CURRENT EVENTS AND HISTORY

» HOT SPOTS AND BURNING ISSUES—Christopher Doyle
  Third Wed. of every month, 5:30–7 p.m.
  Jan. 27; Feb. 24; March 23; April 27

» THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION—Jack Powell
  Thurs., Feb. 11, 18, 25; 1:30–3 p.m.

» HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF RHODES—Richard Freund
  Wed., Feb. 24; March 2, 23, 30; 3:30–5 p.m.

» AKHENATEN: EGYPT’S HERETIC PHARAOH—Colleen Manassa Darnell
  Wed., March 2, 9, 16; 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

  Wed. March 2, 9, 16, 23; 1–2:30 p.m.

» IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS: FROM NAZARETH TO JERUSALEM—Hazza Abu-Rabia
  Mon., March 28; April 4, 11, 18; 9:30–11 a.m.

All classes held in Mortensen Library, KF Room, unless otherwise noted.
CURRENT EVENTS AND HISTORY

» HOT SPOTS AND BURNING ISSUES—Christopher Doyle
Launched three years ago in cooperation with the World Affairs Council, the monthly Foreign Affairs Discussion Group returns this spring with Chris Doyle, international studies specialist at the Watkinson School, as moderator, with participation by additional experts from around the University and beyond. Each month a topic will be chosen that is in the news or that is generally recognized as an ongoing global issue, and readings will be distributed in advance. What kinds of topics? Ukraine, Syria, international migration, world health, Boko Haram, climate change.

This program is jointly sponsored by the Presidents’ College and the World Affairs Council.
Cost: $80; Fellows and World Affairs Council members, $50

» THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION—Jack Powell
Religion is a universal phenomenon, evident across culture and time, and tremendously important in ways both constructive and destructive. Psychology’s relationship with religion has been complex, ranging from sympathetic and supportive to critical, and hostile to downright dismissive. In this course, religion will be the object of psychological analysis. Psychological theories and methods will be employed to bring perspective and understanding to such questions as: What can psychology contribute to our understanding of religious belief, experience and practice? How do religious beliefs and values develop throughout life? What psychological variables are involved in the function of such features of religion as: ritual, mystical experiences, prayer, conversion, worship, and meditation?
An Alumni Welcome Program course
Cost: $60; Fellows and UHart alumni, $45

» HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF RHODES—Richard Freund
This introduction to the fascinating island of Rhodes will look at connections with the Hellenistic Mediterranean and with Egypt and the Middle East. It will examine the multicultural diversity of the island and its Christian, Islamic and Jewish institutions, investigate theories concerning the possible location of the Colossus of Rhodes, and offer an introduction to a visit to Rhodes sponsored by the Maurice Greenberg Center and the Presidents’ College, to take place from March 9–17, 2016.
Cost: $80; Fellows, $65

» AKHENATEN: EGYPT’S HERETIC PHARAOH—Colleen Manassa Darnell
Ruling between 1351 and 1334 BCE, the pharaoh Akhenaten began his reign with both a different name and a different religion. Originally calling himself Amunhotep, the fourth ruler of the Egyptian 18th Dynasty to bear that name, Akhenaten radically altered Egyptian religion, taking his father’s focus on the solar deity to an extreme form of solar worship that some have characterized as “monotheistic.” This course will explore the religious, cultural, and social features of ancient Egyptian society during the age of Akhenaten.
Cost: $70; Fellows, $55

This course will celebrate the inner histories, motivations, professions, literature and arts of the men and women who inspired and played important roles in the Easter Rising of 1916. A closer look at the poetry, drama and prose rhetoric of the Irish Literary Renaissance that preceded and followed the Rising will reveal underlying causes of the rebellion that led to the eventual founding of the Irish Republic. Yeats’s great poem, “Easter, 1916,” will form the centerpiece of our readings and discussions as we trace the unfinished evolution of a movement that was both literary and political into what Yeats immortalized as “a terrible beauty.” We will read and discuss rare insiders’ views, as well as actual writings by the 16 men and one woman condemned by a British court martial to death less than one month after the Rising.
An Alumni Welcome Program course.
Cost: $70; Fellows and UHart alumni, $55

» IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS: FROM NAZARETH TO JERUSALEM—Hazza Abu-Rabia
The course will have four sessions:
- The Holy Land in Western eyes
- Jerusalem caught in time
- Nazareth caught in time
- A Personal Account: This session will be about how the political and world situations impacted a small family in Nazareth and changed its family’s lives.
An Alumni Welcome Program course
Cost: $75; Fellows and UHart alumni, $60