2016 Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning
Summer Courses

CALL is pleased to announce the 2016 Summer Course schedule. The majority of classes were developed with a theme of “going back to camp.” Relive the days of youth exploring, learning, and sharing with others. We hope you enjoy these classes and we look forward to seeing you in June!

1. TED Talks: Challenge Your Perceptions
June 6-9, 9:00-10:15, DC140

TED started in 1984 as a conference where technology, entertainment and design converged, TED today shares ideas from a broad spectrum — from science to business to global issues — in more than 100 languages and 1,400 talks. Once a select forum of the great and good, the Technology Entertainment and Design (TED) conference now has millions of avid online fans. This course will view one or two videos each day, followed by discussion questions prepared in advance by the course leader. Offered by many lifelong learning institutions around the country, TED talks are highly popular courses where students love to share their reactions and explore new ideas with one another on some of the most fascinating and profound subjects.

Here is the list of videos for viewing & discussion:

*The Doubt Essential to Faith*, Lesley Hazleton
*Why Giving Away our Wealth has been the Most Satisfying Thing We've Done*, Bill and Melinda Gates
*The Danger of a Single Story*, Chimamanda Ngozi Amichie
*What do You Think When You Look at Me?* Dalia Mogahed
*How to Live Passionately*, Isabel Allenda
*A Boat Carrying 500 Refugees*, Melissa Fleming

Style: Video presentation and discussion

Henry Baron, leader, is emeritus professor of English at Calvin College. A recipient of CALL’s Distinguished Service Award, Henry has led over 30 courses for our program.

2. Living Intentionally
June 6-9, 9:00-10:15, DC160

Using a contemporary interpretation of the Rule of St. Benedict, you will examine what it means to live intentionally by writing a personal rule of life. How do you establish a rhythm for a life formed by the Spirit? What are you already doing, and how might God be calling you to stretch and grow? A personal rule can clarify and articulate your deepest values, your important relationships, your highest priorities. Come, listen to the nudge of the Spirit in your heart.


Esther Yff-Prins, Chaplain, is a member of Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Kentwood. She is a spiritual director (passionate about it in her life and in the life of others) and a contemplative. Her past experience includes teaching and working as a family law paralegal. To relax and renew, she enjoys reading, crosswords, Scrabble, long walks, regular workouts, retreats, and dinner with friends.
3. **The Presidential Election of 2016 in Historical Context**  
**June 6-9, 10:30-11:45, DC140**

This course will examine the 2016 presidential election in its historical context, examining the current situation in light of previous presidential contests. The course will focus, among other topics, on the growing political polarization of the American electorate, why the 2016 election was perceived to be an important opportunity for the Republican Party, how the calendar of contests helped shape the Democratic and Republican contests, what party conventions do and what may happen yet in 2016, and the factors that will shape the outcome of the election.

**Session #1: The Divided American Electorate: The Clinton, Bush, and Obama Eras**

**Session #2: The 2016 Candidates, Caucuses, and Presidential Primaries: Party Nomination Rules and How We Got Where We Got**

**Session #3: The 2016 National Party Conventions; What Typically Happens and What May Happen**

**Session #4: The General Election: The Changing Political Attitudes and Composition of the American Electorate and the Electoral College**

**Style: Presentation and discussion**

Corwin Smidt, leader, is a professor emeritus of Political Science and a Research Fellow of the Henry Institute at Calvin College. He is the author, editor, or co-author/co-editor of over fifteen books and has published extensively in a variety of scholarly journals. He was a founding member of the Religion and Politics section of the American Political Science Association, serving several terms on the section’s executive council and once as its Executive Director.

