Lifelong Learning

Wichita State University is offering 0.5 credit courses that are FREE for students 60+ years of age who enroll prior to September 14, 2018.

**POLS 150B  National Politics**

CRN 16631

7651 E. Central Park Avenue, Bel Aire, KS 67220

National Politics examines how American politics works at the federal level. We will investigate how the rules of the Constitution shape our politics and evaluate how our politics live up to Constitutional ideals. We will examine how people connect to their government through elections and lobbying. We will also discuss the process for making policy to govern the country, the actors that have influence in that process and how those actors interact with each other, and who thus holds power in policymaking.

**Objectives:**

1. Identify core ideals in the U.S. Constitution and evaluate how well U.S. politics satisfies those ideals.
2. Analyze basic reasons why election campaigns are won and lost.
3. Identify the main people and groups with power to determine policies governing the country and discuss the roles they play in the systems for determining policy.

**Dates:** Wednesdays, October 3, 10, 17 and 24  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Instructor:** Dr. Michael Hall, Professor of Political Science

**PHYS 199A  Special Topics in Astronomy**

CRN 16643

200 S. Walnut, Wichita, KS 67213

This course will introduce you to selected topics of our modern view of the universe, its contents, and how particular objects got to be the way they are. Among the topics we will discuss are objects in our solar system; the birth and death of stars; the fate of the universe; and the search for life in the solar system and beyond.

**Objectives:**

1. Explore the solar system by learning about each of the eight planets and their moons.
2. Discuss the search for exoplanets and extra-terrestrial life.
3. Examine the stages in the lives of stars and discuss planetary nebulae, white dwarfs, supernovae, neutron stars, pulsars, and black holes.
4. Learn about black holes, dark matter, dark energy, and the fate of the universe.

**Dates:** Thursdays, October 4, 11, 18 and 25  
**Time:** 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Instructors:** Dr. Jason Ferguson, Professor of Physics and Greg Novacek, Physics Educator

**HIST 150AF  WWI and Kansas’ Involvement Through Aviation, Oil and Manpower**

CRN 16628

1655 S. Georgetown St., Wichita, KS 67218

During the U.S. involvement in World War I, Kansas men, Kansas oil and Kansas planes contributed greatly to the cause. 5200 Kansans’s including Salina native George Robb, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and Wichitan Lt. Erwin Bleckley, who was awarded the Medal posthumously, bravely served our country with honor. We’ll look at what price was paid and the impact of the war in Kansas.

**Objectives:**

1. Identify how Kansans gave their all, how one of the deadliest flu epidemics in the world began in Kansas, and how that affected the home front and battlefront.
2. Discuss the impact the war had on families – how some Kansans were forced to stop speaking German in homes, schools and churches.
3. Describe its lasting impact – what we learned from the war.

**Dates:** Fridays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Instructor:** Beccy Tanner, Department of History Adjunct & Former Wichita Eagle Reporter
MUSC 150D

African-American Music: From the Spiritual to Motown

at Kansas Masonic Home
402 S Martinson, Wichita, KS 67213

CRN 16632

This series of four lecture presentations begins with the origins of a uniquely American art form, the Spiritual. We will explore historical and cultural influences and have numerous examples of the music. This will be an interactive presentation with opportunities for the participants to sing, chant, and move with the music. The course will review the development of Gospel music and how the African-American church was both a musical and a political influence at the beginning of the 20th century. Gospel performance practice evolved from the Spiritual while adding instruments and the celebration of solo artists. The series will close with the music of Motown and review how popular music evolved from both Gospel and the Blues.

Objectives: Students will...
1. Understand geographical and cultural influences, which shaped the development of the Spiritual.
2. Understand the evolution of performance styles from simple chant to concert versions of the Spiritual.
3. Trace musical and political influences shaping the development of Gospel music.
4. Compare styles of Motown artists and trace their influence on both popular music and society.

Dates: Tuesdays, September 4, 11, 18, and 25
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Tom Wine, Professor of Choral

HIST 150E

Workshop in Family History

at Bel Aire Senior Center
7651 E. Central Park Avenue, Bel Aire, KS 67220

CRN 16625

This course introduces students to the basic tools associated with genealogy. Emphasis will be on a variety of online resources available to help a student with their research including vital, census, military, religious and immigration and naturalization records as well as newspapers. This course will emphasize using the computer, internet and storing your family tree using a free internet site, FamilySearch.

