

**Senior University of
Greater Atlanta, Inc.
(SUGA)**



FALL QUARTER, 2021

HYBRID QUARTER

**ZOOM CLASSES OFFERED TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS BEGINNING
SEPTEMBER 21 AND ENDING NOVEMBER 19 –EIGHT WEEKS
ZOOM LINKS will be sent evening before class**

**WEDNESDAY CLASSES WILL BE *IN PERSON* AT REHOBOTH BAPTIST CHURCH,
2997 Lawrenceville Hwy., Tucker, GA 30087
Beginning SEPTEMBER 22 AND ENDING NOVEMBER 17**

**Each Class Meets Once Per Week for one hour unless otherwise indicated.
NO CLASSES ON MONDAYS**

NO CLASSES WEEK OF OCTOBER 18-22, 2021 --FALL BREAK

TUESDAY (Sept. 21-Nov. 16)

9:30 AM

**EAST OF EDEN: STUDY OF STEINBECK'S NOVEL
Bonnie Hoyt, Member, SUGA**

Although Steinbeck won the Pulitzer Prize in 1940 for *The Grapes of Wrath*, he considered *East of Eden* (1952) his “magnum opus.” Based on the story of Adam and Eve in the Book of Genesis, the novel revisits the age-old themes of good versus evil and the ability to choose one’s own moral destiny. The Salinas Valley in California is the setting for

this exploration of marriage, sibling rivalry, parenthood, and more. The recommended text is the Steinbeck Centennial Edition, Penguin Books (2002). The book is 601 pages and sections will be assigned for reading throughout the course. We suggest that participants read as much of the book as possible before the first class to avoid “spoiler alerts.”

11:00 AM

CLIMATE CHANGE: POLICIES AND SOLUTIONS II

Norman Slawsky, Attorney, Member, SUGA

The world is changing, and the need for solutions to our changing climate continues. For those who participated in the Fall 2020 class (or not), this class will begin with Climate Solutions 101, and will discuss ways we can mitigate and reduce the effects of climate change, how to prepare for climate change, climate migration, environmental justice, how a circular economy can give us a net zero, and what the future may bring. (The itinerary is subject to change, however, based on events and developments.)

WEDNESDAY (Sept. 22-Nov. 17) IN PERSON AT REHOBOTH BAPTIST CHURCH

Choose from one of the two offerings in each time slot

9:30 AM

DETECTIVE FICTION: BEYOND THE GOLDEN AGE

Robert Knowles, Jr., Retired professor of communication and rhetoric; professional writer.

It's been said that everyone enjoys a good murder mystery. But why? What is detective fiction? Where did it come from? Why is it so popular, more than a century after emerging as a serial offering in an English railroad travelers' magazine? Seeking answers to those questions, the course examines and highlights the detective fiction contributions of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle ("Sherlock Holmes"); Dame Agatha Christie ("Hercules Poirot," "Jane Marple"); Samuel Dashiell Hammett ("Sam Spade," "the Continental Op"); Raymond Chandler ("Philip Marlowe"); John D. McDonald ("Travis McGee"); and Michael Connolly ("Hieronymus 'Harry' Bosch"). The contributions and cultures from which they were drawn -- Victorian/Edwardian and 20th Century England, and 20th - 21st Century America -- will be sketched to broaden understanding of the authors' literary development and their contributions to the emerging sub-genre of adventure literature. The historical roots of the field in works of Charles Dickens and Edgar Allen Poe also will be unearthed. The course will compare/contrast the different uses of film, radio and television to modernize familiar detective stories. The purpose is to make favorite detective fiction authors more attractive as sources of popular entertainment. Detective fiction is a rapidly evolving field with many new contributors. The course will present the metamorphosis of the Inspector Morse saga ("Endeavour"- "Morse"- "Lewis") on PBS television as an example of the newest developments.

9:30 AM

YOU'RE ONLY AS OLD AS YOU FEEL: Introduction to Somatic Education and the Feldenkrais® Method

SANDI GOLDRING, MS, PT, Guild Certified Feldenkrais® Teacher

What does it mean to “feel old”? For many, it’s a sense that the body is deteriorating and limiting their activity. Are you tired, stiff, off balance, slow, or painful? Are there actions you can’t do easily anymore? Does anticipating inability prevent you from trying new things? What if you could recapture a sense of youthfulness by learning how to fully engage in novel activities that produce improvement across the board? This course will introduce you to the Feldenkrais® Method of somatic education. You will learn about: 1) the physical organization of the moving body and the physiology of aging; 2) the interplay between moving, thinking, feeling, intention, habit, awareness, and learning; 3) a practical process for “getting out of your own way” and improving your activities. Classes will include a mix of intellectual presentation and short, effortless movement explorations--both seated and standing—that show you how to move better, feel better and live life more fully.

