POLIS
Pursuit Of Learning In Society

The PATTER
Spring 2020

Registration: Wednesday, January 15, 2020
2:00 - 4:00 PM, Quincy University’s North Campus,
18th & Seminary Road
Registration: Conference Room in Lobby of Main Entrance
Handicap Accessible
228-5594
polis@quincy.edu
Dear POLIS Member,

Welcome back to another semester at Quincy University. We hope your holidays were filled with joy and peace and that 2020 began well. We hope for winter and spring to be kind to us and our region.

We have again designed a set of offerings which promises to interest and intrigue. We will be welcoming five new presenters: Susan Asher, Dr. Dinita Cooley, Dr. Siobhan Doucette, Dr. Dave Lockhart, and Dr. Meenal Mamdani. You will note that many of our presenters are familiar to you. Mike Flanagan is returning to talk about his work on The Mississippi River and other rivers, preparatory to the spring bus tour. Plans are underway for a trip to the Missouri History Museum in St. Louis and lunch at a restaurant on The Hill. The special exhibit at the museum is “The Mighty Mississippi.” Larry Ruemmler will be supplying you with more details about the trip.

Most of our courses, except some on Fridays, will be held in the North Cafeteria, a space we share with QU's Retreat Center. Some of our Friday courses will be held in A 323, the tiered classroom named in memory of Frank Strieby.

POLIS board members continue to serve in various ways: registering members, over seeing our finances, promoting POLIS in our community, selecting courses and presenters, producing the POLIS PATTER, acting as facilitators, offering hospitality, pitching in whenever needed. We are also welcoming a new board member: Mary Ann Freeman. Special thanks to Sue Archambo for searching out a delightful selection of cookies and keeping our pantry full.

We are appreciative of the work of our new office assistant, Kathy Baker. We are also grateful to QU’s Pasha Yates, Miriam Hermann, and Matt Bergman from QU’s Alumni and Advancement Office who maintain our mailing list, manage our site on the QU web page, and this semester arrange for the publication and mailing of The PATTER. We are also grateful for the support of QU’s IT staff and the Security Office.

We are very encouraged by the increase in new members. You are our best recruiters. We urge you to invite those you know to join POLIS. A reminder: we welcome as your guests those who have never attended a course. They may attend one course for free and sample POLIS. Please note that if they wish to attend more courses, they are expected to become members of POLIS. We will add them to our mailing list as well.

Please save the date for our Annual Meeting and Social on May 1st. Looking forward to seeing you in the new year!

Dr. Mary Ann Klein, Emerita Professor of English
President, Director
POLIS (Pursuit of Learning in Society)
Quincy University POLIS Scholarship

POLIS sustains an endowed scholarship for Quincy University students and has contributed $57,045 to date. Personal donations and memorials to the scholarship are welcome.

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

• POLIS is an opportunity for lifelong learning for seniors, 55+ years.

• There are two semesters each year requiring a membership fee of $15 per semester.

• Choose from 15 or more classes each semester. Classes are $4 each.

• Classes are casual in lecture format with no tests, plus cookies and coffee at break.

• Cancellations do occur due to inclement weather. Call the office at 217-228-5594 to hear cancellation messages.

• Attend a one time only class for free to see if POLIS is for you. Walk in. Sit down and enjoy.

• Information: Call 217-228-5594, email: polis@quincy.edu, online- www.quincy.edu/academic/polis

Coming Attraction:

Thursday, September 17, 2020
Visit the new Kirkwood theater, Stages St. Louis, for an enjoyable matinee production of “Always Patsy Cline”. Two professional actresses portray Patsy Cline and a fan she met on tour. The show features drama, comedy, and 23 of Patsy Cline’s memorable songs!

Inclusive price: ticket plus lunch: $100 for members; $115 for non-members

POLIS will need commitments and payments at the Fall 2020 Registration. Larry Ruemmler will provide more information.

Parking

Parking Lot L is a small lot, but close to the classroom in the North Cafeteria. Enter Lot L from Seminary Road. Additional handicap parking is in the front circle drive. General parking is available on the north side lot.

North Campus is HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THIS SEMESTER

Quincy University POLIS Scholarship
January 29
The Presidential Difference: Leadership Style from FDR to Barack Obama
Wednesday (one day) Fee: $4

A non-partisan, multi-media overview of the work of Fred Greenstein who surveys each president’s political skill, vision, cognitive style, organizational capacity, ability to communicate, and emotional intelligence—and argues that the last is the most important in predicting presidential success. Greenstein offers a series of bottom-line judgments on each of his thirteen subjects as well as an overarching theory of why presidents succeed or fail.

