Spring 2015 Course Offerings

RAPPAHANNOCK INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING (RILL)

A program of the Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation, RILL was designed by a group of volunteers to be a life-enriching and thought-provoking learning experience for adults who wish to keep their minds active.

MISSION: Recognizing that a vigorous mind is as necessary to a full life as are physical exercise and social relationships, RILL offers educational opportunities and intellectual enrichment for adults of any age. In a stimulating classroom study environment, participants can acquire new knowledge, explore thought-provoking ideas, and share their interests and experience with like-minded community members.

CLASSES: RILL noncredit college-level courses are held in various locations within RCC's service region. Some instructors may suggest specific preliminary reading material to prepare students to get the most from the course; this information will be sent to registered students. The courses will include neither prerequisites nor tests. Evaluations by participants will provide feedback for future offerings.

For further information, please contact Sharon Drotleff at the RCC EFI office, sдрotлeff@rappахannock.edu or 804-333-6707

REGISTRATION: Completed registration forms (see tear-off panel in this brochure), with the appropriate tuition, must be received before the first class meeting. As class size may be limited, early registration is strongly advised. Tuition is neither tax-deductible nor refundable. Separate charitable gifts to the Foundation, designated for RILL, will help to defray program costs. These gifts are tax-deductible.

Thank You! The RCC Educational Foundation expresses its appreciation to the Bank of Lancaster’s Golden Advantage program and Rappahannock Westminster-Centerbury for their generous support of RILL 2015.

RILL Volunteer Executive Committee
Ellen and Peter Bennett, John Bose, Madeline Burnette, Bette Dillehay, Lindsey Gardner, Rob Gates, Llew Samuel, Ron Saunders, and Marilyn South

Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.
Cherie Carl, Dean of College Advancement, Executive Director of RCC EFI

RILL • Spring 2015 • Northern Neck and King George Courses

#188: To Appomattox: The End of the Civil War in Virginia
Feb. 20 and 27, and March 6 (Fridays); 1-3 p.m.
L.E. Smoot Memorial Library, King George
Instructor: Phillip Greenwell
As the Civil War completed its fourth year, fighting was coming to an end. On April 1, 1865, the combined Union armies surrounding Petersburg and Richmond scored a decisive victory at Five Forks. The next morning, the Union forces broke the longest siege in American history, and the Confederates began to withdraw, hoping to regroup and maintain resistance. A week later Lee surrendered. This course will discuss the eight-day journey from the siege lines of Petersburg and Richmond to the surrender at Appomattox.

Phillip Greenwell is a historian with the National Park Service at George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Westmoreland and at Thomas Stone National Historic Site in Port Tobacco, Maryland. He holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Wheeling Jesuit University, and a master’s degree in American history from George Mason University. He has co-authored three books on the Civil War and his first solo publication is expected to come out later in 2015.

#189: In the Name of Faith: A History of Violence
Feb. 24, and March 3 and 10 (Tuesdays); 1-3 p.m.
Rappahannock Westminster-Centerbury
Instructor: Father Paul Andersen
Although most of the world’s major religions espouse the concept of peace, their histories document numerous episodes of violence, intolerance, and persecution. In this course we will seek to identify common threads and patterns in episodes of violence from the Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Hindu faiths.

Father Paul J. Andersen holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama and a master of divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary. In addition to his ministry work, Fr. Paul spent 21 years with the United States Foreign Service, with postings in Eastern Europe, India, West Africa, and the Caribbean.

#190: Far Horizons—The Universe of Stars and Galaxies
April 10, 17, and 24 (Fridays); 1-3 p.m.
RCC, Kilmarnock Center, Room 100
Instructor: Dr. Greg Boeshaar
With the exception of our Sun, no stars or galaxies are close enough to study in detail. However, analysis of the light gathered by our telescopes allows us to deduce many things about stars (particularly when compared to our Sun), and the laws of physics then lead us to an understanding of stellar structure and evolution. Like our own Milky Way, galaxies are huge collections of stars, gas, and dust, taking a variety of forms that lie in clusters mapping out an ever-expanding universe.

Greg Boeshaar holds a Ph.D. in astronomy from Ohio State University, and has published several articles on the topic. He has worked in the fields of optical imaging and spectroscopy, and radio interferometry, at many United States observatories. His space science engineering experience includes the development of the Hubble Space Telescope, atmospheric data archives, and NASA planetary exploration mission assessment.

#191: John Wilkes Booth (continued)
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April 14, 21, and 28 (Tuesdays); 1-3 p.m.
L. E. Smoot Memorial Library, King George
Instructor: Elizabeth Lee
The people who aided John Wilkes Booth attempted escape, and the route he took, have fascinated people for 150 years. Pilgrimages have been arranged from Ford’s Theater to the site of Garrett’s barn, where Booth was killed, and many books have been written about his assassination of Lincoln and subsequent flight. However, little has been said about his escape through King George County. What route did Booth and David Herold take? Who are Rose Quesenberry, Dr. Richard Stuart, and William Rollins, and what were their interactions? Who else was involved? Students of this course will learn the answers to these and other key questions.

#192: Gabo’s “One Hundred Years of Solitude”
April 15, 22, and 29 (Wednesday); 1:30-3:30 p.m.
RCC, Kilmarnock Center, Room 100
Instructor: Gail Kenna
Gabriel García Márquez, lovingly known as “Gabo,” won the 1982 Nobel Prize for “One Hundred Years of Solitude.” If you have read and loved this novel, began it and quit, or always wanted to read Gabo’s masterful epic—this class is for you. In three sessions we’ll unravel the novel, chronicle the author’s life, and pay tribute to this remarkable writer who died last year.

