

THIRD AGE LEARNING



KITCHENER-WATERLOO

www.tal-kw.ca

FALL 2018

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Tuesdays

October 9-Nov.27

Thursdays

October 11 - Nov.22

*Note change to six weeks and no lecture Nov.15

FORBES FAMILY HALL

RIM Park

Manulife Financial Sportsplex

2001 University Avenue East

Waterloo

TAL-KW: Third Age Learning is a volunteer organization that provides lecture series by professors and community experts to Waterloo Region audiences. TAL presents eclectic, continuing-education challenges for active, mature minds every fall and winter in two afternoon series of eight lectures each. A refreshment break adds to the vibrancy of the exchange of ideas. The fall series runs in October and November, the winter series in January and February, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lectures start at 1:30 and end at 3:30 pm.

In winter 2018, a series ticket (8 lectures) cost \$40. Day tickets (\$8) may be purchased at the door just before a lecture. A series ticket purchased at the door costs \$50.

MEMBERSHIP: To become a "member" of TAL-KW, one purchases a lecture series ticket. TAL-KW does not have a separate membership fee.

Purchasing a fall or winter lecture series ticket entitles the purchaser to:

- Membership in TAL-KW until the first lecture of the following fall
- Admission to all lectures of that series; e.g. The Many Faces of Africa in winter 2018
- A refreshment - tea, coffee, water or juice - served at the break
- Voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting held after the last Thursday lecture of the winter series.
- Be on the mailing list and receive emails and brochures from TAL-KW for 4 consecutive sessions. If a member does not buy a series ticket for 4 consecutive sessions, his/her name is removed from the mailing list.

Registrations are limited by the seating capacity in the Forbes Room.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Between July 16th and September 21st:

Tickets can be purchased only through Kitchener's *Centre in the Square*. These qualify for the **EARLY BIRD fee** (\$40 for the 8 week Tuesday series and \$30 for the 6 week Thursday series (includes HST)). The following options are available:

Online: Visit the TAL website (www.tal-kw.ca) and click on the "Tickets" menu item. Centre in the Square handles these sales. Your tickets can either be printed via the "print-at-home" function or the Centre will mail them to your home. Since TAL pays an additional fee for the mail-out option, please consider printing your own tickets if possible.

Via Phone: Call the Centre in the Square box office (519-578-1570 or 1-800-265-8977). Your tickets can either be printed via the "print-at-home" function, or the Centre will mail them to your home.

In person: Visit the Centre in the Square box office: 101 Queen Street North, Kitchener.

The "Online" and "Via Phone" options require a credit card. You may pay by cheque or cash at the box office.

After September 21st:

Subject to availability and prior to the start of each lecture, tickets will be available at the door (\$50 for the 8 week Tuesday series and \$40 for the 6 week Thursday series (includes HST)). Cash or cheque only.

Guest Policy: Space permitting, a day ticket (\$8) may be purchased at the door prior to the start of each lecture.

In the event of ticketing problems please contact the Centre in the Square box office prior to September 22nd and the TAL Registrar afterwards:

Keith Myra
registrar@tal-kw.ca
(519) 886 - 4423

Tuesday Afternoons 1:30 - 3:30
New Technology: Unintended Consequences

Oct 9 - From Legacy Journalism to Social Media. In the past 20 years we have experienced a revolution in communications media. The internet is reordering social and political relations. This lecture will delve into such questions as: Is the emerging system more or less democratic? What are the consequences of the decline of traditional media? How do we as a society sustain journalism free of the pollution of purposeful falsehoods?

Edward Greenspon - President and CEO of the Public Policy Forum

Oct 16 - Democracy and Digital Communication. The evolution of media law has been defined by a tension between the need for journalists to supply information that citizens require to participate in democratic politics, and the protection of individual rights to privacy, good reputation, and fair treatment under the Law. This lecture will examine multiple perspectives from which the interests of Canadian citizens have variously been enhanced – or challenged – through technological, social and legal developments in the media landscape.

Jonathan MacKenzie - Professor, York University and WLU, Information Technology & Media Law

Oct 3 - Myths and Failures: Lessons from the History of Technology. There's an ancient idea that history can and will repeat itself, and those who fail to study the lessons of the past are doomed. But which lessons and to what end, particularly in an era seemingly defined by its technological failures? This talk will review examples from the history of technology and consider universal lessons for the future.

