



Summer 2023
June 5–June 29
Registration opens
April 17, 2023



Join us for in-person
and online courses!

See our website
oli.berkeley.edu
for more information



The History Wars: The 1619 Project and Critical Race Theory

Richard Bell

10 a.m.–noon

Livestreamed + Recorded

(No class 6/19; final class Wed., 6/28)

\$120 (Premium members: \$0)

By now, it seems everyone has an opinion about *The 1619 Project* and critical race theory (CRT). Their claims have each been disputed by some historians and defended by others. They have been attacked by many conservatives and promoted by many liberals. Legislators in many states have even passed laws to ban them from school curriculums. So, in this course, we'll talk candidly about what *The 1619 Project* and CRT actually say — and what they don't. We will engage with the debates among leading scholars as to

their claims and to their merits and get as close as we can to the subjects — like the American Revolution, the Constitution, Abraham Lincoln, and Reconstruction — around which so many of these debates have swirled.

Richard Bell is Professor of History at the University of Maryland and author of the book *Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and Their Astonishing Odyssey Home*.

San Francisco Opera's Centennial: A Close Look at the Summer Season

Kip Cranna

1–3 p.m.

Livestreamed Only

(Three sessions; No class 6/19)

\$120 (Premium members: \$0)

As the San Francisco Opera concludes its 100th season, Dramaturg Emeritus Kip Cranna will preview the June 2023 repertoire: A new production of “Madama Butterfly,” the return of Richard Strauss’s “Die Frau Ohne Schatten” (The Women Without a Shadow), which had its American premiere here, and “El Ultimo Sueno de Frida y Diego (The Last Dream of Frida and Diego), the Company’s first opera in Spanish and first mainstage work by a woman composer. The final class will focus on historical highlights from San Francisco Opera’s remarkable first century.

Kip Cranna is Dramaturg Emeritus of the San Francisco Opera, where he served on the staff for forty years, earning the San Francisco Opera Medal and the Bernard Osher Cultural Award.

Tuesday, June 6 – June 27

To Ukraine, with Love

Elena Sheygal-Placzek

10 a.m.–noon

Livestreamed Only

\$120 (Premium members: \$0)

The course is a tribute to the courage and staunchness of Ukrainian people. It will embrace the portrait of the nation against the background of geography and history; highlights of Ukrainian cultural heritage and images of Ukraine in Russian literature, music, and art.

Elena Sheygal-Placzek is a retired professor from Volgograd University in Russia and holds a Ph.D. in Linguistic Anthropology.

Advanced iPhoneography (a.m.)

Yoni Mayeri

10 a.m.–noon

Livestreamed Only

(Two sessions, 6/20; 6/27)

\$195 (Premium members: \$40)

This course is designed to take your iPhoneography skills to the next level and

help you learn techniques for creating professional quality iPhone photographs. The course will include: a demo of apps to perform advanced photo editing and image creation; a review of techniques and accessories that enable precise capture for macro and close-up photography; an examination of methods for shooting, lighting, and posing people to create dynamic portraits in formal, environmental, and candid styles; a discussion about how to choose and process various file formats to create professional quality images.

Note: It is recommended that students have taken iPhoneography previously, or have comparable experience. iPhone 8s Plus or newer is recommended.

Yoni Mayeri is an award-winning photographer specializing in iPhone photography.

21st-Century Women's Autobiography

Sarita Cannon

1–3 p.m.

In-person Only, GBC 365

\$195 (Premium members: \$40)

Often we assume that an autobiography is a true, first-person, written narrative of one person's life. However, life narratives are constructed texts that are subject to the artistic impulses and imperfect memory of their writers. Focusing on four autobiographies written by women, we will explore how members of historically marginalized groups have reconfigured the genre of autobiography for their own purposes. Texts discussed: *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic* (2006) by Alison Bechdel; *Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love and So Much More* (2014) by Janet Mock; *The Best We Could Do* (2017) by Thi Bui; and *Heart Berries: A Memoir* (2018) by Terese Marie Mailhot.

Sarita Cannon is professor of English at San Francisco State University. Her monograph *Black-Native Autobiographical Acts: Navigating the Minefields of Authenticity* was published by Lexington Books in 2021.

Experiencing Nature Through Art: The Cultivation of Perception

Bruce Elliott

10 a.m.–noon

In-person GBC 365, Livestreamed + Recorded

\$120 (Premium members: \$0)

This course highlights three stages in the evolution of aesthetics, beginning by tracing the progressive development of landscape art by painters from the Renaissance to Romanticism, proceeding to a kind of interactive artwork from Impressionism to Abstract Expressionism, and culminating by pointing to visual practices that enable viewers to themselves generate a luminous aesthetic experience within a natural setting.

Dr. Bruce Elliott teaches courses all throughout the Bay Area. Through lecture and extensive visuals, his courses highlight the dynamic interaction between historical developments and artistic expression.

Film Noir and Philosophy

Bill Smoot

1–3 p.m.

In-person, GBC 365, Livestreamed + Recorded

\$120 (Premium members: \$0)

For many, film noir conjures up memories of black and white films with a hard-boiled detective carrying a snub nose revolver and trying to resist a platinum blond femme fatale. The characters smoked unfiltered cigarettes and drank whisky in a glass. Entertaining, but shallow. If film noir is shallow, it is so in the spirit of Nietzsche's observation of the Greeks: "They were superficial — out of profundity." In this course we will explore the shadows of film noir for its underlying elements of existentialism, Freudianism, Marxism, feminism, and post-structuralism. Films viewed will include *The Third Man* (1949), *Kiss Me Deadly* (1955), *Blade Runner* (1982), and *The Girl Who Walks Home Alone at Night* (2014).

Bill Smoot is a writer of fiction and essays. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Northwestern University. He teaches college classes in San Quentin Prison.

