SPRING SESSION 2021
Virtual Learning from May 3 - June 24
LOOK AT YOUR CHOICES
Full descriptions and faculty biographies appear on pages 4 through 19. Instructions on “how to enroll” are on the next page. Classes meet online via Zoom and run eight weeks from May 3 until June 24. The Academic Calendar appears at the bottom of page 6.

MONDAY
10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.
Prof. William Eddelman  Performing Paris (1885-1935): The Belle Epoque (1885-1914) & The Jazz Age (1918-1935)
Prof. David Peritz  Political Parties for and Against Democracy

1 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
Prof. Avril Angevine  Exploring Art by Women
Prof. Sonny Buxton  The First Lady (of song): Ella Fitzgerald - Sammy Davis Jr., G.O.A.T. (the greatest of all time) - The Goddess; Lena Horne
Prof. Rob Rosborough  The Biography of Your Garden: Plants, People & Peregrinations

TUESDAY
10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.
Prof. Roy Eisenhardt  Sports In American Culture
Prof. Lois Spatz  Heroines of Greek Drama: Women in a Man's World

1 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
Prof. Christopher O'Sullivan  America in an Age of Upheavals: New Perspectives on the United States and the Era of the World Wars (1914-1945)
Prof. Richie Unterberger  Rock 'n' Roll's First Decade: From Elvis to the Beatles

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.
Various Lecturers  Medical Lecture Series  Coordinated by Melvin Cheitlin, M.D.

1 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
Prof. James Sokol  Exploring Opera: The Divas
Prof. Lynne Kaufman  SEMINAR: Evoking the Muse: A Writing Workshop

THURSDAY
10 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.
Prof. Howard De Nike  An Anthropology of Genocide: The Fate of California's Native Peoples
Prof. Ernest Newbrun  Dutch Golden Age Painting

1 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
Rabbi Lee Bycel  Immigrants and Refugees: The American Dilemma, Lifeblood or Threat
Prof. John Freeman  San Francisco’s Age of Optimism – 1906 - 1930

COVER ARTWORK BY KATHY RAFFEL,
READ HER STATEMENT ON PAGE 18.
IN THIS CATALOG
In this booklet you’ll find all of this session’s online courses, their descriptions, and our faculty biographies, also general information about enrollment. Since 1976, the Fromm Institute has encouraged ‘career-free’ persons, age 50 and older, from all walks of life, to engage their minds in academic pursuits. As you discover what our lifelong learning program is all about, you are invited to join them.

MISSION
The Fromm Institute, a “University within a University,” stages daytime courses for retired adults over 50 years of age. Founded by Alfred and Hanna Fromm, the Institute offers intellectual and social stimulation by introducing its members to a wide range of college level learning opportunities.

VALUES
The Institute has a firm commitment to learning, believing that older students should be able to learn within a peer setting and be taught by emeritus professors of their own age. As an independent, non-profit program on the USF campus, it appeals to its members and to a broader philanthropic community for financial support.

The Fromm Institute welcomes people regardless of previous academic achievement or their ability to pay a modest membership fee. This San Francisco “original” serves hundreds of older students each day, and includes thousands among its lifelong learning student body and alumni.

HOW TO ENROLL
Enroll online at fromminstitute.org/sessions beginning Monday, March 15, 2021. If you have any questions please call us at 415-422-6805 or email us (fromm@usfca.edu). The last chance to enroll this session is 3 p.m. Thursday, April 29, 2021. Once classes start, please call the office to enroll.

FEES
The fees for participating in an online course is $85 per class. Scholarships are available for a maximum of four courses, but everyone must pay something toward their membership. Your membership fee is not tuition and cannot be prorated or applied to a future session. Payment is collected online through enrollment and may be done using a credit card or PayPal account.

CONTACT US
The Fromm Institute office is closed due to the outbreak of COVID-19. The best ways to reach us are the following:

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Performing Paris (1885-1935): The Belle Epoque (1885-1914) & The Jazz Age (1918-1935)  
Professor William Eddelman

Glittering, hedonistic, and liberating; Paris during the Belle Epoque and the Jazz Age was the city where the world went, where everything was happening, and where life was lived to its fullest. Paris received and entertained the world, becoming a stage for a society of performances, performers, personalities and spectators. Mixing high and low life, private gestures and public actions, Paris was a cauldron of creativity, challenges and revolutionary cultural changes. This class will explore the intersection of culture and performance history during these two major periods of change and developing modernity.