11:00 AM

AN OVERVIEW OF THE AMERICAN LEGAL SYSTEM

Roy M. Sobelson, Professor Emeritus, Georgia State University College of Law. Member, SUGA

It is often said that one of America’s greatest attributes is its commitment to the “rule of law.” But what rules(s), and how is that commitment made a reality? As litigious as our society is, many Americans have only a rudimentary, even incorrect, understanding of the nature of our legal system and the structure and reach of some of our most common legal regimes. This course, taught by Professor Sobelson with contributions from several of his GSU Law colleagues, will explore the underpinnings of our legal system, and introduce SUGA members to select areas of law that govern our everyday lives.

11:00 AM

WHAT’S IN YOUR HEAD?

Tom Hawkins and Art Slavin, Hosts. Members of SUGA

Back for its twelfth season, the game combines the love of trivia, cultural literacy, and the memories of what we learned in school into a team sport. You will work within a randomly selected group of five or six, putting your heads together to come up with more correct

answers than the other teams. What you didn't know, you will learn. Having fun is more important than being smart, but winners do get applause.

THURSDAY ZOOM CLASSES (September 23 – November 18)

9:30 AM

THE PREDICTABLY IRRATIONAL CONSUMER

Shai Robkin, Behavioral Economics Educator, Social Entrepreneur, and Business Consultant

Why do we buy what we buy? How do we budget? What techniques do marketers employ to influence (some would say manipulate) our purchasing decisions? We'll explore answers to these and other questions from the perspective of groundbreaking behavioral economists.

11:00 AM – 12:30 pm (90 minutes)

REVISED HISTORY OF AMERICA - PART III

Sal DePasquale, MCJ (Criminal Justice), MBA

This is the final class in a 3-part series, but you don't need to have taken the previous classes to take this one. We will offer an overview of the previous two parts in the first session. This class starts with background to the American Revolution. Prohibitions against killing Indians and stealing their lands coupled with England's taking action against slavery were the key causes of this Revolution, not taxation without representation. Was it a revolution or secession? The industrial revolution coincided with the Louisiana Purchase creating opportunities for enormous wealth which was, and continues to be, the focal point of America, thereby drowning out ideas of freedom and justice. Railroads provided an essential infrastructure for business and, when threatened, led to a Civil War -- a war motivated by commerce, not moral considerations. After the war, slavery remained, but was renamed Jim Crow. Slavery was rebranded as the Confederacy lost the fight, but in many ways, won the war.

FRIDAY ZOOM CLASSES (Sept. 24-November 19)

9:30 AM

FREE YOUR MIND

Tracie Hawkins, Technology instructor for Lou Walker Senior Center, DeKalb County

“Free Your Mind” is a class designed to relax your mind while playing a computer game. Participants will use games like Microsoft Solitaire Collection and the Sudoku daily challenge applications. The computer games can help you make social connections with family and friends and others with common interests, provide mental stimulation and encourage mental exercise, and definitely deliver fun! Participants play several games each 1-hour sessions on their own devices with instructions and tips provided by instructor.

11:00 AM

STORIES FROM AMERICAN HISTORY

Brandt Ross, Storyteller and folk singer

These are stories from history not like we learned in grammar school! Hear about the amazing stories of the “Gamechangers” who changed our destiny as well as “Women of Valor” who made our country a better place. Stories include “The Barbary Coast and Stephen Decatur,” “Erie Canal,” “Four Women of Valor Whom We Hardly Know,” “The Greatest Cowboy,” and others. All programs include guitar and folk songs of the period.

FALL SUGA BOOK CLUB (ZOOM MEETINGS AT 2 PM)

Wed., Sept. 22: *Hell and other Destinations* by Madeline Albright

Wed., Nov. 17: *Chances Are...* by Richard Russo

INSTRUCTOR BIOS

SAL DEPASQUALE

After retiring from a career as a security analyst and consultant working on security and criminal justice issues, Sal engaged in volunteer programs with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Emory University and Kennesaw State University teaching classes on history. He was an adjunct instructor in Criminal Justice at Georgia State University and taught security terrorism classes under contract to Texas A&M University. He also testified before Congress post September 11 relative to the security of chemical plants. This is Sal’s third course at SUGA after first teaching in Winter 2021.

