The Continuing Studies Program

Dean and Associate Provost: Charles Junkerman

The Continuing Studies Program provides adult members of the surrounding communities the opportunity to take classes on a part-time basis for intellectual enrichment, both personal and professional. Courses and events are offered in all four academic quarters, with over 300 courses planned for the 2002-03 academic year.

The faculty are primarily drawn from the ranks of the University’s distinguished professoriate. The program presents a wide variety of courses, with a central concentration in the liberal arts, including literature, history, art and architecture, and music.

Tuition discounts are available to University employees and their spouses/domestic partners, Stanford students and their spouses/domestic partners, Stanford Alumni Association members, teachers (K-12), and those over age 65.

For a course catalogue, contact the Continuing Studies Program, Building 590, Room 103, Stanford, CA 94305; phone (650) 725-2650; fax (650) 725-4248; email continuingstudies@stanford.edu; or visit the web site at http://continuingstudies.stanford.edu.

The Continuing Studies Program also administers The Master of Liberal Arts Program, and Summer Session.

MASTER OF LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM

Associate Dean and Director: Linda Paulson

Participating Faculty: David Abernethy (Political Science), Clifford Barnett (Anthropology), Marc Bertrand (French, emeritus), Eavan Boland (English), John Brayman (Material Sciences and Engineering), Clayborn Carson (History), Wanda Corn, (Art and Art History), George Dekker (English), Carol Delaney (Anthropology), Gerry Dorfman (Hoover Institute and Political Science), Arnold Eisen (Religious Studies), Martin Evans (English), Anne Fernald (Psychology), Paula Findlen (History), Luis Fraga (Political Science), John Freccero (French and Italian), Larry Friedlander (English), Hester Gelber (Religious Studies), Albert Gelpi (English), Barbara Gelpi (English), Monika Greenleaf (Slavic Languages), Robert Gregg (Religious Studies), Van Harvey (Religious Studies), Stephen Hinton (Music), Charles Junkerman (Continuing Studies Program), Nancy Kollmann (History), Marsh McCall (Classics), Robert McGinn (Management Science and Engineering, and Science, Technology, and Society), Mark Mancall (History), Joseph Manning (Classics), Diane Middlebrook (English), Thomas Moser (English), David Palumbo-Liu (Comparative Literature), Linda Paulson (English), Dennis Phillips (Education, and, by courtesy, Philosophy), Jack Rakove (History), Ronald Rebholz (English), John Rick (Anthropological Sciences), John Richford (Linguistics), Paul Robinson (History), Ramón Saldívar (English), Paul Seaver (History), Robert Siegel (Microbiology and Immunology), Thomas Wasow (Linguistics), Lee yearley (Religious Studies), Ernle Young (Center for Biomedical Ethics), Steven Zipperstein (History).

Program Description—The Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) Program aims to provide a flexible, interdisciplinary program for returning adult students who seek a broad education in the liberal arts. The underlying premise of the MLA program is that knowledge gained through an interdisciplinary course of study leads to intellectual independence and satisfaction not always found in discipline-based programs of study. The goals of the MLA program are to develop advanced critical thinking, to foster intellectual range and flexibility, and to cultivate an individual’s ability to find the connections among different areas of human thought: art, history, literature, music, philosophy, political science, science, and theology.

The program is designed with part-time students in mind: seminars meet in the evening, and students complete the degree in 4-5 years. All master’s seminars are taught by members of the Stanford faculty. Class size is limited to 20 students.

Degree Requirements—Candidates for the MLA degree must complete a minimum of 50 units of course work. These units must include a two quarter foundation course (equal to 4 units total), two 5-unit core seminars for entering students, at least seven 4-unit MLA seminars, and a 4-unit master’s thesis. The remaining 4 units of required courses may be fulfilled by additional MLA seminars or by relevant Continuing Studies Program course offerings. Students must also fulfill distribution requirements by taking at least 2 units of credit in each of the following areas: humanities; social science or social policy; and science, engineering, or medicine.

Foundation Course—Students who are admitted to the MLA Program in early March begin their program of study almost immediately. During the spring and autumn immediately following admission to the program, there is a 2-quarter foundation course required of all students. The purpose of this course is to lay the groundwork for the interdisciplinary, intercultural studies the student will shortly undertake. The foundation course will introduce students to the broad framework of history, literature, philosophy, political science, and art.