We will look at such various art and cultural forms as: Art Deco, café-society, salons, music halls and reviews, theatre, opera, dance, American jazz, early modern dance, ballet, painting, and design. We will also encounter a wide range of talented performers, creative artists, and personalities both European and American, who gave such life and vitality to the years between 1885-1935 in Paris.

Why Paris? What did it represent? And how does it fit into our understanding of performances as they evolved in the first decades of the twentieth century?

Professor William Eddelman

William Eddelman, Associate Professor Emeritus of Theatre History and Design, Stanford University, is a specialist in international theatrical design. During his teaching career at Stanford University, he combined both the creative and academic worlds through practical stage design work and classroom teachings. His courses included theatre, art and cultural history, costume and scenic design, dramatic literature, theatre aesthetics and politics, opera, musical theatre, and the psychology of clothes. He taught at the Stanford Berlin Center, has led study tours to northern Italy, and designed professional productions in the San Francisco Bay Area.

He is currently working on two major projects: a research library and collection in international theatrical design for the Achenbach Graphic Arts Foundation of the San Francisco Fine Arts Museums, and a special research project for the Prague Quadrennials – held every four years in the Czech Republic – that showcase international exhibitions of theatrical design.
MONDAYS FROM 10:00AM - 11:40AM

Political Parties for and Against Democracy: When, Why and How do Parties Support and Contribute to Democracies that Work? Or Fail to do so?
Professor David Peritz

In this course we will examine partisan polarization in contemporary American politics and the forces producing and exacerbating it from a variety of perspectives: historical, political, social, economic and racial. We will go back to the framing of the American constitution and look at the history of the collapse of democracy in other societies, as well as at more general theories of how parties work and when they break down. The guiding aim will be to determine when and why political parties serve as instruments of democracy: two-way transmission belts that convey communication between ordinary citizens and their representative elites; civil society organizations that allow for bottom-up, spontaneous grassroots participation; schools of political socialization that train new citizens and potential leaders alike about issues, processes and the importance of fidelity to basic norms of constitutional democracy; etc. And we will also examine when and why parties stop playing these positive roles: what social, political, economic, cultural or demographic conditions produce political parties that prioritize the pursuit of power over their commitment to the democratic process itself and mobilize their supporters in ways that generate fear, anger and anxiety of a kind that make it hard to understand or hear the other side, let alone to respect them as fellow citizens? We will survey the rich contemporary literature on this topic, but also pay attention to historical theories from the 18th century forward. Having surveyed these issues, we will be in a position to determine the kinds of reform and change necessary if we are to produce a less fractious and poisonous, more deliberative and constructive politics in an America that stands, at once, on the cusp of finally realizing its democratic promise, and on the precipice of surrendering to the dark forces of division.

Professor David Peritz
David Peritz earned his BA from Occidental College and Ph.D. from Oxford. A Professor at Sarah Lawrence since 2000, he is the recipient of a Marshall Scholarship and taught at Harvard, Deep Springs, Dartmouth, UC Berkeley, and Cornell. His research focuses on modern and contemporary political philosophy, especially theories of democracy and justice and their relation to issues of diversity and inequality. He has taught at the Fromm Institute since 2016 and in lifelong learning for 20 years. He also directs the recently founded Minerva Academy of Life Long Learning.
MONDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM
Exploring Art by Women
Professor Avril Angevine

Despite accounting for only seven percent of the holdings of New York’s Metropolitan Museum, artworks by women in a range of media—painting and sculpture, photography, even “craft” works traditionally practiced by women—are gaining acceptance and respect in the art world. Art provides a deeper, more personal layer to history; understanding women’s important contributions to cultural life is overdue, enriching, and inspiring. You’ll see that women have explored art’s perennial subjects: portraits, genre scenes, landscapes, mythology and religious subjects. BUT they also brought images found in women’s lives and experiences—children, home life, marriage—into their works. And while we find women working in all the “isms” of Western art over the centuries, they enriched the art repertoire by bringing new materials, such as fabric and clay—materials once derided as mere “craft” supplies—into the art world.