Scott Campbell - Professor, U Waterloo, Director, Centre for Society, Technology and Values

Oct 30 - The internet: Can it be made safe? The internet was never designed to be secure, and subsequent consequences such as cyber attacks have the potential to disrupt the economy or damage critical infrastructure and digital platforms. Such attacks can enable crime and terrorism or interfere in the functioning of democracy. This talk will look at how we got here, what makes these problems so difficult to solve, and propose possible solutions.

Stephanie MacLellan - Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), Global Security & Politics

Nov 6 - Coding Alone - The Erosion of Social Capital Online and How We Can Revive It. The Internet has been a force for good but also a conduit for crime and despair. This talk will highlight how the perverse use of online platforms, marketplaces and other technologies have inadvertently contributed to the harm of vulnerable populations. The erosion of social capital online has a destabilizing impact on our fundamental democratic values and the rule of law.

Neil Desai - Executive, Magnet Forensics, Professor, Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto

Nov 13 - Reckoning with our "Digital Sins". Ongoing research into "Digital Abstinence" looks at the ways in which technology intersects with the moral and ethical aspects of our lives. Drawing on cognitive science experiments, digital art practices, and the philosophy of technology, this talk will provide a multi-pronged approach and look at digital addiction, cell phones in the classroom, privacy online, and Artificial Intelligence.

Marcel O'Gorman - Research Chair, U Waterloo, Professor of English, Director of the Critical Media Lab

Nov 20 - Knowledge Integration, a Renaissance Education for the 21st Century. Knowledge Integration was created as a response to students' desire for a more well-rounded, less narrowly specialized undergraduate education, and society's need for solution integrators--graduates who can make connections across disciplines to better solve problems that transcend disciplines and bedevil specialists. This talk is the story of KI's genesis, and makes the case that its graduates are better able to find ethical and sustainable solutions to our world's problems.

Ed Jernigan - Professor Emeritus, U Waterloo, Knowledge Integration, Systems Design Engineering

Nov 27 - Hope, Mind, and Power: Inventing a positive future for a world in crisis. Hope is essential for psychological and social well-being. How can we be honest with ourselves about the state of the world and still retain hope? The talk will outline a new approach to thinking about hope when the very concept seems to be under siege.

Thomas Homer-Dixon - CIGI Chair of Global Systems, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Professor U Waterloo, Faculty of Environment

Thursday Afternoons 1:30 - 3:30
Beauty and Belief: Art and Philosophy in Eastern Cultures

Beauty and Belief explores the connections between art and spirituality in South and East Asia, mainly within Hindu and Buddhist traditions. The series investigates the creation and symbolism of religious art and its use in community and private practice. Along the way, the series explores a variety of art forms including ritual objects, paintings, sacred space, poetry, texts, and other media, uncovering the intriguing links between art, ritual, philosophy, and spirituality.

All talks in this series are given by **Patricia Q. Campbell**. Patricia earned her Ph.D. from Wilfrid Laurier University. She is an author, and an instructor at WLU, the University of Waterloo, Mount Allison University, and Georgian College.

October 11: Origins of Hindu and Buddhist traditions. This talk explores the early origins of Hindu and Buddhist arts beginning with archaeological records going back nearly five thousand years. It presents early evidence for the origins of yoga and meditation and the fascinating philosophical developments that led to Hinduism and Buddhism as we know them today.

October 18: The Image. The cultures of South and East Asia have a long history of acceptance of religious images. Both Hinduism and Buddhism have fascinating perspectives on visual arts and religious iconography. This talk explores the ways in which early Indian philosophy and spirituality has created and is related to a rich variety of visual arts.

October 25: The Text. There are many fascinating stories and texts in the traditions of South and East Asia. This talk explores the art of storytelling, along with the ways in which texts themselves become beautiful and beloved art forms and ritual objects in Hinduism and Buddhism.

November 1: Sacred Space. All traditions have places that they hold sacred, whether they are natural or constructed by human hands. These are special places in Hindu and Buddhist traditions, including South and East Asian temples, cave arts, architecture, and pilgrimage sites. We explore these special spaces and the philosophies and practices that influence them.

November 8: Zen Art and Practice. Zen is a sect or denomination within Buddhism which has its own fascinating history and philosophy. It also has a wide range of captivating art forms which embody both belief and practice. This talk explores a number of Zen art forms, including poetry, ink brush painting, and the rock garden.

November 22: Modernity, Media, and Popular Culture. Eastern philosophy and spirituality have been changing for thousands of years. This talk examines the fascinating ways such changes are expressed through modern media and popular culture including films, visual arts, and virtual arts. It also explores the influences of Eastern wisdom on North American culture.

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