4. **After the Civil War: What Ken Burns and Steven Spielberg Didn’t Mention**  
**June 6-9, 10:30-11:45, DC150**

Reconstruction is often treated as a postscript to the Civil War—both Ken Burn’s documentary and Steven Spielberg’s “Lincoln” end with Lincoln’s assassination, the defeat of the Confederacy, and the abolition of slavery—leaving the impression that despite the war’s great cost, a great good was achieved. But 1865 is just where the story gets interesting. Arguably the Reconstruction period was more consequential for the nation—and far more revealing of the national character—than the military conflict which ended in 1865. This class will explore what happened when former slaves were granted not only freedom, but also civil and political rights. We will also look at some popular presentations of this period to see how this history has been misrepresented. Finally, we’ll consider what this Reconstruction has meant for the nation.

**Style: presentation and discussion**

Daniel Miller, leader, is a professor emeriti of history at Calvin College.

5. **Emma at 200! A Jane Austen Masterpiece**  
**June 6-9, 1:30-2:45, DC140**

Emma—which represents the height of Jane Austen’s genius—is a complex, layered story about individuality, friendship, class, and society. In it, Austen brings to life one of literature’s most memorable (though not always likable) heroines, Emma Woodhouse: a character adept at self-deception and manipulating others. In this class, we will study the layers of the story, examining how Austen develops her characters, our responses to them, and the mystery tied to the various romantic entanglements. We also will investigate how issues related to manners, class, and society shape the story, using both the novel and film adaptations in our discussions.


**Style: presentation and discussion**

Kathi Groenendyk, leader, is a professor of Communication Arts and Sciences at Calvin College. Her dissertation and subsequent research was on Jane Austen’s novels and the film adaptations of her works.

6. **American Christians and the Islamic State**  
**June 6-9, 1:30-2:45, DC160**

This course is a pastoral perspective regarding the recent hatred and violence flowing from the Middle East into the West. Learn about the players and issues creating incredible pain and turmoil in this important region. ISIS, Iran, Israel, Paris, Brussels, and Islam ...we will analyze and digest all the facts to better inform our prayers, opinions, and actions.

**Style: Presentation and discussion**

Doug Van Bronkhorst is a lifelong student of history and religion. He is the Executive Pastor for Cascade Fellowship CRC and has traveled extensively in Central Asia and the
Middle East in his last job as Executive Director for Interserve, USA, an interdenominational mission sending organization.

7. iPad: The Photographer’s Friend
June 6-9, 3:00-4:15, DC140

While they are predominantly tablets, iPads feature more-than-capable digital cameras for direct picture-making possibilities themselves. Besides the inherent traits of an iPad for your photography, there are almost limitless possibilities for different apps you can download to enhance, modify, streamline, share, and do just about anything you want to do with your images on an iPad.

The questions are –how to we get images into it, and when we have, other than storing them, what can we do with them? Join us in this introductory course on importing, editing and showcasing images on the iPad. This course is for Apple iPad products only and students should have several months experience with the basics of using an iPad.

Style: Presentation and hands-on photography

James Morin, leader, is a former trainer for Apple with extensive technical knowledge who loves gadgets and daddy-blogging. Michael Haan, co-leader, has worked in IT at Calvin for the past 15 years and previously instructed the CALL iPad 101 and 102 courses.

8. In the Footsteps of the Great Exodus
June 6-9, 3:00-4:15, DC160

Follow the Footsteps of the Exodus. We begin in Egypt—the most likely location for the pharaoh of the Exodus, after which we journey to Sinai to climb the best candidate for Mt. Sinai, before going to Jordan to ascend Mt Hor where Aaron is believed to have died. Next we will cross the Jordan River to take a look at Jericho. Joshua writes of a conquest in the south and in the north and we will examine both areas. With enough time, we will explore Canaan’s central area associated with Joshua 24 and a look at David’s Jerusalem. This course teaches all the current archaeology of Egypt, Jordan, and Israel as it relates to Exodus.

Style: Presentation and discussion

Neal Bierling, leader, began his Middle Eastern Archaeological digging adventures in 1972, and has through 2012, worked in twelve countries surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Besides supervising at excavations, he and his son, Joel, have done photography at 100s of archaeological locations. Neal has written in part or in whole nine books relating to Middle Eastern Archaeology.

