

NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING HISTORY



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Do you ever ask yourself, "What if . . . ?" What if you had made different decisions in your life? The decisions we made yesterday, last week, and last year are now history, and yet they are likely still affecting the way you act and the choices you are making today.

Looking at history, either in the recent past or hundreds of years ago, is a way to understand how we live and act today. History can shape our ideas, our dreams, and our plans. History is filled with myths and legends as well as facts and great discoveries. This Spring 2013 issue of the College of Arts & Sciences Newsletter is filled with opportunities to learn about a number of courses within the College.

Delaware History (HIS 324) will open your eyes to the many facets of the Diamond state and the History of Mathematics (MAT332) will surprise you with little known facts and figures. For example, did you know that until the Middle Ages, Roman numerals were used for business transactions in Europe? Imagine adding and multiplying using Roman numerals!

The History of Science and Technology (SCI 321) explores the interrelationship between advancements in technology and advancements in science. From Newton's apple to the Human Genome project, to sub-atomic particles, technology has provided the catalyst for many discoveries. The History of Business (HIS 322) will introduce you to the fascinating, and sometimes volatile, foundation of American business. You will meet the brilliant and visionary men who started this country on the path to being a world economic leader.

The History of the English Language (ENG 205) looks at the origins of modern language and the social, political, and economic instruments of change in vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. Finally, what about cave paintings? Did you ever think about them as the precursor of visual art today? The course, History of Art and Design (HIS230), will take you from those caves to the digital age throughout Europe and America.

Even if you do not consider yourself a "history buff," you have to admit that these courses sound interesting. The College of Arts & Sciences hopes that you will consider broadening your elective options by enrolling in one of the courses highlighted in this newsletter or one of the many other history offerings you will find listed each semester. You may decide you are even interested in a History Minor!

Whether you chose the minor or a single course, I hope we can help you investigate your past and impact your future through a history course at Wilmington University.

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Delaware History

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WilmU Gets Vegucated

HIS 324: DELAWARE HISTORY

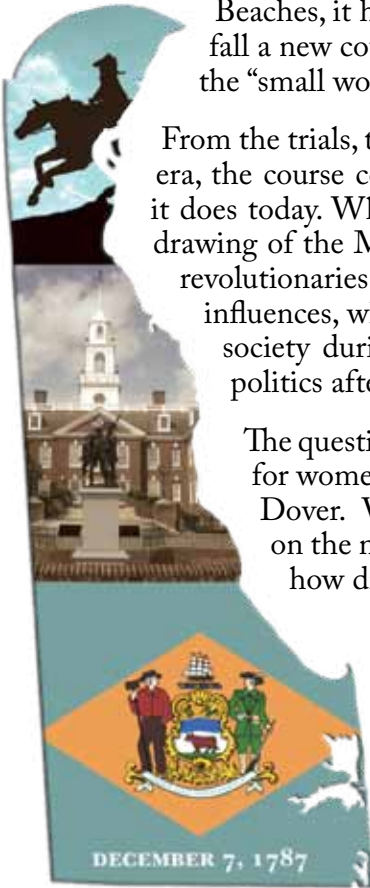
Delaware is a fascinating state. From the rolling hills of the Brandywine Valley to the Atlantic Beaches, it has unique landscapes, beautiful scenery, diverse attractions, and lots of history. This fall a new course offered by the College of Arts and Sciences is going to examine the heritage of the “small wonder” and the imprint it had on the nation’s past.

From the trials, tribulations and dangers of the Revolution to the tumultuous 1960s and the modern era, the course considers questions that help students understand how and why the state exists as it does today. What was the long and sometimes bloody boundary dispute that ended up with the drawing of the Mason and Dixon Line about? Why was it that Delawareans were called reluctant revolutionaries and why is Delaware the First State? As a border state with northern and southern influences, what sort of upheavals faced the government, the business community, and everyday society during the Civil War? How did the state react to Reconstruction-era changes and politics after the Civil War?

The questions continue into the modern era. A dramatic and fascinating chapter in the struggle for women’s right to vote took place as pro- and anti-suffrage adversaries lined up to battle in Dover. What is the story behind that divisive headline-grabbing scene? With the country on the move after World War II and modernization extending far out into the country-side, how did government manage the era of suburbanization and rapid growth?