Objectives: Students will...
1. Understand and use the Pedigree Chart and Family Group Sheet.
2. Input genealogical information into FamilySearch.
3. Utilize a variety of online genealogical resources to search for family information.
4. Develop research skills to continue working on your family history.

Dates: Wednesdays, September 5, 12, 19 and 26
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Craig Torbenson, Associate Professor of History

*Please bring a smartphone, tablet or laptop.

A History of Noise: From the Spiritual to Motown

at Reflection Ridge Retirement Resort
2300 N. Tyler Rd., Wichita, KS 67205

CRN 16633

Join us as we explore the roles that noise has played in political discourses throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Our charged bookends—Beethoven and Jimi Hendrix—will help us think about supposed differences between “Art” and popular music and invite us to consider whether it is possible to distinguish “Art” and “Noise” at all. A variety of case studies will frame our discussions, including (among others) the bombast and nationalism of Beethoven’s ninth symphony; the Marxist-inspired “emancipation” of sound, as presented by Arnold Schoenberg; the race and gender-bending rock n’ roll of Elvis; and the protest-by-distortion of Hendrix’s national anthem at Woodstock. Together, we’ll reexamine the ways the music around us sought and seeks to shape society.

Objectives: Students will...
1. Formulate and articulate meaningful and critical questions about music, based on their hearing and study of the music itself and in relation to primary and secondary resources.
2. Evaluate both vocal and instrumental repertoires in terms of historical contexts and musical traditions.
3. Think critically about judgments like “noisy” and how they have been used for political action through history.

Dates: Thursdays, September 6, 13, 20 and 27
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Kelly St. Pierre, Assistant Professor of Musicology

HIST 150AE

Kansas Railroads: Impact of the Iron Horse on the Sunflower State

at Kansas Masonic Home
402 S. Martinson, Wichita, KS 67213

CRN 16627

In 1867, the Union Pacific Railroad, Eastern Division - renamed the Kansas Pacific - built the first railroad across Kansas, running east and west. A few years later, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe built its railroad across the state. Join us as we discuss how the railroad made and broke towns, provided transportation that helped the state grow agriculturally, put pressure on the federal government to push American Indian tribes from Kansas and fueled the cattle industry in the state.

Objectives: Students will...
1. Identify where railroads were in Kansas and what has happened to many of the great lines.
2. Discuss how the railroads changed and made towns.
3. Describe the importance and impact geography, tribes and politics played.
4. Describe efforts to preserve historical trains and railroading spots.

Dates: Fridays, September 7, 14, 21 and 28
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Becci Tanner, WSU Department of History Adjunct & former Wichita Eagle Reporter

HIST 150AC

The Literature of Kansas

at Haysville Senior Center
160 E. Karla Ave., Haysville, KS 67060

CRN 16723

Go anywhere in Kansas and there’s an author with a book. We will examine some of the writers who during the past 157 years have shaped how we feel about Kansas and how others see us. From Laura Ingalls Wilder’s “Little House On the Prairie” and L. Frank Baum’s “Wizard of Oz” to Langston Hughes poetry, and Truman Capote’s portrayal of Kansas in his book “In Cold Blood,” we will look at the descriptions of Kansas, its culture and its residents and see, if as Kansans, we agree with how we have been portrayed throughout the literary world.

Objectives: Students will...
1. Discuss various works of authors.
2. Examine how descriptions change as we read our way across Kansas.
3. Identify who our favorite authors are and why.

Dates: Mondays, September 10, 17, 24, and October 1
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Instructor: Becci Tanner, WSU Department of History Adjunct & former Wichita Eagle Reporter

POLS 150C

Presidential Leadership: Myth and Reality

at Larkspur Field
737 E. 23th St. N., Wichita, KS 67226

CRN 16630

This course will focus on four presidents of the modern era: Franklin Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan, Harry Truman, and Richard Nixon. We will evaluate each president’s leadership effectiveness based on presidential scholar Fred Greenstein’s criteria: Communication, Political Skill, Organizational Ability; Knowledge Application, Vision, and Emotional Intelligence. Video documentaries will be viewed and brief articles handed out prior to each class.

Objectives: Students will...
1. Where relevant, critically evaluate the strengths of these presidents for each of the Greenstein criteria.
2. Where relevant, critically evaluate the weaknesses of these presidents for each of the Greenstein criteria.

Dates: Tuesdays, October 2, 9, 16 and 23
Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Instructor: Dr. Mel Kahn, Professor of Political Science

More classes on back!