Gail Wilson Kenna spent a decade living in South America, and states that Gabo’s literature helped her better understand the Andean world. “The day I saw him in Colombia is one I’ll never forget,” she says. A retired professor and published writer, Kenna has taught literature and writing courses for RILL since 2005.
#193: Novel Creation and Self-Publishing  

"Learning by doing" is the theme for this innovative course that will introduce the student to the world of e-book publishing on Amazon. The format will combine lectures on historical data and market trends with a "hands-on" writers' workshop. Students will collaborate on a written work that will be launched on Amazon as a Kindle e-book. If you can write a letter, you will have no problem with the course requirements. A very basic understanding of Amazon and Kindle is helpful, but not required.


Gloucester Point  

#194: Sea-Level Rise in Virginia  

In the first session of this course, Dr. Chris Hein will explore how geological studies of ancient barrier islands help society understand and respond to the sea-level rise that is occurring in Virginia's Eastern Shore. Houses that float in rising water? Flood gates five stories high? During Session Two, Molly Mitchell, lead author of the VIMS report "Recurrent Flooding Study for Tidewater Virginia," will share innovative ways other countries are dealing with sea-level rise, and what may be in our future here. The final session will be a two-hour guided tour of VIMS that will allow participants to learn about current research related to sea-level rise and climate change.

Christopher Hein is an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Sciences at VIMS. He received a bachelor of science degree from Cornell University's Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences in 2003, and his doctorate in coastal geology from Boston University in 2012. Molly Mitchell is a coastal ecologist at VIMS's Center for Coastal Resource Management. She holds the degrees of bachelor of science in Biology and Environmental Science and master of science in Marine Science, both from the College of William and Mary.

#195: American Art from A to Z  

March 13, 20, and 27 (Fridays); 1-3 p.m.

RCC, Glenns Campus, Room 118

Instructor: Margaret Hancock

This three-part course serves as an illustrated overview of American art. It will explore significant works of art, and the key artists, movements, patrons, and collections that shaped and continue to define the art of America. Through visual presentations and interactive dialogue, students will gain a deeper and more informed understanding of American art.

Margaret Hancock holds the degrees of master of education from the University of Virginia and bachelor of arts in art history from Duke University. In the past, she has promoted art and design education for Savannah College of Art and Design and the University of Virginia's Art Museum. She also spent several years with the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington D.C., completed an internship with the National Gallery of Art, and has served as the director of programs and curator at the Virginia Center for Architecture.

#196: Gabo’s “One Hundred Years of Solitude”  

April 16 and 30, and May 7 (Thurs.); 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Middlesex County Public Library, Delaville

Instructor: Gail Kenna

Gabriel García Márquez, lovingly known as “Gabo,” won the 1982 Nobel Prize for “One Hundred Years of Solitude.” If you have read and loved this novel, begin it and quit, or always wanted to read Gabo’s masterful epic—this class is for you. In these three sessions, we will unravel the novel, chronicle the author’s life, and pay tribute to this remarkable writer who died last year.

Gail Wilson Kenna spent a decade living in Colombia is one I’ll never forget,” she says. A retired professor and published writer, Kenna has taught literature and writing courses for RILL since 2005.

#197: Studying and Protecting Our Historic Places: Virginia’s Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula  

May 1, 8, and 22 (Fridays); 1-3 p.m.

RCC, Glenns Campus, Room 118

Instructors: Dr. David Brown, Thane Harpole

This course gives an overview of Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck history, with emphasis on surviving historic buildings, landscapes, and archaeological sites, and discusses architectural and archaeological trends, events, and persons. It covers the process of documenting historic buildings and places, and also teaches how to recognize, study, and preserve historic places, how to maintain and restore historic buildings, and how to care for and preserve archaeological sites. Information on grants and funding sources, as well as preservation easements, is provided.

Both Brown and Harpole received their undergraduate degrees, and Brown his doctorate, from the College of William and Mary. They have conducted archaeological research and instruction in Gloucester County since 1994, and are co-directors of the Fairfield Foundation and founding members of the Werowocomoco Research Group.

#198: Ruins Reimagined: Preserving American History Where It Was Made  

May 5, 12, and 19 (Tuesdays); 1-3 p.m.

Historic Christ Church (Irrvington), Menokin (Warsaw), and Rosewell (Gloucester)

Instructors: Robert Teagle, Sarah Pope, Mary H. Clazymb

In an age of increasing historical illiteracy, what lessons can we find in 18th-century buildings that connect us to the American narrative? Through the widely differing examples of Christ Church, Menokin, and Rosewell, participants will explore how historic sites are preserved and interpreted, and why they still have importance for the present day.

Robert Teagle is the education director and curator at the Foundation for Historic Christ Church in Wicomico. He earned his bachelor’s degree in history from the College of William and Mary and a master’s in American history from Virginia Tech. Sarah Pope is the executive director of the Menokin Foundation, and holds a master’s degree in historic preservation from the University of Georgia. A member of the Board of Directors of the Rosewell Foundation and president of the Page-Nelson Society of Virginia, Mary H. Clazymb is a direct descendant of Mann Page I, who built the Rosewell mansion.