

## **Weekly Update Spring 2021 Session C\_April 19 - April 23, 2021**

**WEBSITE:** [micl-online.org](http://micl-online.org)

**FACEBOOK:** Enter MICL in search field then at site click on +Join Group.

All of our classes will be held via Zoom, and you will receive an email invitation before each class. You will wait in a waiting room until the host lets you into the group. If you do not receive an email invitation, please call Ron Rutschman at (805) 312-3834.

### **Monday, April 19, 10:00 AM - Noon: California History**

Coordinator: **Roger Jackson**

Presenter: Roger Jackson - California and Its Future: Changes over the last several centuries and plans for the future

### **Monday, April 19, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: SOCIAL HOUR**

Coordinators: **Wayne and Diana Sicard**

**Social Hour:** If you are missing your friends during these days of social distancing, consider joining our MICL Social Hour. It's fun, and it will lift your spirits more than you might imagine. Time spent talking and hanging out with people will lift your mood! Please join us!

### **Tuesday, April 20, 10:00 AM – Noon: HOW TO READ AND UNDERSTAND SHAKESPEARE**

Coordinator: **Anita Young**

Great Courses Lectures 13 - 15:

13: Macbeth-"Foul and Fair"

In Macbeth, Shakespeare reveals a world in which everything becomes its opposite. Study how reversals of reality and meaning dominate the play, seen vividly in the recurring dynamic of betrayal and the politically charged tension between appearance and reality. See how the playwright uses "comic relief" to ultimately heighten the horror you've witnessed

14: The Tragic Woman in Macbeth

Shakespeare's great tragic women are central to the functioning of his tragedies. Here, encounter the powerful figure of Lady Macbeth and observe how her arc of development as a character inversely mirrors her husband's. Grasp how Macbeth poignantly sounds the depths of meaninglessness as he confronts the abyss of his own making.

Optional: Video clip of Ben Crystal reciting Hamlet's Soliloquy

### 15: Staging Hamlet

Discover how Hamlet's opening scene reveals many of the crucial themes of the play. Then delve into the use of acting as a major dynamic of the story, as Hamlet ultimately takes action through the devices of theater, staging a play to determine the course of his own fate.

## **Tuesday, April 20, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: FAVORITE BOOKS**

Coordinator: **Rita Matthews**

Judy Moore MAISIE DOBBS SERIES by, Novelist Jacqueline Winspier, A UK native who became a Californian.

Louise Summerlot ONE GOOD DEED by, David Baldacci Let's go back to 1949 when war veteran Aloysius Archer is released from Caderock Prison. He is to report regularly to a parole officer and to adhere to a short list of "do's" and "don'ts." Archer encounters challenges as he twists and turns to keep his freedom from returning to prison.

## **Wednesday, April 21, 10:00 AM - Noon: BIG QUESTIONS IN PHILOSOPHY**

Coordinator: **James Pack**

Lectures will come from the Great Courses Plus series titled The Big Questions of Philosophy. They will be presented by David Kyle Johnson.

From the Upanishads to Homer

Lecture 1 in The Great Ideas in Philosophy

Intellectual history presents us with a set of ideas that, building on precedents, on past mistakes, past understandings, lead us, perhaps, toward the light of progress. We are about to embark on an intellectual journey of 60 lectures devoted to great ideas in philosophy, covering a period of time from remote antiquity to the present century. Our guide will be the history of ideas. We begin with myth, which seeks to answer perplexing questions but does so in such a way as to create and preserve a kind of civic coherence. The mythology of a people is the basis on which they recognize themselves as a people and have a coherent relationship, not only to each other but with their own past. To some extent, philosophy is disruptive in this regard. The enterprise is not an essentially civic one. It does not begin with a settled position on political and moral matters, then seek ways to enshrine the settled view. Rather, the mission is a broadly epistemological one. The search, as we shall discover, is the search for truth.

The Bhagavad-Gita—Choice and Daily Life

Lecture 2 in The Meaning of Life

The central insight we want to draw from this text is that we live a life in which we are constantly making poignant, important choices, existential choices. If we don't understand how to make those choices, there's no way of making meaning out of that life. The Bhagavad-Gita is one section of the Mahabharata, the great epic of India composed by multiple authors between about 400 B.C. and 400 C.E. The Bhagavad-Gita itself was composed around the year 100 C.E. and remains an extraordinarily important text in Hindu moral life.

### **Wednesday, April 21, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM: WRITING IT DOWN**

Coordinator: **Millie Starr**

Be inspired to share your writing efforts in an encouraging and supportive classroom setting. Class members write at home about anything they want, and they share what they write in class when they are ready.