Advanced iPhoneography (p.m.)

Yoni Mayeri

1–3 p.m.

Livestreamed Only

(Two sessions, 6/20; 6/27)

\$195 (Premium members: \$40)

See course description on opposite page.

Aristotle's Cat! Revising Writing

Mina Witteman

1–3:30 p.m.

In-person Only, UH 41B

\$195 (Premium members: \$40)

This course is aimed at beginning and advanced writers who have finished the first (or second or tenth) draft of their manuscript, be it fiction, memoir, or narrative nonfiction. For this course, students are encouraged to bring a printed copy of their own manuscript so they can focus on their own writing. We will address developmental revision; the big questions that help you shape your plot and build your story arc. We will also address organizational revision, where we focus on a story's narrative structure and its timeline. We'll cover finetuning your story, from the dreaded "show, don't tell" adage to finding new ways of thinking about giving information and language.

Mina Witteman writes in English and Dutch. Witteman is a longtime teacher of creative writing, trained and certified by the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences.

All courses are four sessions
long unless otherwise noted.

Location Key

GBC: Golden Bear Center,
Suite 365, 1995 University Ave.

UH: University Hall,
2199 Addison St.

CJC: California Jazz
Conservatory, 2087 Addison St.

Thursday, June 8 – June 29

SOMA's Other Story: History, Culture & New Arts

Susan Alunan

10 a.m.–noon

Livestreamed + Recorded

\$120 (Premium members: \$0)

The South of Market neighborhood in San Francisco is famous for loft living, major art institutions, Big Tech, trendy restaurants, and spectacular views at Oracle Park.

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SOMA's other story tells of a neighborhood home for waves of new immigrants and working-class residents. It is a story about thriving communities displaced, sometimes violently. While development pressures persist, advocates have built affordable housing. Others are preserving a rich cultural history for those who remain, those who return for services and community, and new visitors. This course will focus on SOMA's history, people, struggles, activism, and the exciting arts and culture scene in which a new generation continues the work of creating community.

Susan Alunan teaches political theory, urban politics, and activism. Previously, she staffed, then led the SF Urban Institute, developing creative approaches to critical issues such as housing, community development, and educational equity.

A Musical Tour of Brazil

Marcos Silva

2-4 p.m.

In-Person Only, CJC

\$195 (Premium members: \$40)

This course will take you on a tour of some of the many expressions of Brazilian music, exploring cultural centers such as Sao Paulo and Rio, as well as the sounds and traditions of lesser known locales and the influence of indigenous peoples. The course combines brief lecture, video clips, and live performance.

Marcos Silva performs worldwide. He has toured with many artists, including Paquito D'Rivera, Bud Shank, Claudio Roditi, Raul de Souza, Toninho Horta, Chico Pinheiro, Leny Andrade, Edu Lobo, Emilio Santiago, and Dori Caymmi. He was the musical director for Flora Purim and Airto Moreira for 24 years. He heads the Brazilian Music Department at the California Jazz Conservatory in Berkeley.

Pop-Ups are lively one-time livestreamed and recorded events that take place on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. All Pop-Ups are \$30.

6.6 No Frontier is Final

Jewelle Gomez

Our minds can have infinite capacity to imagine new worlds and different ways of being if we chip away at the containers in which we live. Flying cars and ET were just the beginning of how we can speculate about stories of our values, ideas, and behavior.

Jewelle Gomez is the author of the first black, lesbian vampire novel, *The Gilda Stories*. She was awarded the Bram Stoker Legacy Award in 2021.

6.13 What We Commemorate on Juneteenth

Richard Bell

Over the course of four years, enslaved people worked to turn the Civil War into a freedom war. On June 19, 1865, the federal government finally declared slavery dead across the country. This momentous event marked a new birth of freedom — an occasion we now commemorate as Juneteenth.

See **Richard Bell** bio in Monday course listing.

6.20 Newest Americans: Stories from the Global City

Ed Kashi, Julie Winokur

This is a multimedia presentation of stories about immigration as seen through the lens of students and faculty of Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey, the most diverse campus in America.

Ed Kashi is a photojournalist, filmmaker, speaker, and educator dedicated to documenting the social and political issues that define our times.

Julie Winokur, Founding Director of Talking Eyes Media, has been a filmmaker and writer for over three decades.

6.27 American Civics 101

Mr. Perper

American Civics 101 is a timely discussion that provides a simple but comprehensive path to understanding what every person applying for U.S. citizenship today needs to know: how our U.S. government actually works!

Mr. Perper trained with U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services to develop an adult U.S. Citizenship curriculum and currently teaches citizenship classes.

Encore Courses

Encore videos are made available on the first day of the term (Monday, June 5) and remain available through Thursday, August 31. The cost of encore courses is \$120 (Premium members: \$0). For complete descriptions and bios, visit olli.berkeley.edu.

How America Became Great and How It Can Be Again

Michael Baker

Dark Westerns of the 1950s

Art Eckstein

Cooking By the Book

Linda Carucci

Istanbul: Where East Meets West

Pierluigi Serraino

San Francisco in Photographs, 1850 - 2020

Richie Unterberger

Political Discourse in the Twenty-First Century

Darren Zook

Membership Types

We have three membership types: **Single Term**, **Annual**, and **Premium**. Course fees are separate, and are based on your choice of membership, course type, instructional hours, delivery methods, venue costs, and other factors. We offer four academic terms — fall, winter, spring and summer — per year. See <https://olli.berkeley.edu/member-benefits-course-types> for more information.

“OLLI for All” Fee Assistance Program

We welcome everyone with a passion for learning! With fee assistance, you'll enjoy all the benefits of membership, plus:

- Waived membership dues (\$100 savings)
- 70% off all individual course fees