EXPLORE UALBANY
BEGIN YOUR UALBANY ACADEMIC JOURNEY!

August 27, 2016
1:30 pm – 3 pm, Lecture Centers

GREAT BEGINNINGS

DANE

THE WORLD WITHIN REACH

UALBANY
State University of New York
EXPLORE UALBANY

Use this worksheet to prepare for your journey!

Explore UAlbany is your opportunity to discover a new topic that interests you— it does not have to be related to your intended major!

From the following 10 sessions listed below, pick the 3 Explore UAlbany Sessions that interest you the most. Fill in the box below with your picks.

1. Why Bigfoot Isn’t Real: Fundamentals of Skepticism page 3
3. “Picturing” the Future page 3
4. Double-Tap for Future page 4
5. The Death Penalty in the United States: Cruel and Unusual? page 4
6. Is Race Real? page 4
7. Why is tourism a dirty word?! page 5
8. Who Kills and Who Kills a Lot page 5
9. Dude, Where’s My Cell Phone: Memories from the Ordinary to the Extra-ordinary page 5
10. Welcome to your Brain page 6

Fill out your Top 3

Explore UAlbany Sessions

*You will only be able to attend 1 session but they fill up quickly! Have a 2nd and 3rd choice ready just in case.

1.
2.
3.
**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**WHY BIGFOOT ISN’T REAL: FUNDAMENTALS OF SKEPTICISM**  
Sean Rafferty, Ph.D.  
Lecture Center 25  
In this lecture Professor Rafferty discusses how easy it is to be fooled, why people believe strange or impossible things, and how we can learn to be better consumers of knowledge.

**APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING**

**YOU AIN’T SEEN NOTHING YET: HOW CHEAP ROBOTS, CAMERAS, AND COMPUTERS ARE RADICALLY CHANGING OUR LIVES**  
George Berg, Ph.D.  
Jonathan Muckell, Ph.D.  
Lecture Center 21  
Many people think that personal computers linked together via the internet have changed the world. The real changes have barely started. Digital electronics have become increasingly small and inexpensive. This is leading to the use of cameras and sensors in ways that would have been impossible just a few years ago. We are starting to see practical robotic vehicles that can explore land, sea and air. In addition, inexpensive computing power and the ability to store truly amazing amounts of data mean that the data gathered by these devices, as well as just about anything else known about us, can be analyzed and scrutinized. We’ll look at several aspects of this. What are the technologies underlying these changes? What is driving the use of these systems? What are the implications for our safety and privacy?

**ART**

**“PICTURING” THE FUTURE**  
Danny Goodwin, M.F.A.  
Lecture Center 20  
Through art and photography, we view the past, perceive the present, and imagine the future. In this talk, we look beneath the chaos of our day-to-day lives and envision a fragile, complicated place where visual art helps us unravel and accept the reality of a world that we simultaneously inhabit and create. So, if artists are informed by their culture (they are) and if art also shapes culture (it does), and if ours is a civilization in decline (it is), what does the art of today’s world tell us about ourselves and our world? Together, we’ll look at the work of a group of contemporary artists who are providing possible answers.
BUSINESS/MARKETING

DOUBLE-TAP FOR FUTURE
Suraj Commuri, Ph.D.
Lecture Center 6
As the next generation of consumers is growing up relying on smartphones and social networks, marketing has rapidly evolved to make room. Today's marketing-on-demand bears little resemblance to anything we have seen before. Learn in this lecture what marketing is in the age of social media and smartphones and why the recipe for success is not a lot of money, but a simple idea.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE UNITED STATES: CRUEL AND UNUSUAL?
James Acker, JD, Ph.D.
Lecture Center 23
Capital punishment has been a part of the American criminal justice system throughout the country’s history. It has long been a contentious legal and policy issue, as well. In 1972, the Supreme Court ruled the death penalty unconstitutional as it was then administered, although the Court did an about-face and approved revised capital sentencing procedures four years later. Since then, much has been learned about death penalty practices and dramatic changes have taken place in its use. While many Americans continue to support the death penalty, calls increasingly have been made for its abolition and for the Supreme Court to reconsider its constitutionality. We will examine these controversial issues and trends concerning the death penalty in the United States, assisted by reference to UAlbany’s National Death Penalty Archive, which is home to one of the country’s largest and most comprehensive collections of capital punishment materials.

HISTORY

IS RACE REAL?
Richard Fogarty, Ph.D.
Lecture Center 1
Of course it is! What a silly question. It’s as simple as black and white. Or is it? Like many subjects we think we know a lot about, we’ll find that the reality is far more complex and interesting than we often assume. Using examples and research from a wide variety of fields of study, we’ll see that the “reality” of race—what it means in different times, places, and contexts—is far more subject to change, variety, and debate than many people think. By examining diverse ideas about race and the different forms racism has taken in different cultures, both in the past and today, we’ll see that “black and white” is only part of the story. This lecture is just one example of how your college education will take you deeper into everyday problems, broadening your horizons and challenging you to think in new ways.
Session Descriptions

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN, AND US LATINO STUDIES

WHY IS TOURISM A DIRTY WORD?!
TOURISM, EXCESS, AND INEQUALITY IN CARIBBEAN PARADISE
Christine Vassallo-Oby, Ph.D.