Professor Avril Angevine
Avril Angevine is an arts lecturer with a particular interest in modern and contemporary art and California art, and has lectured on both subjects at various locations in the Bay Area, including the OLLI programs at Cal State East Bay and Dominican College. Avril has an MA in Comparative Literature from UC Berkeley and teaches English in the Fall Program for Freshmen at UC Berkeley, and Humanities at Diablo Valley College. She is also a museum guide at SFMOMA, and a docent at OMCA.

SPRING SESSION 2021
March 15, 2021 - Catalogs Emailed / Online Enrollment Opens
April 19 - Seminar Lottery Determinations / Notifications
April 29 - Online Enrollment Ends - (Please call to enroll after April 29)
May 3-June 24 - Classes in Session
May 31 - Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)
June 28-July 1 - Make Up Week
MONDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM

The First Lady (of song): Ella Fitzgerald - Sammy Davis Jr., G.O.A.T. (the greatest of all time) - The Goddess; Lena Horne
Professor Sonny Buxton

PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ROBERT FORDHAM CHAIR IN LIBERAL ARTS

Ella Fitzgerald, known as, the "First Lady of Song," could have been another police-blotter story. Homeless, at fifteen, living on the streets of Harlem, through sheer drive and ambition, she broke through, becoming one of the most admired entertainers of the twentieth century. She had a career that spanned five decades: the first African American Grammy Award winner, performer before presidents, kings and queens around the world. We'll take a close look at Ella Fitzgerald, the artist and the person.

Sammy Davis Jr., literally, grew up on stage, making his professional debut at age four. He could dance, sing, act, play multiple musical instruments and mimic. There may never be another performer equal to Sammy Davis Jr. But who was Sammy? We'll take a close look at a very complex personality, who may never have discovered; "What Makes Sammy Run?"

Lena Horne, was often labeled: "the Black Goddess." She was a lot more. Lena was the first Black performer to ink an extended contract with a major motion picture company. Her contract with MGM was for seven years. It stated that she would not play the role of a servant. Most Black actors, in the 40s, played the role of maids and butlers. Lena Horne became one of the major supper club attractions in America. She was an activist, Blacklisted by the House Unamerican Activities Committee for Communist affiliations. She survived losing her son, father and husband, all within one year, making one of the most dramatic come-backs in the history of showbusiness.

Professor Sonny Buxton

Prof. Buxton’s lifelong passion has been music and documentary filmmaking. He has worked as a professional musician, with the likes of Peggy Lee, Billy Eckstine, and Bill Strayhorn. He has produced shows ranging in scope from the Motown Allstars to B. B. King, Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, and Miles Davis. He traveled with Ellington producing an award-winning audio documentary. A longtime jazz club/restaurateur in Seattle and SF, he has also had a long career in broadcasting working for KGO as a newsman, a talk show host, and an executive producer. He is a Northern California Emmy Awardee. He hosts “Saturday Mid-Day Jazz” on KCSM. Working as a social psychologist/football player have been parts of his life now being put into Memoirs of a Jazz Junkie: My First Two Hundred Years.
MONDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM

The Biography of Your Garden: Plants, People & Peregrinations
Professor Rob Rosborough

Have you ever grown geraniums? Does Bougainvillea bloom on your balcony? Do red roses ramble over your fence? Which one could you have found in an ancient Roman garden? Which one is in your garden because ships stopped at the Cape of Good Hope? Which one is native to South America? Find the answers in this fascinating tour through history to explore the origins of our garden plants. From ancient trade routes and conquests to medieval monasteries to the Age of Exploration and modern plant collecting, we’ll examine many beloved plants and the people and adventures that brought them to our gardens. Rhododendrons as tall as your house may conjure visions of lush English gardens but many of them originated in southwestern China and came to England via European missionaries. The Dutch may grow lots of tulips but Persians were the first to cultivate them. In tracing these origins, we’ll also look at science’s and society’s changing understanding of plants and our relationship with them, from how we name them to why we collected them. Join Professor Rosborough for tales of people (a cross-dressing Frenchwoman!), peregrinations (Captain Cook's fatal voyage!) and the beautiful plants they have brought us.