9. Word Reflections: Writing about Nature and Place
June 13-16, 9:00-10:15, DC130

Revisit those moments in nature that illuminated a life-giving lesson. Or return to a place—perhaps your mother’s kitchen or your grandfather’s barn to record a beloved place now gone. Build your sensory and story-telling abilities as you study short works of creative nonfiction about nature and place. Through class time, you will gather ideas and will write short pieces. On our last day, we will workshop a short piece.

Style: presentation and discussion

Cynthia Beach is a long-time English professor and writer. Her articles, short stories, and contributions appear in newspapers, literary journals, and books like Hope in the Mourning Bible (Zondervan, 2013). She founded the two-day writing conference, Breathe Christian Writers Conference and is marketing her novel, The Seduction of Pastor Goodman.

10. Birding with Bill
June 13-16, 9:00-10:15 or later, DC140

Birds are perhaps the most fascinating creatures that share our world (or do we share theirs?). Enjoying the birds around us expands our appreciation of God’s wonderful gift of the creation in which we find ourselves. We will look at surprising details of bird biology that enable flight, learn how to identify birds, learn songs (and why birds sing) and appreciate the amazing migration of some common and not so common birds. Although we will begin each class indoors, most of our time will be spent outside finding and identifying birds. Students should expect some walking during each class period. One or two of the classes will require carpooling from the campus to off-site locations and class times may extend up to one hour beyond the normal scheduled time on certain days. More information will be available at the first class.

Note: Binoculars will be necessary for full appreciation of this class. Maximum 20 students.

Style: Presentation and hands-on birding

Bill Sweetman is a retired teacher, having taught all levels of biology for 43 years. His birding interest spans more than 50 years. Bill is a member of the American Birding Association; and National, Michigan and Grand Rapids
Audubon. Upon retirement in 2001, he developed an ecotourism business, leading several tours a year to birding hotspots throughout the United States.

11. Astronomy in Your Own Backyard
June 13-16, 9:00-10:15, DC150

This four day course will teach you how to apply astronomy with its history to your own backyard. Using materials from Michigan State University’s Abrams Planetarium, the first three sessions will look at the present and historic changes that take place in our local sky. The fourth session on Thursday is a field trip to the new Chaffee Planetarium which is located in downtown Grand Rapids at the Van Andel Public Museum. This trip to the planetarium will compare our local sky with skies in other parts of the world and more. Class participants will be required to pay an additional $5 at the planetarium and will carpool from the Calvin campus. It has been said that astronomy is a humbling and character-building experience. - Carl Sagan.

Style: Presentation and discussion

Jim Muller, leader, is a retired high-school biology teacher with a passion for astronomy. This is the 13th course Jim is instructing for the CALL program.

12. Painting and Drawing en Plein Air
June 13-16, 10:30-11:45, SC105- on any rain days

To be in natural light with all of creation for a subject, what could be better for an artist! We invite you to feel the joy of painting through plein air where one experiences more of life and an indescribable closeness to God. Like the Impressionists we find our inspiration in nature...out of doors. Drawing pencils, water colors, pastels? Your choice. In the event of inclement weather, students will meet in Spoelhof Center 105. Class participants are responsible for any paint/drawing materials, easel and a chair. Note that easels are not mandatory and students can sketch from their lap if desired. A recommended supply list for each medium will be supplied to all registrants upon registration.

Style: Hands-on painting/drawing

Natalie Boonstra-Bosscher, leader, is an experienced art educator who taught primarily in the Chicago area, and has developed a unique strategy for teaching realistic drawing.