Lecture Center 4

Have you ever gone on vacation and thought to yourself, maybe relaxing on a beach while taking in the sun’s rays, “I wonder where the heck I am?!” Who are these people waiting on me, serving me drinks, and cleaning my room?!” Looking beyond the hotel lobby, resort’s gates, or off the cruise ship itself can be at once a stark reminder of global inequality but also an opportunity to change the way we conceptualize the idea of “tourist” versus “traveler.” In an age of Instagram, SnapChat, and YouTube, how we portray what we see into a set of images, especially as tourists to the Global South, is increasingly important to our own cultural capital and self-worth as both a society and as individuals. Framing popular tourism theory in an accessible way is our key to understanding our own role as global citizens, curious human beings part of a globalized reality, and, yes— as tourists! This lecture will introduce you to the intersections of race, identity, history, and popular culture and hopefully challenge you to think about your position as a consumer of commodified experience and culture in new ways!

POLITICAL SCIENCE

WHO KILLS AND WHO KILLS A LOT
Victor Asal, Ph.D.

Lecture Center 18

Why do some organizations kill people while others do not? Why are some organizations so much more lethal than others? The majority of terrorist organizations kill no one while some organizations kill thousands. How does organizational structure, organizational ideology and government behavior towards organizations impact these decisions? Using data collected by undergraduates at UAlbany, professors at Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy have analyzed organizational and state level factors to try and answer these questions- and some of the answers may surprise you.

PSYCHOLOGY

DUDE, WHERE’S MY CELL PHONE:
MEMORIES FROM THE ORDINARY TO THE EXTRA-ORDINARY
Jeanette Altarriba, Ph.D.

Lecture Center 2

Have you ever misplaced your keys, forgotten someone’s name, or struggled to recall what you did last night? The phenomenon of memory reconstruction and the development of false memories and beliefs is a “hot topic” in cognitive and memory research. But just how can we demonstrate the existence of such memories? And, when we do forget, what are some techniques to try to remember? Learn about what the research tells us regarding false memories, their impact in your decision making, and what to do to decrease their prevalence.

The raffle is sponsored by SEFCU
PSYCHOLOGY

WELCOME TO YOUR BRAIN
Christine Wagner, Ph.D.
Lecture Center 24

You use your brain 24/7… all day, every day. Did you ever wonder what's really going on in there? We take for granted how this amazing “stuff” in our heads mediates everything we do… from basics like sleeping and eating to how we perceive our environment, feel emotion and learn something new. What happens in the brain when things go awry in disorders like depression, schizophrenia, drug addiction? By exploring how the brain functions, we'll discuss what neuroscientists know about how the brain controls behavior. We will also see just how much we have yet to learn about this remarkable “stuff” that allows us to do what we do.
Join us this Fall for a series of programs developed specifically to introduce you to important resources YOU NEED for a successful transition to UAlbany life!

All sessions are held in LC 1 on Fridays from 2:45pm – 4pm

**SEPTEMBER 9TH:** SEXUAL HEALTH AND DISCOVERING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS
College means more choices about everything. Join us and learn about making good decisions about safe sex and what makes for a healthy relationship.

**SEPTEMBER 16TH:** APPLIED LEARNING 1: TAKE WHAT YOU LEARN IN CLASS AND APPLY VIA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Come find out about applied learning, how to apply for internships and why getting involved in undergraduate research will enhance your education, and your resume!

**SEPTEMBER 23RD:** APPLIED LEARNING 2: TAKE WHAT YOU LEARN IN CLASSES AND APPLY VIA STUDYING OR INTERNING ABROAD AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Plan ahead and you can travel during your UAlbany career! Or start your own business with the help of the Blackstone LaunchPad entrepreneurs!

**OCTOBER 7TH:** FEELING LOST IN CLASS: WHERE TO GO FOR ACADEMIC HELP
Midterms are almost here, are you in need of a tutor? Want to join a review session for that tough class? Come find out where there is help available around campus and learn some tips that will help make you academically successful.

**OCTOBER 14TH:** APPLIED LEARNING 3: INCORPORATING COMMUNITY SERVICE AND PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION INTO CLASSES AND CREDITS
Community service is often expected on your resume. Join us to learn what options are available on and off campus. Did you know you can earn credit by serving the campus through peer education? Learn more about this exciting opportunity and how to get the most from peer educators in your classes.

*(SEE BACK PAGE FOR MORE PROGRAMS!)*

At each session, one student will win a $50 gift card. Our thanks to SEFCU for their sponsorship.
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OCTOBER 21ST: SO MUCH TO DO, SO LITTLE TIME TO DO IT.
Time is managed differently in college. You have more work to do and more time to control but time isn’t really “free”. Learn the time management tips successful college students use every day to make the most of their experience.

OCTOBER 28TH: WHAT CAN THE LIBRARIES DO FOR YOU? JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING!
Whether you need a place to study, somewhere to hold a team meeting, help with a research project, short term use of a laptop or camera, or a place to unwind with therapy dogs, at this session, you will discover that the library is more than just a place to take out a book!

NOVEMBER 4TH: EXPLORE ALL THE CITY OF ALBANY HAS TO OFFER!
Did you know that Albany is one of the oldest cities in the country? That we have a wonderful arts and theatre scene? That nearby is a park that is nearly 3 times bigger than Yellowstone? That local businesses are always looking to hire UAlbany students and grads? Come learn about all that the city of Albany and the Capital Region have to offer!

NOVEMBER 11TH: HELP! FINALS ARE COMING.
While some stress is good, being “stressed out” doesn’t help you do well on your finals. Come to this session and learn techniques that will leave you refreshed and ready to handle your first set of final exams.

NOVEMBER 18TH: WAYS TO KEEP YOUR WALLET FULL
Many students get overwhelmed by debt in college. Make sure you understand your UAlbany tuition bills and how college loans work. Come find out how to avoid common financial mistakes and learn ways you can manage your money.

Fall Fridays thanks -UAS- and SEFCU for their generous support