The goal of the class is to support one another in the writing process and learn by doing. Come join our writing community as a writer or listener.

### **Thursday, April 22, 10:00 AM – Noon: WHAT IN THE WORLD**

Coordinator: **Diedre Bush** - email Diedre in advance with topics: wen4102djb@gmail.com

Have you ever watched TV or read a newspaper article, opinion, or letter to the editor and really wanted to discuss or react to what you read? "What in the World" is just the class for you. We discuss all kinds of issues and happenings from your neighborhood, local, regional, state, national, and world news. You bring in the topic, introduce it, and we all discuss it with the help of a new class facilitator each five-week session. A number of class members have real expertise to lend to a number of discussions. Learn something new every day. Come join the camaraderie.

### **Thursday, April 22, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM: MICL BOOK CLUB**

Coordinator: **Carol Sullivan**

We read a nonfiction book one month and a fiction book the next month. The book is suggested and selected by the group and will be moderated by the person that suggested the book title. Our group is open to everyone, even if you have not read or have previously read the book. Please feel free to join the group for any of the meetings. Keep Reading!

ANXIOUS PEOPLE, BY FREDRIK BACKMAN      Moderated by Frances Lopez  
Looking at real estate isn't usually a life-or-death situation, but an apartment open house becomes just that when a failed bank robber bursts in and takes a

group of strangers hostage. The captives include a recently retired couple who relentlessly hunt down fixer-uppers to avoid the painful truth that they can't fix their own marriage. There's a wealthy bank director who has been too busy to care about anyone else and a young couple who are about to have their first child but can't seem to agree on anything, from where they want to live to how they met in the first place. Add to the mix an eighty-seven-year-old woman who has lived long enough not to be afraid of someone waving a gun in her face, a flustered but still-ready-to-make-a-deal real estate agent, and a mystery man who has locked himself in the apartment's only bathroom, and you've got the worst group of hostages in the world.

### **Friday, April 23, 10:00 AM to end of film: FRIDAY AT THE MOVIES**

Coordinator: **Ron Rutschman**

Start your weekend relaxation with a film classic or foreign film (subtitled in English of course) that will carry you away to other times and other places. Discussion encouraged but not required.

"The Grapes of Wrath" - Conclusion

"Some Like It Hot"

After witnessing a Mafia murder, slick saxophone player Joe (Tony Curtis) and his long-suffering buddy, Jerry (Jack Lemmon), improvise a quick plan to escape from Chicago with their lives. Disguising themselves as women, they join an all-female jazz band and hop a train bound for sunny Florida. While Joe pretends to be a millionaire to win the band's sexy singer, Sugar (Marilyn Monroe), Jerry finds himself pursued by a real millionaire (Joe E. Brown) as things heat up and the mobsters close in.

### **Friday, April 23, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM: WILDFLOWERS AND BIRDS BY ZOOM**

Coordinators: **David Froba and Diana Loomis**

Diana Loomis and Dave Froba have come up with a new program. This is the way it's going to work. Diana will go out before the class and find interesting target wildflowers, take pictures, and identify the location. I will then go out to the same area and find some interesting target birds. I will also have pictures and location, although wildflowers stay in the same place, at least for a period of time, while birds do not. But we will make it interesting in any case.pr

Then, at the zoom meeting each week we will prepare you to go out on your own to the area to see the target wildflowers and the birds. We will come back the next week and talk about the trips we had, share photos, and generally enjoy the

glories of nature together.

This will be very fun. Both birds and wildflowers are excellent spring time activities. Putting the two together will be even more excellent. Hope to see you there.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Coordinator: **Diedre Bush**

No Field Trips are scheduled at this time. We will advise you when we are able to resume.

## **TRAVELS CLASS - Fall 2021**

If you are a member who is willing to coordinate 1 session for the Travels class, for either A, B or C session, this upcoming Fall 2021, please let me know.

If you are a member who ***fuels your soul*** with travel, and you are willing to share those experiences, please let me know.

It's a simple truth that most travel stories are aspirational, whether sharing special moments, challenges, celebrations and forever memories, you will ultimately lead us through your travel experiences and destinations.

There are too many incredible places to see, not enough vacation days, and sometimes we all have to content ourselves with scrawling yet another spot on the bucket list and hope the stars align; and you may have gotten there and are willing to share the exciting cultures and traditions you have experienced.

Whether an international getaway, or even a simple scenic roadtrip, you will bring a rich perspective, unique to your experience.

We would need 3 different coordinators who would then go in search for their weekly presenters. Another Option: Present a ***“dream vacation destination”*** using a variety of media: YouTube, Rick Steves, Somebody Feed Phil, etc. Just ideas.....

We will support you with your media needs.....