Indelving into these and many other questions throughout the block, students will acquire local history research skills. This course is a great way to learn about that old cemetery down the road, those abandoned railroad tracks, a building in your town, that stone wall in the middle of the woods, some family history, or lots of other Delaware subjects that you have wondered about.

– Michael S. Dixon, M.S., M.A.
Historian
Adjunct Faculty



Zwaanendael Museum, a showcase for Lewes-area maritime, military, and social history.



George Read House, New Castle



Nanticoke Indian Tribe

Fort Delaware: a harbor defense facility located on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River.



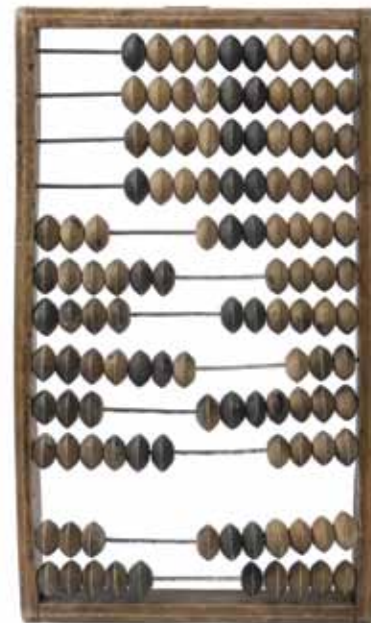
MAT 332: HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS

Mathematics has enabled the science and technology we enjoy today. MAT 332 is a capstone course for Middle School math majors. This course provides an overview of the historical evolution of major concepts in mathematics, including counting and number systems, geometry, algebra, calculus, probability and statistics. It provides a rich, useful historical context for teaching mathematics.

The contributions of various cultures, ranging from Babylonia and Egypt through Greece, India and the Middle East to the modern world, are reviewed. Biographical sketches of selected individuals who made major contributions to the development of mathematics are presented, especially the contributions of women. The interrelationship between the evolution of mathematics and science and technology is also explored.

Consider the following interesting “facts” from this course:

- Pythagoras was guilty of plagiarism! The famous geometric theorem which bears his name was known centuries before to the Egyptians and Babylonians.
- Until the Middle Ages, Roman numerals were used for business transactions in Europe. Imagine adding and multiplying using Roman numerals!
- By 500 AD, the Mayans had the most complex and accurate calendar system in the world. The Mayans calculated the length of the average solar year to be 365.242 days. (The current accepted value is 365.242198 days.)
- Florence Nightingale is known to us as a pioneer in the development of modern nursing practice, yet she was also a pioneer in the development of descriptive statistics.
- The 19th century French mathematician Evariste Galois made major contributions to the development of abstract algebra. He died of injuries sustained from a duel before he was 21 years old.



*-Barry Renner, M.A.
Assistant Professor & Chair
Math Department*

SCI 321: HISTORY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

From the simple machines of the ancient Greeks to today's smartphones, the history of science and technology is full of fascinating people and events. SCI-321, History of Science and Technology, takes a look at those people and events that have shaped our world. This course is required for Middle School science majors but is open to any junior or senior who has an interest in the historical development of science and technology. The course is generally offered once per year and is available in both face-to-face and online formats.

SCI-321 takes an in-depth look at major scientific and technological advances and the people responsible for them. In addition, it examines the impact of science and technology on individuals, society, and the environment. Activities within the course allow students to place the major scientific advances in the proper historical perspective and give students the opportunity to debate the moral and ethical issues associated with some scientific advances.

So whether you are a Middle School science major, or just someone who has an interest in science, technology, or history, then SCI-321, History of Science and Technology, might be an interesting course for you.

*-John Burbage, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Chair
Science Department*

HIS 322: AMERICAN BUSINESS HISTORY

HIS 322 is a survey course of American business and economic history from colonial times into the twenty-first century. The course will examine how individual entrepreneurs, partnerships, and corporations have responded to the challenges and opportunities presented by economic cycles and trends – and, in turn, how those actions helped shape our cultural, economic, political, and social history.

This is a particularly interesting time to study American business history. American business has made our economy the largest in the world, but we are in one of the worst economic downturns since the Great Depression.

So, how did our economy get to be #1, and how did we get into our current “Great Recession,” to begin with?