Professor Rob Rosborough

Rob Rosborough's very first job was in the greenhouses of the Missouri Botanical Garden, one of the premier botanical research institutions in the country. Before high school was over, he had collected orchids in Costa Rica and counted seeds for an evolutionary biologist in the Central American jungle. He studied environmental engineering at Yale and his first job during college was as a research assistant to Dr. Peter Raven, the renowned conservationist. Somehow, Rob ended up becoming a lawyer, then mediator and eventually a conflict resolution teacher at Fromm. But his interest in botany, gardens and history has endured. He now teaches about plants at Fromm, most recently about the critical role plants have played in shaping the history of civilization.
In the narrative of American culture, organized sports is valued for its ability to build character. This continues to be true as to recreational participation. However, the greater emphasis in sports today is on passive viewing, and a growing trend of legal sports gambling that eliminates rooting interest in favor of the betting line. Nourished principally by television revenues and high-ticket prices, organized sport has evolved into a large business enterprise. Inevitably the original values of character development and amateurism have become subordinated to the goals of a large, profitable, and expensive industry. What does this suggest for the future of sports in our culture?

The blurring of active sports participation with passive viewing entertainment has evoked interesting tests of societal values. The design of this course will address the issues of shifting values in sports, some favorable and some negative. Among topics we will discuss are the high levels of compensation for professional athletes, the evolving financial model of intercollegiate sports, long-term medical risks for players associated with repetitive trauma, rights of athletes with disabilities, the increased opportunity for women and trans to participate in competitive sport, and the influence of legalized gambling on the future of the game. To a degree this requires discussion of legal issues; however, the relevant law will be approached at a comprehensible level. The course will incorporate current events into the curriculum as they inevitably arise.

Professor Roy Eisenhardt
Roy Eisenhardt was a practicing attorney, President of the Oakland Athletics, and a Board Member of the Women’s Tennis Association. He also served as Executive Director of the California Academy of Sciences, and Interim President of the San Francisco Art Institute. He currently teaches legal courses in sports law at Berkeley Law, U.C. Berkeley, and at the University of San Francisco School of Law.
TUESDAYS FROM 10:00AM – 11:40AM

Heroines of Greek Drama: Women in a Man's World
Professor Lois Spatz

Although real women were excluded from participation in Athenian political life, they play major roles in the most famous Athenian dramas. After an introduction to the dramatic festival as a creation of the new democracy, we will examine how the theater became a literal 'seeing place,' offering male citizens insight into issues affecting those who could not make policy. In Euripides’ *Trojan Women*, we will meet the major heroines, Hecuba, Andromache, Cassandra, and Helen. After reading other plays about mothers, wives, and daughters in the Trojan War, we will move on to Sophocles’ *Antigone*, and the notorious Phaedra and Medea. We will change focus to end with a comic Athenian Wonder-Woman, Lysistrata, who creates world peace in the theater during a real and devastating war. Throughout the course, we will discuss not only the dramas, but also the topical issues raised by the playwrights, and the influence of these famous women on later literature and culture.

Professor Lois Spatz

Lois Spatz holds an MA and Ph.D. in Classics, Indiana University; an MAT in Latin and Secondary Ed., The Johns Hopkins University; and a BA in Latin and Greek, Goucher College. After thirty years as an English/Classics Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, she retired to San Francisco, where she taught Latin at San Francisco State and classics in translation at The Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning at the University of San Francisco. In 2011 she moved to New York and taught a semester of Greek Drama at NYU SCPS and then free classics courses in Project Open's Lincoln Towers University series.
America in an Age of Upheavals: New Perspectives on the United States and the Era of the World Wars (1914-1945)
Professor Chris O’Sullivan

The era of the two world wars of the 20th century witnessed inconceivable violence, genocide, cataclysmic destruction, disillusionment, revolutions, and the seeds of future conflicts, but also extraordinary art and literature and the liberation of hundreds of millions of people from colonial rule. Professor O’Sullivan will lead us on an exploration of the American experience in the era of the two world wars (1914-1945), placing the U.S. in a global context and exploring the consequential roles of presidents Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt while examining the era’s still-controversial legacies.

