

20
16 | JANUARY

LLI Bard College

Lifetime Learning Institute **INTERSESSION**

THE DYNAMICS OF LIBERAL EDUCATION IN THE BARD PRISON INITIATIVE

Wednesday, January 6

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This lecture introduces the Bard Prison Initiative (BPI) and its efforts to provide incarcerated men and women with an ambitious liberal education. In particular, it focuses on the degree to which BPI's work is and is not "political." On the one hand, it highlights BPI's effort to democratize college education by making the liberal arts and sciences available to a group that would otherwise have little access to them. On the other hand, BPI strives to offer "institution-neutral" courses that do not directly engage with students' experiences of incarceration.

Presenter: Jeff Jurgens received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He is Fellow for Anthropology and Social Theory at the Bard Prison Initiative as well as Academic Co-Director of the Consortium for the Liberal Arts in Prison. Jurgens' teaching and research focus on memory, emotion, and citizenship among immigrants from Turkey in Germany.

Producer: Dacie Kershaw

SHORT FILMS CURATED BY THE WOODSTOCK FILM FESTIVAL

Wednesday, January 6

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The Woodstock Film Festival administers a year-round touring exhibit that features films by established and emerging filmmakers. The festival emphasizes giving NY State filmmakers and/or filmmakers who shoot in the Hudson Valley an opportunity to exhibit their work and interact with the audience. We will be seeing and discussing several short films during this presentation.

Presenter: Laurent Rejto is a co-founder/director of the Woodstock Film Festival and the Commissioner of the Hudson Valley Film Commission. As a filmmaker, Rejto recently aired his film *Persephone*, starring Melissa Leo, on WMHT-PBS.

Producer: Jay Hochstadt

"SO, HOW ARE THINGS?"

Wednesday, January 13

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

A panel of Bard faculty will discuss current world events.

Presenter: Jonathan Becker, Vice President for Academic Affairs at Bard College; Director, Center for Civic Engagement; Associate Professor of Political Studies; Director, Globalization and International Studies.

Producer: Milly Feinsilber

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CHILD SACRIFICE IN ABRAHAMIC SCRIPTURES**Wednesday, January 13****1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

While referencing his publication *Abraham's Curse*, The Rev. Dr. Chilton will give a creative and relevant historical account of the understanding of Genesis 22. He will ask how the Abrahamic faiths have understood Genesis 22, the story of the binding of Isaac, and will find a range of interpretations within the Jewish, Christian and Islamic texts.

Presenter: Bruce Chilton received a Ph.D. from Cambridge and is a scholar of early Christianity and Judaism. He has taught in Europe at the Universities of Cambridge, Sheffield, and Munster and in the United States at Yale University. Currently he is the Bernard Iddings Bell Professor of Religion at Bard College and also directs the Institute of Advanced Theology there. Among his most recent books are *The Cambridge Companion to the Bible* (2007), *Abraham's Curse: Child Sacrifice in the Legacies of the West* (2008), *The Way of Jesus* (2010), *Visions of the Apocalypse* (2013), and *Christianity - The Basics* (2015).

Producer: Rosealice D'Avanzo**PRODUCING A PLAY FROM CONCEPT TO PERFORMANCE****Wednesday, January 20****11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Lou Trapani will take you on a guided tour of play production from the moment a property is decided upon, to securing rights and paying royalties, to budgeting, to casting, to rehearsing, to public relations initiatives, to designing and building sets/lights/costumes/props, to paying vendors and talent, and ultimately to what the audience sees on opening night.

Presenter: Lou Trapani is the artistic and managing director of The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck. He has been performing in, directing, writing and producing plays for over 50 years

and has worked in university theater, community theatre, regional theater, Off-Broadway, public television and radio.