HIS 322 will trace the roots of our American business success story back to colonial times, and through the hard work, vision, and genius of people like Cornelius Vanderbilt, Henry Ford, John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, A. P. Giannini, J. Pierpont Morgan, Charley Merrill, Steve Jobs and Bill Gates.

The course will also explore the growth of corporations in the financial services sector, thanks to the vision and efforts of those like A. P. Giannini, Charley Merrill, and Sanford I. Weill – which helps to explain why this “Great Recession” is so deep. For example, in 1950, manufacturing comprised 29.3% of US Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while financial services, just 10.9%. By 2005, manufacturing had slipped to 12.0%, while the financial services sector had risen to 20.4% of GDP. You can see that it is highly unlikely that the recession, wrought by the financial services crisis, would be as severe if financial services still accounted for only 10.9% of GDP.

The course will examine the relationship of business to cultural, economic, political and social forces, as well as trends in the business forms: sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations.

– Anthony DiGiacomo, Ed.D.
Adjunct Faculty

ENG 205: HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Here is a fun fact: about half the words we commonly use today were first put into writing by Shakespeare. Here is another: the majority of the First Hundred Words (of kindergarten fame) are from Old English. Wilmington University has a class where you can learn why those two facts about the English language are important details in the larger cultural canvas, developed through enormous cultural and historical pressures. It’s a great story.

We start with Great Britain itself: islands invaded over and over, first by Celts, then by Romans, then by the Northern Germanic tribes. (We’ve only gotten to 600 AD.) The rest of Britain’s rich history (leading to our own founding and history), as seen in the language, starts with humble beginnings and ends (currently) with English being the world’s dominant language.

English is a language of contradictions: it has been shaped by conquerors as well as farmers and craftsmen. The word order reads like German, but the vocabulary is mostly Latin derivatives (from five different languages). The Celts provided many of the stories and heroes that are still central to our culture (leprechauns as well as King Arthur), yet there are very few words in Modern English from the Celts. We adopt words from every group that comes in contact with English, but keep the original language’s spelling rules. The Native American potato takes an –es (potatoes) while the Italian piano gets an –s (pianos).

English is still changing and evolving. English has an incredibly large number of words, making it the richest language for poetry. However, for at least 300 years, people have been complaining that English is going downhill fast and picking up speed. Currently, texting makes many people pretty sure that this is the beginning (or the middle) of the end for English.

But is texting really the last nail in the coffin? We’re going to use history, linguistics, grammar, and research to see. The results may surprise people

– Katherine Cottle, M.A.
Assistant Professor & Chair
English and Literature Department

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

Please Join Us!

"Tasting Freedom:" A Black History Month Author Event

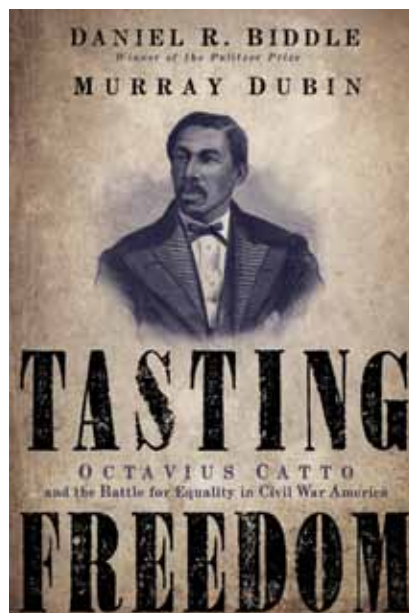
Date: February 6th, 2013

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: New Student Center

Pratt Building, New Castle Campus

Pulitzer Prize winner, Daniel R. Biddle, and Murray Dubin will be speaking on their critically-acclaimed book, *Tasting Freedom*, which details the life of Octavius Valentine Catto, an African American school teacher, civil rights leader, and baseball player. Come out to hear these dynamic authors and enjoy free refreshments!



WILMU ESSAY CONTEST

So, you think you can write? Show us what you've got! One winning entry in each of the following genres will get published in the WU magazine: Creative non-fiction, fiction, academic essay, and poetry. Please submit your work by **March 29th, 2013** to Wilmington University's Arts and Writing Gallery (enroll through "Organizations" in Blackboard).

If you have trouble with submissions, please contact Nicole Karam at 302-356-6984.