Professor Chris O’Sullivan
Chris O’Sullivan (BA, UC Berkeley; Ph.D. London School of Economics -- University of London) has taught in the History Department at USF for two decades where he is the recipient of USF’s Distinguished Teaching Award as well as USF’s Innovations in Teaching Prize. He was Fulbright Visiting Professor of History at the University of Jordan in Amman and has published five books on international history, including three on World War II including, most recently, Harry Hopkins: FDR’s Envoy to Churchill and Stalin.
TUESDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM

Rock ’n’ Roll’s First Decade: From Elvis to the Beatles
Professor Richie Unterberger

PRESENTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CARRIE & RONALD LUDWIG CHAIR IN 20TH CENTURY ROCK & SOUL MUSIC

This course covers the first ten years of rock and roll, the explosive musical phenomenon that shook the world during the mid-1950s to the early 1960s. It spans the ascendance of pioneers like Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, and Little Richard to the harmonizing vocal groups, surf, soul, and girl groups of the early ’60s. It features greats like the Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, Ray Charles, and the Beach Boys, with plenty of rare film clips of the heroes in action. It also celebrates those who helped it flourish: from legendary independent record labels like Sun and Atlantic, to the producers, disk jockeys, songwriters, and exuberant teenage audience that helped make it happen.

Professor Richie Unterberger
Richie Unterberger is the author of numerous rock history books, including volumes on the Who, the Velvet Underground, Bob Marley, and 1960s folk-rock. His book The Unreleased Beatles: Music and Film won a 2007 Association for Recorded Sound Collections Award for Excellence in Historical Recorded Sound Research. He’s taught about a dozen different courses at Fromm over the past half dozen years, and gives regular presentations on rock and soul history throughout the Bay Area incorporating rare vintage film clips and audio recordings. His next book, to be published by Taschen, is San Francisco: Portrait of a City.
Medical Lecture Series
Coordinated by Melvin Cheitlin, M.D.

Our Medical Lecture Series has been an invaluable educational resource since 1982 granting access to expert opinion on major medical issues and developments in health care today. With thanks to Chancellor Sam Hawgood, M.B.B.S., for UCSF’s continued sponsorship, this cornerstone of our curriculum features speakers from UCSF and is superbly organized by Melvin Cheitlin, M.D. All Fromm Institute students and their guests are encouraged and welcome to attend.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES:

May 5, 2021 – Christian Thompson – Fall Prevention
May 12, 2021 – Joel Ernst – The Science, Art, and Politics of COVID Vaccines
May 19, 2021 – Jay Stewart – Macular Degeneration and Glaucoma
May 26, 2021 – Deepak Srivastava – Stem Cell Research – Cardiovascular disease
June 2, 2021 – David Claman – Sleep Apnea
June 9, 2021 – Bernard Lo – Ethical and Policy Dilemmas Regarding the Covid-19 Pandemic
June 16, 2021 – Lawrence Fong – Newest Approach to Cancer: Immunotherapy
June 23, 2021 – Mel Cheitlin – Cardiac Surgery Without Surgery
“Diva!” The term strikes excitement in some, fear in others. Though actually meaning “goddess,” it has come to mean “a self-important, temperamental, difficult to please woman.” Some singers are one, the other or both. Regardless, an opera diva usually has an exceptional voice. Several divas became legendary; others also had extraordinary talents, but are almost forgotten today. Join James Sokol to discover some of these great ladies – Callas, Moffo, Scotto, Norman, Fleming, and many more! Learn about their backgrounds and experience their brilliance through performance videos. Hear the variations among the female vocal ranges – soprano, mezzo, contralto – and differences within those ranges. Bask in the glory of gorgeous voices and repertoire. Don’t miss this series, terrific for opera newcomers and long-time fans!