SANDI GOLDRING

Sandi Goldring, a physical therapist, specializes in helping people who are limited by pain, injury, and disability get back to their active lives. In his clinic and online classes, Sandi uses the Feldenkrais® Method as a non-medical, integrative approach to helping people bounce back from injury

and feel well. After working as a massage therapist in a physical therapy clinic, Sandi went on to earn a Master's degree in physical therapy from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. While in PT school, he discovered the full healing potential of Feldenkrais®, first by getting help with his own injury, and subsequently observing a stroke patient's astonishing improvement. By the time he graduated, he had already been accepted in a four-year professional Feldenkrais® training. Over the past twenty-five years, Sandi has worked across all age groups with many different conditions that interfere with living fully

TRACIE LEE HAWKINS

In addition to teaching technology and a variety of other courses at Dekalb County Senior Centers, Tracie Lee Hawkins is a painter and fiber artist. She creates fine art inspired by nature and historical events using oil, watercolor, acrylic paints, and textiles. Tracie studied fashion design in New York City where she was born and raised. After sewing for more than 30 years, Tracie returned to her first passion of oil painting. Tracie was rewarded with the opportunity through the Stone Mountain, Georgia Arts Incubator to open T Lee Art & Design, LLC an art gallery and studio where she taught art, displayed, and sold her original works. Tracie has spent the last 10 years as a gallery curator and technology instructor for the Lou Walker Senior Center.

BONNIE HOYT

Bonnie Hoyt holds a B.A. in English and Secondary Education and an M.A. in English Literature. She learned that “life is what happens when you're making other plans” when she taught high school English for only one year before discovering she didn't like teenagers in packs. She does, however, enjoy learning with and teaching adults. Bonnie will be teaching an 8-week course on John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*, which she first read some 50 years ago and still considers one of her very favorite books.

ROBERT KNOWLES, JR.

Bob Knowles is a retired Army reserve officer and a combat communication intelligence veteran of the Vietnam War. He also has been a writer, poet, editor, publicist, and news reporter. Trained as a private investigator, he also is a certified and experienced hospital security supervisor. Bob taught communication and rhetoric for 20 years at Georgia Perimeter College and Georgia State University. He is the author of one book, a memoir, two graduate works, and numerous magazine and newspaper articles. He holds Masters degrees in communication and professional writing from Georgia State and Kennesaw State universities. He is married and has three children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He and his wife, Jann, have lived in Stone Mountain, Ga. for 44 years, where they're now raising a pride of rescued cats.

SHAI ROBKIN

Shai (pronounced “Shy”) Robkin is a serial entrepreneur. Born and raised in Atlanta, he moved to Israel in 1976 immediately following his marriage to fellow Atlantan, Judy Birnbrey. After a career in international banking, Shai and Judy opened in 1981

Israel's first combination bookstore/coffee shop. They returned to Atlanta in 1984, using the proceeds from the sale of the Israeli store to acquire Vernon, a manufacturer and distributor of library supplies. Vernon's technology division was sold in 2011 to One Equity Partners, a division of JP Morgan. Shai has continued to direct Vernon's operations while engaging in outside business consulting and education. He has taught a variety of behavioral economics courses at SUGA since 2017.

BRANDT ROSS

Brandt has a BA from Marshall University and was Managing Partner at Corporate Finance Associates, Inc. of Southeast Atlanta, specializing in mergers and acquisitions. For 22 years, he held senior management positions becoming President and COO of Corbin, Ltd. He has served as a board member of the Third National Bank, The United Way, Family Services and several Chambers of Commerce. He was President of Marshall University Business School Advisory Board and helped found their internship program. His hobbies include 12-stringed guitar and folk music, history, genealogy, and baseball. He currently volunteers as a folksinger in retirement homes and as a financial arbitrator.

NORMAN SLAWSKY

Norman is a SUGA member and has presented classes on law, Atlanta authors, and climate change. He was a labor lawyer for 35 years. He has served as chair of the State Bar of Georgia and the Atlanta Bar Association Labor & Employment Law Sections, and the chair of GreenLaw, a nonprofit environmental law firm, and vice-chair of the Georgia Sierra Club. He is a treekeeper with Trees Atlanta. Norman has a BA in Economics from SUNY Binghamton, an MA in Mathematics from CUNY, and a JD from the University of Georgia. Prior to attending law school, he was a high school math teacher.

ROY M. SOBELSON, JR.

Roy M. Sobelson recently retired after serving 30+ years at Georgia State University College of Law as a professor, 10 years as Associate Dean, and 2 years as Director of the LL.M. program. His special areas of focus are legal ethics and malpractice, civil procedure, and litigation. Before teaching, he practiced law and served as managing attorney of the Georgia Legal Services office in Brunswick, Georgia.