Producer: Claire Luse**ESPIONAGE - THE INSIDER THREAT****Wednesday, January 20****1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

The U.S. national security is threatened by U.S. Government employees who have been recruited by foreign intelligence services to become spies. Violating their oaths of allegiance, these U.S. citizen spies, with top-secret clearances, manipulate the trust of their friends and professional colleagues to obtain classified information that is forwarded to America's foes. The presenter will describe the current counterintelligence threat and the motivations influencing spies to betray the United States. He will discuss how in 1999 the Russian intelligence service was able to install a listening device inside a State Department conference room located on the same floor as the office of the Secretary of State.

Presenter: Robert Booth was a Diplomatic Security Service special agent from 1974-2002. He was the Deputy Director of the Office of Counterintelligence from 1996-2002 and a contractor to that office from 2003-2012. His numerous meritorious awards for counterintelligence come from the CIA, DOE, FBI, and the State Department.

Producer: Dacie Kershaw**STRATEGY AMID CHAOS: US POLICY AND A CHANGING MIDDLE EAST****Wednesday, January 27****11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Every day brings new developments in the Middle East, including wars, radical Islamist groups, revolutions and coups. But what are the underlying causes? This lecture looks at the role of religion, authoritarianism, borders, oil, monarchies and outside forces in the region – and examines what policies the

United States might adopt to maintain its interests in this turbulent time.

Presenter: James P. Ketterer is Director of International Academic Initiatives and Senior Fellow at Bard College, where he also teaches politics and Middle East Studies. He previously served as Egypt Country Director for AMIDEAST and as Vice Chancellor at SUNY. He also worked in government and international development.

Producer: Milly Feinsilber**THE AMERICAN WEST AND THE GOLDEN AGE OF WESTERNS****Wednesday, January 27****1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Americans often fail to understand that the nation's deepest sectional rift is not North-South but East-West. Once upon a time Westerns were the most popular genre in movies and novels. These narratives used an often mythical landscape in which they explored national identity, moral values, and culture. The lecture will focus on classics of John Ford (including *Stagecoach* and *The Searchers*), *High Noon*, *Shane*, *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*, *The Wild Bunch*, and *Unforgiven*. We will consider the iconic status of such figures as John Wayne, Clint Eastwood, Gary Cooper, and Henry Fonda. How have westerns changed over time as Americans' ideas about their enemies, themselves, gender, as well as good and evil, evolved?

Presenter: Mark Lytle taught History for 40 years at Bard College where he is now the Lyford Paterson and Mary Gray Edwards Professor of History Emeritus. Among the many courses he taught *The American West in Film, Fact, and Fiction* was his most popular, once attracting one-sixth of the student body and taught in Bard Chapel. The dissonance between place and subject was palpable, or was it? Dr. Lytle is currently writing a book on the tension between consumer culture and environmental concerns since WW II.

Producer: Margaret Shuhala

LLI Bard College
 Lifetime Learning Institute
Intersession at a Glance

LLI members and Intersession presenters may bring guests. Members, presenters and their guests are welcome at every session. The Bard community of faculty, staff and students are also welcome. The Down the Road Café in Bertelsmann Campus Center is generally open during the lunch hour.

REGISTRATION IS **NOT** REQUIRED.

In case of inclement weather, presentations are canceled and will not be rescheduled. We will use the Red Hook School System for closings; call their information line at 845.758.2241 or contact LLI at 845.758.7314 or lli@bard.edu.

Presentation	Room	Date	Time
The Dynamics of Liberal Education in the Bard Prison Initiative	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 6	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Short Films Curated by The Woodstock Film Festival	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 6	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
“So, How Are Things?”	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 13	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Child Sacrifice in Abrahamic Scriptures	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 13	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Producing a Play from Concept to Performance	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 20	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Espionage - The Insider Threat	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 20	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Strategy Amid Chaos: US Policy and A Changing Middle East	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 27	11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
The American West and The Golden Age of Westerns	Bertelsmann Weis Cinema	Wednesday, January 27	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Special Events/
Intersession Committee**

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