Professor James Sokol

James Sokol, M.A. worked in opera for over two decades, having started his career under Beverly Sills at NYC Opera. A Founding Member of The Singers Development Foundation, James has also worked on projects with Cincinnati Opera and the Opera Company of Philadelphia. James has worked and lectured for San Francisco Opera and is a former executive director of Pocket Opera.
WEDNESDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM

**SEMINAR**: Evoking the Muse: A Writing Workshop  
Professor Lynne Kaufman  
The goal of this workshop is to banish your internal critic and to encourage free and spontaneous expression. Each session begins with the reading of a meaningful poem. With the poem as inspiration, you conjure a scene from your life or your imagination and write it. All writing is done in class and then shared, if desired, with the instructor and the group for appreciation and constructive critique. This class is for anyone who wants to write more freely and joyfully whether writing an email or a memoir.

**ENROLLMENT NOTE**: This class is limited to 25 students. Should more than 25 apply, a lottery will select participants on Monday, April 19, and those who are not selected will be refunded. First meeting (May 5) is required, as is regular attendance. Do not apply unless you can make this commitment.

**Professor Lynne Kaufman**  
Lynne Kaufman, M.A. is the author of two dozen nationally produced plays, a number of them award winning and published. She is also the author of three published novels and numerous short stories.
An Anthropology of Genocide: The Fate of California’s Native Peoples
Professor Howard De Nike

Before contact with outsiders (Spanish missionaries, Mexican settlers, and Forty-Niners from the U.S.), California’s Native Population numbered in the hundreds of thousands. By the year 1873, this figure is estimated to have plunged to a low of 30,000. The indigenous tribes occupied every corner of the state – coastal seashores, river valleys, deserts, and mountains, speaking scores of languages. Sixty major tribes were divided into many more linguistic and cultural subgroups, perhaps as many as 500. The course lectures will explore how this rich human landscape was first decimated by cultural assault, disease, enslavement, land theft and, finally, a government policy of extermination.

Professor Howard De Nike

Following a twenty-three-year legal career, Professor De Nike received a Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology in 1995 from the University of New Mexico, with a dissertation on the fate of the jurists of East Germany following German Unification. Since then, Dr. De Nike’s work has taken him to Cambodia, Ukraine, Armenia, West Bank/Gaza, Guyana, and Afghanistan. He has also taught at USF, San Francisco State University, and the University of New Mexico. His books and articles on law and anthropology cover such topics as the 1979 Trial of Pol Pot, a memoir on lawyering in military courts in Vietnam and West Germany, and indigenous land claims in Australia.
THURSDAYS FROM 10:00AM - 11:40AM

Dutch Golden Age Painting
Professor Ernest Newbrun

We will study the art of the Netherlands during the height of Dutch commercial prosperity, after achieving independence from Spanish Hapsburg rule (Philip II). The new republic was the most prosperous country in Europe, leading in trade, science, and art. Dutch Baroque art during the 17th century excelled in portraiture, genre painting, landscape/seascape/urban scenes, religious/historical themes and still life; it reflected the tradition of detailed realism and narrative directness. It developed a visual culture dependent on sight and seeing, above all on precise observation. It produced numerous artists such as Lastman, ter Brugghen, de Gelder, van Ruysdael, van der Heyden, Jordaens, Victors, Hals, Steen, Flinck, Vermeer, and Rembrandt, the greatest genius of Dutch art, who influenced art all over the Western world.

Professor Ernest Newbrun

Ernest Newbrun is Prof. Emeritus at UCSF where he taught oral biology for over 30 years. He earned dental degrees (BDS, DMD), graduate degrees (MS, PhD) and received honorary doctorates (Doc Odont, DDSc). Since his retirement from the UC in 1994, he has been teaching in lifelong learning programs at USF’s Fromm Institute and Sonoma State University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute on a wide range of topics in science (evolution), nutrition (sugars & sweeteners), origin of scripts, and art history (biblical art, secessionism, expressionism, self-portraiture, murals, stolen art, innovators in modern art). Prof. Newbrun was born in Vienna, Austria, grew up in Sydney, Australia and has lived in San Francisco since 1961. He has spent a sabbatical leave in Nijmegen, during which time he visited most of the art museums in the Netherlands.
THURSDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM

Immigrants and Refugees: The American Dilemma, Lifeblood or Threat
Rabbi Lee Bycel

The United States has been shaped by the many immigrants and refugees that have come to our shores. This course will examine the history of immigration, the ethical dilemmas, and the underlying values that have shaped America’s immigration policy. This issue dominates current political discourse but is not anchored in history or values. This course will focus on the deeper ethical issues that are often overlooked. The voices of the refugee and immigrant will be brought forth to tell their story and all they left behind and what they brought to America, including people featured in Bycel’s book, Refugees in America: Stories of Courage, Resilience and Hope. Questions to be asked include: Are Emma Lazarus words from The New Colossus words still relevant in the twenty first century? What is the right balance between immigration and self-preservation, or are they inextricably linked? How does the refugee experience connect to who we are and our identities? How does immigration policy reflect the values of the country?

