Win $100 toward your textbooks
at the UAlbany Bookstore!

Winners will be announced at the end of EACH Explore UAlbany Session

The raffle is sponsored by SEFCU

Already bought your textbooks at the UAlbany Bookstore? The Bookstore will issue a refund or you can apply your prize toward your spring semester’s textbooks.

Fridays at the Student Success Center

Join us every Friday at the UAlbany Student Success Center from 1—3 PM for a series of programs designed to help you transition to life at UAlbany.

The Student Success Center is located on the 2nd floor of Whitman Hall on State Quad.

Refreshments will be served and prizes will be raffled off at each session!

Special Thank You to SEFCU for Sponsoring Explore UAlbany!
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. Is There a “There” There? Photographic Reality in the Eye of the Beholder page 4
4. Regenerating Organs: Reality or Pipe Dream page 4
5. Double-Tap for Future page 5
6. The Law and U: Life Lessons That Will Make You a Better College Student page 5
7. The Death Penalty in the United States: Cruel and Unusual? page 5
8. Dude, Where’s My Cell Phone: Memories from the Ordinary to the Extra-ordinary page 6
10. Is Race Real? page 7

Fill out your Top 3 Explore UAlbany Sessions
*You will only be able to attend 1 but it may get full

HISTORY

IS RACE REAL?
Richard Fogarty, Ph.D.
Lecture Center 7

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. 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.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

WHO KILLS AND WHO KILLS A LOT?
Victor Asal, Ph.D.
Lecture Center 1

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.
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 American systems of criminal justice 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.

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.

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.

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**

**IS THERE A “THERE” THERE? PHOTOGRAPHIC REALITY IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER**

*Danny Goodwin, M.F.A.*
Lecture Center 20

What does the photographer see when staging a photo? What does the photographer want the viewer to see? And does any of this matter when technologies such as iPhones and Photoshop can change all of that so easily? In this session Professor Danny Goodwin will show some of his own works, works that pose questions about what photographers do, what we think we see, and what is “really” real. We’ll also examine the work of students and faculty in the Department of Art and Art History, and walk through the artist’s process of turning objects into art.

**BIOLOGY**

**REGENERATING ORGANS: REALITY OR PIPE DREAM?**

*Melinda Larsen, Ph.D.*
Lecture Center 24

People have organs with an inherent and amazing ability to regenerate, both to maintain health and to respond to injury. And this is true for all mammals. However, in many diseases including vascular disease, diabetes, and aging these normal processes are impaired. Regenerative medicine promises to restore normal function to diseased organs or to replace them with engineered organs. Is this possible in the foreseeable future? How does understanding molecular mechanisms of organogenesis (how organs develop) help make this dream possible?

**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.

**BUSINESS/LAW**

**THE LAW AND U: LIFE LESSONS THAT WILL MAKE YOU A BETTER COLLEGE STUDENT!**

*Hon. Joseph W. Sheehan, J.D.*
Lecture Center 18

Don’t learn life lessons the hard way by finding yourself before a city/town judge or judicial review board at UAlbany. Law Professor and City Court Judge Joseph Sheehan will discuss clear, simple, and sometimes hilarious, but always to the point lessons that will enhance your college experience. Let him show you how to make good everyday life decisions by learning from the experience of other people’s mistakes rather than making them yourself. Professor Sheehan’s years of mentoring experience with two exceptional UAlbany freshman programs, the World of Business Living-Learning Community and the School of Business Direct Admit class, provide him with a rare insight into how to enhance your freshman experience.