Lecturer: Dr. John C. Schafer, Ph. D. CPA: Professor of Business at Hannibal-La Grange University from 1987 until retirement in 2016.

January 31
Polygamy in America
Friday (one day) Fee: $4

This course is about polygamy in the United States as practiced by the Fundamentalist Mormons (FLDS) and other Fundamentalist splinter groups. It will examine the legal, social, and financial implications of these religious groups and how the Federal Government has historically intervened to address these practices. It will examine the history of the FLDS, the rise to power of Warren Jeffs, and his subsequent trial and incarceration.

Lecturer: Judith Abbott, J. D.
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, Quincy University

February 5
A SPECStacular way for PUPILS to REAL EYES current diagnosis and treatment options for common eye conditions.
Wednesday (one day) Fee: $4

Topics will include cutting-edge diagnosis and treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma, Macular Degeneration, and Cataracts/Cataract Surgery.

Lecturer: Dr. Dinita Cooley, O.D.
Graduated from Quincy University in 2007. Doctor of Optometry from University of Missouri—St. Louis. Participated in residency program at the Kansas City VA Medical Center, focusing on Ocular Disease and Low Vision Rehabilitation. Currently working at SPECS in Quincy.

February 12
Andrew Wyeth and Family: A Proud Family Tradition of American Art.
Wednesday (one day) Fee: $4

“An exploration of the American tradition of watercolor and illustrative painting by the Wyeth Family: N. C., Andrew and Jamie. An extraordinary family of talent, artistic genius and a strongly traditional and contemplatively beautiful art.”

Lecturer: Carol Nichols
Taught Fine Arts and Humanities at John Wood Community College and Culver-Stockton College. Certified Iyengar Yoga instructor; advanced calligrapher and water color artist.
February 18
Adventures of a Citizen-Scientist with Earthwatch Institute.
Tuesday (one day) Fee: $4

The course will present the mission and history of the Earthwatch Institute. Earthwatch volunteers (citizen-scientists) participate in the field on one of the following areas of study: wildlife and ecosystems; ocean health; climate change; archaeology and culture. The field studies, called expeditions, are worldwide and are a week or two weeks long. The instructor will discuss how the field studies/expeditions are set up, research objectives of the studies, life in the field, and any results or finds.

The instructor has been on five archaeological studies (England, Peru, Thailand, Italy, and Portugal), two animal studies (South Africa and Australia) and two ecosystem/climate change studies (Easter Island and India).


February 21
Elvis Presley: The Making of a Music Icon
Friday (one day) Fee: $4

Who was the man that became The King of Rock and Roll? This course will take a look at Elvis Presley’s life, career, and music.

Lecturer: Dr. Christine Damm, DMA; Assistant Professor of Music, Quincy University
Dr. Damm serves as the Director of the QU Hawk Express Jazz Band. She is the principal clarinetist with the Quincy Symphony Orchestra and maintains a private woodwind studio.

February 27
1960: A Retrospective
Thursday (one day) Fee: $4

The United States in 1960 was a nation on the brink of transformation. This session will cover the key events that took place in the first year of what would be the most turbulent decade in America since the Civil War. The U2 Crisis, the Kennedy-Nixon debates, and other historical episodes will be discussed and analyzed in order to show how they shaped the rest of the 1960s.

Lecturer: Dr. Justin P. Coffey, Ph. D. Professor of History, Quincy University
Dr. Coffey specializes in American political history and is the author of Spiro Agnew and the Rise of the Republican Right. He is currently working on a biography of Richard M. Nixon.

February 28 and March 6
Prometheus at Mont Blanc: A Study of Percy Bysshe Shelley
Friday (two days) Fee: $8

In this two-session course, we will examine the radicalism of Percy Bysshe Shelley, whose subversive poetry scandalized readers on both sides of the Atlantic. By studying his verse and drama, we will also explore what Shelley’s work has to tell us 200 years after the publication of Prometheus Unbound.

Lecturer: Dr. Michael Keller, Ph. D. Assistant Professor of English, Quincy University

2020 is the 30th Anniversary of the Founding of POLIS
March 3

**21st Century Genetics**
Tuesday (one day) Fee: $4

This course will introduce students to DNA editing techniques that will change the face of genetic research and the world of medicine. Topics will include an overview of cell biology, DNA, the structure of a gene, the genetic basis of disease, and how CRISPR is used to manipulate DNA genetic research and its potential applications in medicine. The ethical implications of altering genomes will be introduced.