Rabbi Lee Bycel
Lee Bycel is the Sinton Visiting Professor in Holocaust, Genocide and Refugee Studies at the University of San Francisco and a Senior Moderator at the Aspen Institute. Appointed by President Obama, he served on the Board of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum from 2014-2019. Lee graduated from UC Berkeley with a B.A. in Philosophy, received rabbinic ordination from the Hebrew Union College, and earned a doctorate from the Claremont School of Theology. He has made humanitarian trips to East Africa including Darfur, Chad, and South Sudan where he visited refugee and IDP camps. In 2018 Governor Newsom appointed Lee to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities and in January 2021, he became the Vice – Chair.

COVER ARTWORK BY KATHY RAFFEL

Brooks Atkinson once said, “The virtue of the camera is not the power it has to transform the photographer into an artist, but the impulse it gives him to keep on looking.” Indeed, for me photography is like a treasure hunt. To be successful as a wildlife photographer, I must be curious, patient, humble, and observant. And, when I am hunting for abstract images, I must look at my surroundings from many perspectives to capture something different. I love using a digital camera; the ease of taking pictures and deleting my failures, lets me experiment, play, and have fun.
THURSDAYS FROM 1:00PM – 2:40PM

San Francisco’s Age of Optimism – 1906–1930
Professor John Freeman

In the Spring of 1906, an earthquake of colossal magnitude, centered near San Francisco, was followed by a catastrophic fire which destroyed two-thirds of the infrastructure, commercial buildings and homes within the city. Despite the devastation, a great number of San Franciscans accepted the challenge to rebuild their metropolis to be a safer, more habitable and more prosperous home. Generally, the period from the earthquake forward was an age of immense optimism. There was tremendous cooperation and unprecedented workarounds of the political and social challenges. Every success was celebrated. By 1915, San Francisco “invited the world” to a grand celebration of the rebuilt city with an International World’s Fair, boosting accomplishments and exuding civic pride.

Everything was not perfect, however, during this period. Following American involvement in the World War, a pandemic flu caused more American deaths than all of the military battles. Additionally, the 1920s was a period of stricter immigration restrictions, labor clashes and racial animosity that left lasting scars.

During these years, San Franciscans took a relaxed approach to the enforcement of the Prohibition restrictions of the 18th Amendment and sustained its merrymaking reputation. The city continued to promote a tourist-brochure image of tolerance and opportunity. San Francisco was thriving, until the economic stock market crash of October 29th 1929 soured the revelry. This course will examine the San Francisco spirit that formed during those 24 post-quake years, and how that might still be reflected in the city of today.

Professor John Freeman

John Freeman is a native San Franciscan, who received his BA in History from the University of San Francisco and Master’s Degree from San Francisco State University. After 35 years of teaching in San Francisco Public High Schools, John retired to pursue his passion, researching and sharing fascinating local history. John has published numerous articles, consulted for museum exhibits, and offered input on several historic novels set in San Francisco. He has also been a student at Fromm since 2012. This will be the fifth course he has taught at Fromm.
ENROLL IN THE FROMMCAST
TAKE THE FROMM INSTITUTE WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS
The Fromm Institute’s robust program of previously recorded classes, lectures, and insights is available to you through the Frommcast, our online lifelong learning educational platform. This session, Frommcast viewers can select from the more than two dozen courses posted there, or watch multiple single lectures on subjects like Hamilton, Hamlet or Hollywood. With each Session, the Frommcast library grows — and so does your love of lifelong learning on-line. Watch it alone, watch it with others, but don’t miss out on lifelong learning’s latest trend.

HOW DO I JOIN THE FROMMCAST AS I ENROLL IN FALL COURSES?
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