WOMEN IN DELAWARE HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

Write an essay about a woman who has touched the lives of others. This woman could be an avid volunteer or a CEO of a fortune 500 company. Express the contributions in 750 words or less and turn your essay in to writingcontest@wilmu.edu. All entries must be submitted by March 26, 2012. All essays must be double spaced, Times New Roman, and 12 point font.

1st Prize- \$100 WU Bookstore gift card

2nd Prize- \$75 WU Bookstore gift card

3rd Prize- \$50 WU Bookstore gift card

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

Condoleezza Rice is the first African-American Secretary of State

2005

Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first female Supreme Court Justice

1981

Betty Freidan publishes *The Feminine Mystique*

1963

Dr. Grace Hopper is the 3rd person to program the Mark 1, an early supercomputer

1943

Florence Sabin, the 1st female graduate of Johns Hopkins, discovers the origin of blood cells

1925

Clara Barton founds the Red Cross

1881

Harriet Beecher Stowe publishes *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

1851

Phyllis Wheatley publishes her first poem, making her the 1st African American and African American woman published in the U.S.

1766

The first child of English parents, Virginia Dare, is born in Virginia

1587

HISTORY OF ART AND DESIGN

This course explores visual art from the perspective of graphic design, beginning with cave paintings and continuing to the digital age. Since the beginning of recorded history, marks made by humans express their concern with the ability to communicate with each other. The origin and evolution of trademarks, visual images, letterforms, bookmaking, photography, and advertising are some of the topics that will be investigated.

All through history, the technology of the day affected the creation of visual art. For example, black made from charcoal, and pigments mixed with animal fat were used in cave paintings. The technology used by visual artists advanced further through the development of illustrated and illuminated manuscripts, woodblock prints, lithography, typographic printing, photographs and the computer.

Art movements are another factor in graphic design history. An art movement is a reflection of a culture in a country during a particular time period. The relationships that occurred between countries influenced graphic design internationally. Also, the close relationship between fine and applied art is ever present throughout art history. Art and life were inseparable until the invention and proliferation of machines during the Industrial Revolution. Throughout history, outstanding artists have attempted to elevate visual communication by focusing on the expression of the human spirit. This course focuses on the importance of the role that effective graphic design has in society.

- Andrea Bukay, B.F.A.
Adjunct Faculty

WRITER'S CONFERENCE

This conference is a celebration of writers' work and how to get that work out to a wider audience. We will discuss strategies for both national and local publication, especially through networking. We will hear from a variety of speakers, including nationally known poet and playwright Jeannie Walker, Delaware's Poet Laureate, Joann Balingit, published novelist and journalist (*Wilmington News Journal* and *USA Today*) Mary Kennedy, editor, essayist, and poet Billie Travalini, and comedy writer Belinda Criddell. The day's events will include a keynote speech and writing workshops. There will also be a speaker during lunch, fiction writer Rachel Simon (*Riding the Bus with My Sister*). Please join us to talk about the rich literary tradition in the state that continues with the next generation of writers.

**Where: Doberstein Admissions Center (DAC)
New Castle Campus**

Conference Schedule:

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 8:30-9 | Continental Breakfast |
| 9:00-9:30 | Keynote Speech |
| 9:30-9:45 | Break |
| 9:45-10:45 | Session One |
| 10:45-11:00 | Break |
| 11:00-12:00 | Session Two |
| 12:00-1:15 | Lunch |
| 1:15-2:45 | Panel Discussion |
| 2:45-3:00 | Wrap - Up |

For more details and registration information, please contact Nicole Karam at 302-356-6984.

NEW COURSE!

ART 303: THEMES IN CONTEMPORARY ART

This course includes the study and appreciation of art in the 21st century. Students will investigate themes including art as social change, art as object, art as event, and art as concept. Students will use visual literacy and critical thinking skills to investigate the meaning and importance of art in modern society. This course will encourage active participation by fostering dialogue, discourse, and interpretation.

This 7 week course will begin in Block 2 of Spring 2013: **Tuesday, March 5th at 5:30pm.** Register today!

www.wilmu.edu/registrar



WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY GETS “VEGUCATED”

On October 1, 2012, The College of Arts and Sciences partnered with the Student Life department and the Green Team to present *Vegucated*, an award-winning documentary that follows three meat-and-cheese loving New Yorkers who agree to adopt a plant-based diet for six weeks.

