

SOAR Newsletter August 2020

At its August virtual meeting, the SOAR Board approved a curriculum for the Fall 2020 semester. The courses are available to all current members (those who were members for the cancelled Spring 2020 semester). All courses will be virtual because, among other Covid-19 considerations, venues are unavailable.

At the moment we expect to offer almost a dozen courses. A few will be asynchronous (pre-recorded, available at any time, much like watching a video on YouTube). Most will be synchronous via Zoom (real-time, which will allow interaction among participants and presenter) and will later be available asynchronously. Jim Barry and Ed Russell have recruited the presenters, David Mathie is doing the scheduling and Jerry Sharpe is making technical arrangements. Enrollments in the Zoom sessions will be restricted to 25 on a first-come basis, but those who are unable to enroll can view the presentation later on our website. There are no limitations on viewing asynchronously.

Course descriptions and enrollment procedures will be detailed later. There will be instructional opportunities for those who wish to acquire Zooming skills (details later). We hope you will find these to be Stimulating Opportunities and we will keep you informed.

Here is a list of projected courses (1 session unless otherwise noted):

The Arc Towards Justice, 4 sessions, Jan Wojcik

The Mathematics of Knots, 2 sessions, Joel Foisy

Butterfly Wing Analysis, Craig Merrett

Environmental Chemistry, 3 sessions, Amanda Oldacre

Jewish Super Heroes and Racism in Comic Books, 2 sessions, Zvi Szafran

Classic Film Viewing & Discussion, Casablanca (1942), Ginny Schwartz

More Stem Cell Research to Cure Back Pain, Thomas Lufkin

Music of the Beatles, 5 sessions, Doug Rubio

A North Country Courtship, Thomas Baker/Tabitha Brown

Polarization & Energy in Canada and the U.S., Stephen Bird

Symptoms of Populism in Europe, 2 sessions, Mert Kartal

We are eager to maintain communication with members. If this is not the best way to contact you, please update your contact information by emailing SOAR@potdam.edu. We do not share email addresses.