Core Seminars—The first core seminar, required of entering students after completion of the foundations sequence, aims to prepare students for interdisciplinary graduate work at Stanford. Students concentrate on writing a critical graduate paper, conducting library research, presenting the results of their research, and productively participating in a collaborative seminar. This course is required of entering students in the Winter Quarter of their first full academic year.

The second core seminar, required of entering students after completion of the first core seminar, explores the history of literary criticism from classical times to the present, while at the same time focusing on such fundamental issues as the nature and formation of the canon; the validity of critical interpretation; and the relationship between literature, philosophy, and history. This course is required of entering students in the Spring Quarter of their first full academic year.

MLA Seminars—To maintain minimum progress toward the degree, students should complete at least two of the required seven seminars per year. Each year, at least nine seminars are offered in the MLA program. Each MLA course requires a substantial seminar paper. Students are encouraged to use these papers as a way to investigate new fields of interest, as well as a way to develop different perspectives on issues in which they have an ongoing interest.

Master’s Thesis—The MLA program culminates in the master’s thesis. Students approaching the end of the program write a thesis, approximately 75-100 pages in length, that evolves out of work they have pursued during their MLA studies. The thesis is undertaken with the prior approval of the MLA program, and under the supervision of a Stanford faculty member. During the process of writing the thesis, students are members of a work-in-progress group, which meets regularly to provide peer critiques, motivation, and advice. Each student presents the penultimate draft of the thesis to a colloquium of MLA faculty and students, in preparation for reviewing and submitting the final draft to the adviser and to the MLA Program. Additional information can be obtained from the Master of Liberal Arts Program, Building 590, Room 103, Stanford, CA 94305; phone (650) 725-0061; fax (650) 725-4248.

COURSES

1A. Foundations—Required for incoming MLA students.
   2 units Spr (Steidle)

1B. Foundations—Required for first-year MLA students.
   2 units, Aut (Steidle)
48. Euripides
   4 units, Aut (McCall)

91. Diversity and Unity in the American Republic
   4 units, Aut (Fraga)

92. Caribbean English Poetry
   4 units, Aut (Rickford)

93. Italy and the Anglo-American Imagination
   4 units, Win (Evans)

94. Women, Marriage, and Family in Early Modern Europe
   4 units, Win (Kollmann)

95. Natural Supernaturalism
   4 units, Spr (Junkerman)

96. Ethics, Science, and Technology: Issues and Controversies
   4 units, Spr (McGinn)

97. Memory, Myth, and History in Ancient Egypt
   4 units, Sun (Manning)

98. Shakespeare in Performance V
   4 units, Sun (Friedlander)

102. The Plague: An Introduction to Interdisciplinary Graduate Study—Required for first-year MLA students only.
     5 units, Win (Paulson)

106. Critical Aesthetics: Thinking, Seeing, Feeling the Beautiful—Required for first-year MLA students only.
     5 units, Spr (Saldívar)

SUMMER SESSION

Summer Administrative Manager: Rafael Ulate
Marketing and Web Coordinator: Barbara Arroyo Cabbab
Student Services Specialist: Nathan Martell
Program Assistant: Dan Piro
Program Assistant: Shawnee Delaney

Students attending Stanford Summer Session are enrolled in either a
Regular Degree Program or the Summer Visitor Program.

The Regular Degree Program is for students who are candidates for a
Stanford degree and who are continuing their academic work in the Sum-
mer Quarter. Degree-seeking Stanford students should indicate on Axess
during Spring Quarter their intention to register for the Summer Quar-
ter. Separate application is not required.

The Summer Visitor Program is for students who are not presently
candidates for a Stanford degree. It is open to persons 18 years or older,
and qualified high school students who have completed at least their
sophomore year. High school students may attend only after they have
been admitted to either the Summer College for High School Students
or Stanford Discovery Institutes programs.

Students in the Summer Visitor Program enjoy all the privileges of
students in the Regular Degree Program except that work completed
cannot be applied toward a Stanford degree or credential until the stu-
dent has been admitted to regular standing. Admission as a summer vis-
itor does not imply later admission to matriculated status. However,
should the visitor matriculate at a later date through normal admission
procedures, the summer work may, in most cases, be applied toward the
requirements for a Stanford degree or credential.

For more information, or to request a catalogue, call (650) 723-3109;
email summersession@stanford.edu; fax (650) 725-6080; or write to the
Summer Session Office, Building 590, Room 103, Stanford, CA 94305-
3005. Publications are updated annually in February and can also be found
online at http://summersession.stanford.edu.