Declared as “part sociological experiment, part science class, and part adventure,” the documentary has won multiple awards. Students, faculty, and staff joined Brian, the bacon-loving bachelor, Ellen, the single mom and part time comedienne, and Tesla, the college student who avoids vegetables, as their lives were changed forever—one plate at a time. *Vegucated* showcases the journey of these three people as they “ultimately discover their paths in creating a kinder, cleaner, greener world.”

Students, faculty, and staff enjoyed vegan food samples, such as tomato pie, hummus, fresh vegetables, no-tuna salad, “chickenless” salad, and Oreos. (Yes, Oreos are vegan!)

To learn more about *Vegucated*, visit www.getvegucated.com.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE ITALIAN KITCHEN@ WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY IS VEG-FRIENDLY!

The Italian Kitchen at Wilmington University offers multiple vegetarian options, such as a vegan veggie burger, a veggie sub, and several different salads that can be made to order.

Visit them in person at the New Castle campus or Wilson Graduate Center.

You can also visit them online:
www.wilmu.edu/ItalianKitchen

Call to order: 302-356-6788



RECIPE: NO-TUNA SALAD

- 1 15.5 oz. can of chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 2 T. vegan mayo*
- 2 celery stalks, diced
- Black pepper, to taste

Mash chickpeas well; leave them a little bit “chunky” if you’d like. They do not have to be completely mushy. Add remaining ingredients & mix well. Adjust mayo/seasonings to taste.

*You can buy Vegenaïse from your local health food store, but many store-bought, low-fat mayonnaises are actually vegan (they do not contain egg).

DEAN

DOREEN TURNBO, Ed.D.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & DEAN
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DOREEN.B.TURNBO@WILMU.EDU

ADMINISTRATIVE

IRENE LAWHORN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
(302) 356-6839
IRENE.A.LAWHORN@WILMU.EDU

NICOLE KARAM
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
(302) 356-6984
NICOLE.M.KARAM@WILMU.EDU

STAFF

NORA HUFÉ, M.S.
SCIENCE LABORATORY SUPERVISOR
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
(302) 356-6838
NORA.A.HUFÉ@WILMU.EDU

FACULTY

JOHN BURBAGE, Ph.D.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & CHAIR
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
(302) 356-6835
JOHN.D.BURBAGE@WILMU.EDU

KATHERINE COTTLE, M.A.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR & CHAIR
ENGLISH & LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
(302) 356-6841
KATHERINE.B.COTTLE@WILMU.EDU

KRISTIN Y. DENNEHY, M.A.
ADJUNCT PROGRAM COORDINATOR
KRISTIN.Y.DENNEHY@WILMU.EDU

GARY DONAHUE, M.Ed.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
(302) 356-6734
GARY.L.DONAHUE@WILMU.EDU

TROY GRANDEL, J.D.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
(302) 356-6837
TROY.E.GRANDEL@WILMU.EDU

NIECY LeBRIGHT, M.S.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, REGIONAL CHAIR
DOVER & DAFB
& CHAIR OF GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM
(302) 342-8632
NIECY.M.LEBRIGHT@WILMU.EDU

LYNN MOORE, M.A.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, REGIONAL CHAIR
GEORGETOWN & REHOBOTH
& CHAIR OF HISTORY
(302) 856-5780
LYNN.W.MOORE@WILMU.EDU

BARRY RENNER, M.A.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR & CHAIR
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT
(302) 356-6840
BARRY.L.RENNER@WILMU.EDU

DANNY WALKER, M.A.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR & CHAIR
HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT
(302) 356-2028
DANNY.J.WALKER@WILMU.EDU

MATTHEW WHELIHAN, M.A.
ADJUNCT PROGRAM COORDINATOR
MATTHEW.E.WHELIHAN@WILMU.EDU

MARCIE WILLSON, M.A.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
(302) 356-6842
MARCIE.M.WILLSON@WILMU.EDU

MATTHEW WILSON, M.S.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR & CHAIR
FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE
(302) 356-6970
MATTHEW.J.WILSON@WILMU.EDU

SHARON YODER, Ed.D.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
(302) 942-8618
SHARON.R.YODER@WILMU.EDU