**Lecturer: Dr. Lee Enger, Ph. D.**
Associate Professor of Biochemistry, Quincy University Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs and Director of Academic Advising

March 19 and 26

**The Peculiar Institution Part II: The Fall of American Slavery**
Thursday (two days) Fee: $8

This two-part course asks students to examine the end of race-based slavery in the United States, one of the most important developments of the 19th century. By examining the role of the abolitionist movement, the importance of runaway slaves, the contribution of Abraham Lincoln, and the critical actions of white and black soldiers, we will complicate and clarify one of the quintessential American questions: Who Freed the Slaves?

**Lecturer: Dr. Scott E. Giltner, Ph. D.**
Professor of History and Chair of the Division of Applied Liberal Arts and Sciences, Culver-Stockton College. By training an environmental historian interested in the intersection of race, and subsistence, particularly in post-emancipation societies. Author of Hunting and Fishing in the New South: Black Labor and White Leisure After the Civil War. Member and president of Association of Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. Currently working on a new book on race relations in Northeast Missouri during and after Reconstruction.

March 20

**Constitutionalization of Criminal Procedure/Incorporation Doctrine**
Friday (one day) Fee: $4

This course will provide the following: general background of the operations of criminal procedures in a federal republic; discussion of the Bill of Rights application before the 14th Amendment; applicability of the Bill of Rights to states after the passage of the 14th Amendment; the Due Process Clause and incorporation (absorption) under the Due Process Clause and the various theories used to apply the provision of the Bill of Rights to the states. Discussion of significant cases in this area.

**Lecturer: Jim Palmer, J. D.**
A practicing attorney who handles, among other matters, Constitutional Law issues, governmental affairs, Civil Liberties litigation (primarily as defense counsel). Adjunct faculty member at Quincy University, teaching among other courses, Constitutional Law, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties

POLIS honors the memory of
Dr. Merle Crossland
Board Member and Past President
RIP October 2019
March 25  
Roles of Women During the American Civil War  
Wednesday (one day) Fee: $4

This course will discuss women whose names many are familiar with such as nurse Clara Barton, novelist Harriet Beecher Stowe, spy Belle Boyd, and Underground Railroad conductor Harriet Tubman. It will also discuss women less familiar but equally interesting such as Dr. Mary Walker, the first woman to receive the Medal of Honor; “Crazy Betty” van Lew, a spy for the North; Galesburg’s Mary Ann Bickerdyke; Quincy’s Louisa Mertz; Jenny Hodgers. The very prominent, Julia Dent Grant, wife of U. S. Grant will also be highlighted. This course will also discuss societal changes that resulted from the war and the ways in which these have affected American women into the 21st century.

Lecturer: Beth Young, retired educator who taught forty-seven years at Quincy Senior High School, John Wood Community College, and Quincy University. Involved in the Civil War Round Table

March 27 and April 3  
Murder or Suicide? The collapse of democracy in the German Weimar Republic and the rise of Adolf Hitler  
Friday (two days) Fee: $8

This course will offer some insights into the issue of the current global stress on democracy by exploring what happened in Germany after World War I and how the rise of Nazism and Hitler affected or influenced it.

Lecturer: Dr. Wendell Mauter, Ph. D., Emeritus Professor of History, Quincy University

March 31  
Conversations regarding Advanced Directives in the Elderly  
Tuesday (one day): Fee $4

Everyone wants to die at peace, yet people are not dying the way they would want. 75% of those polled state that they would prefer to die at home, surrounded by loved ones, yet statistics show that 72% of deaths occur in hospitals. This session will explore some of the solutions to that, including Advanced Directives (Living Wills), Health Care POAs, and the Conversation Project.

Lecturer: Dr. David Lockhart, M.D.: Retired from a 40-year career as a family physician in Quincy, IL, including 30 years as a certified Geriatrician and 22 years as medical director of the Blessing Hospice. He will share his perspectives on Geriatric Care, especially at the end of life.

