you are new to the medium, don't worry.

Required materials: You will need 140lb cold press paper, paint, brushes, palette, water container and paper towels. Please let me know if you need me to supply any of these items. All supplies will be available for purchase the first week or bring your own. Estimated costs are: Brush \$10; Paper \$5; Paint \$6; palette \$8. If you have a ceramic plate, you can use that for palette. Water bowl is also needed, as well as paper towels.

Class Limit of 12

Nancy Blatz taught high school math for thirty-three years in New York. During that time, she attended adult education painting courses and took four watercolor classes from the Huntington Township Art League. The rest is history. When she retired to Maine, she became a member of the Mid Coast Art Guild. She was the first Senior College watercolor instructor, and has since taken workshops with Carol Seibold, Franck Eber, Jan Kilburn, and Alvaro Castagnet.

Evolution and Human Society: A Guided Discussion

Dick Brown, instructor

In the time frame of our tenure on earth it is only moments ago that Charles Darwin challenged the foundations of much of human thinking. It is not surprising that we have yet to truly grasp this momentous change, particularly as it pertains to human society. This course is intended to provide an opportunity for a wide-ranging discussion of the changes in our thinking that Darwin, and others, has brought about. A recently published book by the instructor will serve as an entry point to this discussion. **Class limited to 20.**

Required text: "Evolution and Us: A Poetic Inquiry into the Nature of Change," by Richard E. Brown, ISBN 978-1-947758-00-1, available at Amazon or from the author, \$12.95

Richard E. Brown is a retired music teacher, having spent thirty-nine years in the public schools of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. He holds degrees from Boston University and the University of Connecticut. He has also taught at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, the University of Maine, and Senior College in Belfast Maine. In his retirement he has turned to exploring and writing about a wide range of subjects. He has recently published a book of poems entitled "Evolution and Us: A poetic Inquiry into the Nature of Change."

Special One-Day Courses, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 pm

Chinese Opera, Past and Present, Tuesday, April 10

Dick Brown, instructor

Chinese cultural traditions run deep. Given the West's current and inevitable interactions with this ancient culture it is of the utmost importance that we come to understand and appreciate each other, people to people. Chinese opera has grown over time from many varied cultural roots. We'll first explore the most common characteristics to better understand the featured presentation, Tan Dun's 2002 intimate hall opera, "Tea, a Mirror of Soul." This is an opera intended for a variety of performance spaces, more closely aligned with Chinese traditions than his, perhaps better known, Metropolitan Opera productions.

No text required

Richard E. Brown is a retired music teacher, having spent thirty-nine years in the public schools of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. He holds degrees from Boston University and the University of Connecticut. He has also taught at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts, the University of Maine, and Senior College in Belfast Maine. In his retirement he has turned to exploring and writing about a wide variety of subjects. He has recently published a book of poems entitled "Evolution and Us: A Poetic Inquiry into the Nature of Change."

Growing Orchids Indoors, Thurs., May 3

Robin Davis, instructor

We will explore selecting orchids for the home environment. Basics covered include watering, temperature, light, fertilizing, and humidity. Also covered will be artificial lighting systems, orchids in

the basement, and orchids in a window greenhouse. Students are encouraged to bring photos and questions about orchids they may already own.

No text required. Handouts will be provided.

Robin Davis was owner/operator of Pacific Orchids in Hayward and Daly City, California in the 1980s. During the 1990's Robin entered into the American Orchid Society's Judging system in the Washington DC area at the National Capital Judging Center. Robin retired from the Plant Variety Protection Office, US Department of Agriculture, where she was a senior examiner of intellectual property rights for plant breeders.

Introduction to Drawing, Tues., May 22

Sandi Cirillo, instructor

Did you know that drawing is the oldest form of written communication and is a great leisure activity? In this class, you'll learn how to create a good composition using techniques such as shading, contrast, perspective, texture, etc. You will be experimenting with different drawings materials, too, so you can see which ones you like the best (or the least). Drawing landscapes and still lifes will be part of this class and maybe even a little figure drawing. As spring approaches and we desire to get out into our environment, this class will help you hone your drawing skills so you can visually record any observations you see. All supplies will be provided. Bring your enthusiasm and a desire to learn something new.

Materials fee: \$8.00 per student to be collected when class starts. **Class limit of 15.**

Sandi Cirillo, a retired art educator, has been teaching drawing, fiber and art history classes at Senior College for 5 years now. She is an accomplished fiber artist who gives workshops in various media all over the Northeast and North Carolina, working with various arts organizations and businesses. Influences for her artwork come from her love of hiking and photographing the natural world and from her love of the beauty of coastal Maine. Sandi's artwork is featured on her website, www.especially-for-ewe.com as well as a listing of the workshops she teaches at her Searsport studio and at other venues.

Mixin' It Up with Grandma Moses, Thurs., June 7

Sandi Cirillo, instructor

The New York Times said of her: "The simple realism, nostalgic atmosphere and luminous color with which Grandma Moses portrayed simple farm life and rural countryside won her a wide following. She was able to capture the excitement of winter's first snow, Thanksgiving preparations and the new, young green of oncoming spring...in person, Grandma Moses charmed everyone she met". We'll learn about Anna Mary Robertson Moses in this hands on mixed media art workshop that will focus on her primitive folk art style. We will be drawing, using some simple watercolors, and combining other mixed media materials to create our own folk art using our imagination, creativity, and personal memories materials

Materials fee of \$8.00 for each student, payable to the instructor at the first class. You can also bring in some of your own art materials if desired, as well as photographs of that special place you'd like to recreate in this primitive folk art style. **Class limit of 15.**

Sandi Cirillo, a retired art educator, has been teaching drawing, fiber and art history classes at Senior College for 5 years now. She is an accomplished fiber artist who gives workshops in various media all over the Northeast and North Carolina, working with various arts organizations and businesses. Influences for her artwork come from her love of hiking and photographing the natural world and from her love of the beauty of coastal Maine. Sandi's artwork is featured on her website, www.especially-for-ewe.com as well as a listing of the workshops she teaches at her Searsport studio and at other venues.

Senior College admits members regardless of race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or amount of gray hair.