13. The Dead Sea Scrolls: Shedding New Light on Jesus
June 13-16, 10:30-11:45, DC160

Discovered in 1947 by a young Bedouin shepherd exploring a cave along the Dead Sea, the Dead Sea Scrolls have revolutionized our understanding of ancient Judaism and the origins of Christianity. The findings of these mysterious documents have greatly informed our understanding of the origins of Christianity and its Jewish background. In particular the Dead Sea Scrolls shed new light upon Jesus, John the Baptist, and the Christian Church. Did you know that some of the practices of the Quran community are reflected in the early church and that John the Baptist himself may have been a member of that community before following Jesus?

Style: presentation and discussion

Daniel Kroeze, leader, is professor of biblical studies at Kuyper College. His courses with CALL have drawn high participation. The Dead Sea Scrolls was part of his doctoral research at the University of Wisconsin. He is ordained in the RCA and currently serves as the Teaching Pastor at Newhall Community Church in Wyoming.

14. Eyewitness to WWII
June 13-16, 1:30-2:45, DC160

Using oral history interview videos from the archive of the GVSU Veterans History Project, Dr. Smither traces the stories of American soldiers and airmen who were taken prisoner during the war from the time of their capture through their liberation and return home. Most of the featured veterans were in the Army Air Forces and were shot down over Europe, as were the majority of Americans taken prisoner during the war. But, the group also features men taken prisoner on the ground and one remarkable survivor of the Bataan Death March in the Philippines.

Style: Presentation and discussion

James Smither is professor of history at GVSU and directs the Veterans History Project there. He teaches courses in European history, military history and also conducts oral history interviews with area veterans for the digital archives. Currently, he is working on a book project on American soldiers in Vietnam.
15. TED Talks to Make You Love Science
June 13-16, 1:30-2:45, DC140

Science is about discovering the wonders of how our world works, from physics to biology to neuroscience. Some of the most entertaining, informative and mind-blowing science videos on the web come from TED – the Technology, Entertainment, Design conference. The presentations are informative, educational, and inspiring. They are also wildly addictive. TED talks have been viewed online more than one billion times. TED videos are viewed at the rate of two million times per day. This course will view one or two science-based videos each day, followed by discussion. Questions will be prepared in advance by the course leader. Join us as we explore the exciting world of science at a level that all of us can understand!

Why We Should Trust Scientists, Naomi Oreskes
Why Do We Sleep? Russel Foster
Personalized Medicine, What Really Happens When You Mix Medications? Russ Altman
Is Our Universe the Only Universe? Brian Greene

Arie Leegwater is a professor emeritus of chemistry at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and former editor of Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith, the journal of the American Scientific Affiliation. He taught organic chemistry and history of science at Trinity Christian College and Calvin College during his academic career.

16. I Second That Emotion!
June 13-16, 3:00-4:15, DC140

You learned how to read, write, count, and memorize in school. Chances are you never were taught how to recognize and manage your emotions, identify them in others, and the wide ranging effect they have on yourself and your relationships. Join us for a stimulating and thought provoking session as you learn what you missed the first time around, about the fascinating field of emotional intelligence.

Style: Presentation and discussion

Dave Kampfschulte is Director of Amazing Circles Workshops, a nationally known speaker, and author of I’m Dying to Talk with You: Twenty Five Years of Conversations on End of Life Decisions. Using his empathy, humor, energy, and over 28 years as an educator and a hospice volunteer, Dave facilitates his interactive, enlightening workshops and presentations to a wide spectrum of professionals and general audiences. Dave has a Master’s in Education and is a preceptor with Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

Registration Information
Summer Classes are the one opportunity to have non-CALL members join in classes. The only requirement to participate is that enrollees are 50 years or older. Invite any friends, relatives, or neighbors to try out our program. Most classes will be held in the DeVos Communications Building next to the Prince Conference Center unless otherwise noted.

Sign up is available on our website using the red register button in the center of the webpage. Favor your mouse to enter the required data. For paper registration, use the form on the proceeding page and mail payment to CALL: 3201 Burton Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49546.
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