April 1 and 8  
Life on the Mississippi—and a few others  
Wednesday (two days); Fee $8

Nearly fifty years ago, I began working on the Mississippi River. I got a job as a deckhand on a River Towboat, pushing barges up and down the rivers. Though I’ve been retired now for fifteen years, I still remember some of the things that I learned during the thirty-five years that I pursued that occupation. During these few hours, we will survey the rivers of the world. We will think about what purposes rivers serve, both to make this earth inhabitable and as features of civilization. (Think how rivers have often served as characters in the history of the world.) Then we will pick on the Mississippi River Basin and all the rivers that feed it as it flows toward the Gulf of Mexico. We will find history here, too. Early on, when white skinned people first invaded North America, the Mississippi River Basin became their first “interstate” avenue of transit and commerce. We will find time to survey the current technology which enables the most efficient means of transporting huge tonnages of cargos that has yet been devised. Lastly, we will try to get a feel for the way that
life is lived by those persons who make a living tending to the needs (quoting John Hartford) of those “Towboats pushin’ them barges, on a long hot summer day.”

**Lecturer: Mike Flanagan**


- B. S. in Transportation, Culver-Stockton College, 1983
- B. A. in Philosophy and Religion, Culver-Stockton College, 1993

**April 7 and 14**

**Caste in India: From origins to the present**

Tuesday (two days): Fee: $8

Caste is unique to Hindus in India. It is first mentioned in the Rig Veda around 1500 BC. Caste is a hierarchical system that dictates social customs such as marriage, adoption, occupation, education, etc. It is a self-limiting group such that one can only be born into it. While caste restrictions were more rigid in the past, even the less restrictive version that continues to the present day exerts enormous influence on politics, education, social mobility and marriage. Other religions too in India like Christianity or Islam have adopted caste distinctions. Caste restrictions exist even among Indians who have immigrated to USA and to a lesser extent in second generation Americans of Indian origin. The course will describe the different caste systems and their customs, what DNA evidence suggests about the origin of this system, the efforts to reform the worst aspects and how it continues to exert a major role in modern India.

**Lecturer: Dr. Meenal Mamdani, M. D.**

is a neurologist who migrated to USA in 1972 along with her husband, Bashir Mamdani, a nephrologist. After practicing in the Chicago area for 30+ years, they retired to Quincy to be near their son and his family. Meenal spends winters in Mumbai where she has extended family and friends.

**April 15**

“Mighty Mississippi” Exhibit at Missouri History Museum and Favazza’s Restaurant “On the Hill” in St. Louis

Wednesday (one day) Fee: $60 per person for members, $75 per person for a non-member

Enjoy a spring adventure via a guided tour of the “Mighty Mississippi,” a new exhibit at the Missouri History Museum. There will also be time for you to visit the permanent exhibits and gift shop. Start with lunch at Favazza’s patio savoring some of the finest Italian food in St. Louis. All inclusive cost is $60 for members; $75 for non-members. We will depart from the north parking lot of QU’s North Campus at 9 a.m. and return at 6:30 p.m.

**Organizer: Larry Ruemmler**

**April 21 and 28**

**Ukraine and the Struggle for Freedom**

Tuesday (two days) Fee: $8

This course will provide a glimpse into the history of a country which has been much in the news of late but which is often overlooked in European history survey courses. Historically, Ukraine’s fertile lands have attracted diverse peoples; Viking warriors, Christian missionaries, Cossack fighters, Jewish traders and Polish farmers have all called Ukraine home. The modern history of Ukraine has been overshadowed by foreign domination. In 1991, with the overthrow of the Soviet Union, Ukrainian independence was achieved and yet this independence has been tarnished by corruption, foreign interference, and war. Join us for this two-part course, as we episodically discuss Ukraine’s rich history.

**Siobhan Doucette** is Assistant Professor of History at Quincy University. She earned her PhD in History from Georgetown University. Her research and publications focus on East Central Europe and Civil Resistance. She is the author of Books are Weapons: The Polish Opposition Press and the Overthrow of Communism.
April 23
A Few Good Women
(but first, a few bad ones)
Thursday (one day) $4

This course will highlight the careers of three infamous women who perpetrated corporate fraud, followed by a discussion of the careers of three famous whistle blowers. The infamous include Peggy Curtin of St. John’s Children Hospital, Springfield, IL; Rita Crudwell of Dixon, IL; Elizabeth Holmes of Theranos. The famous whistle blowers include Alayne Fleischmann of JP Morgan Chase, Sharron Watkins of Enron, and Cynthia Cooper of World Com.

Lecturer: Vicky Eidson, Associate Professor of Accounting, Quincy University. Teaching at QU since 2005. She is also a registered Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Management Accountant.

May 1
POLIS Annual Meeting and End of the Year Party
Friday, No Fee

Please join us for refreshments as we celebrate another year. The annual meeting and end of the year party will be in the North Campus Cafeteria and begins at 2:00 p.m.
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## POLIS 2020 Spring Course Calendar

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### May

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