The Vasa cube is awarded for every four seminars taught.

- 2010-11 Vasa cube recipient
- Previous Vasa cube recipient

**Faculty Advisory Committee**

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College of Letters and Science

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Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science

**Beserat Hagos**  
Director of Special Seminars  
(310) 267-5430

**Fiat Lux**  
2010-11 Seminars

**Arts & Humanities**

**Ancient Near East 19**  
Aaron Burke, S11  
*Ancient Warfare, Modern Concerns*

Kathlyn Cooney, S11  
*Ancient Egyptian Coffins: A Window to Religion, Society and Economy*

**Applied Linguistics 19**  
John Schumann, S11  
*Caveman Walking*

**Archaeology 19**  
Hans Barnard, S11  
*Finding Things or Finding Things Out?*

**Architecture and Urban Design 19**  
Diane Favro, F10  
*The “Triumphal” Arch: Digital Dissection of a Building Type*

**Art History 19**  
Hui-Shu Lee, S11  
*Reading Photography of China at the Getty*

**Arts & Architecture 19**  
John Bragin, F10  
*Rome in Arts: Interpreting the Eternal City*

**Asian 19**  
Namhee Lee, W11  
*Korean War: History and Memory*

**Classics 19**  
Alex Purves, S11  
*My Broken Tongue: Reading Sappho’s Poetry*

Debora Shuger, S11  
*Harrius Potter*

**Comparative Literature 19**  
Jack Chen, S11  
*On Idea of World Lyric Poetry: From Liturgy to Rap*

Nouri Gana, W11  
*Modern Tunisian Film*

Kathleen Komar, W11  
*The Short Works of Franz Kafka, or How the Modern World Works*

Katherine King, W11  
*Women Warriors: Amazons and Others from Ancient Greece to Modern Times*

Todd Presner, S11  
*Twitter, Social Media, and Revolution*

Ross Shideler, F10  
*Poets and Desire*

**Design | Media Arts 19**  
Erkki Huhtamo, F10  
*What Is Interactive Media?*

**English 19**  
Charles Batten, F10  
*The Birth of the Comic Strip*

Jascha Kessler, F10  
*What a Poem Says*

Saree Makdisi, F10  
*Reading Poetry and Designs of William Blake*

Robert Maniquis, S11  
*Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn*

Joseph Nagy, F10  
*Cartoons, Folklore, and Myth*

Kenneth Reinhard, W11  
*The Turn of the Screw: From Text to Opera*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Origins of Identity: History and Memory in Women's Poetry</td>
<td>Karen Rowe</td>
<td>F10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another Cool Thing at UCLA: Meeting Great Writers</td>
<td>Mona Simpson</td>
<td>S11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playful Forms: Writing Workshop</td>
<td>Brian Stefans</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bearing Witness: Interviewing Holocaust Survivors in the Digital Age</td>
<td>Todd Presner</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prion Disease: From Mad Cow to Mad Yeast</td>
<td>Arnold B. Scheibl</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honors Collegium 19</td>
<td>Andras Bodrogligeti</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Socialism is Coming, Step Back! Witty World of Aziz Nesis</td>
<td>John Campbell</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shall We Dance? How Brain Controls Movement in Health and Disease</td>
<td>Stephanie White</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Nina Simone to Tupac Shakur: Black Liberation through Song</td>
<td>Cheryl Keyes</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Theory through the Recorder</td>
<td>Roger Savage</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Novel Introduction to Grand Ideas of Being</td>
<td>Lucia Re</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nuclear Weapons of War: History and Present Status</td>
<td>Nina Byers</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearty Opera</td>
<td>David Shapiro</td>
<td>F10; S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heroes, Villains, and Nerds: Being a Scientist in the World Today</td>
<td>Hannah Landecker</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing About Love in High Middle Ages</td>
<td>James Schultz</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesian Civilization through Documentaries</td>
<td>Ismail Poonawala</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<td>Classical Islamic Civilizations through Documentaries</td>
<td>John Campbell</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Existential Hero</td>
<td>Patrick Coleman</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<td>Writing Exercises for a Fit Screenwriter</td>
<td>William McDonald</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blockbuster Portrayals of the Korean War and Prospects for Peace</td>
<td>Jennifer Jung-Kim &amp; John Duncan</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Art of Film, or How to Watch a Movie</td>
<td>Alpyson Nadia Field</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italian-American Writers and Artists</td>
<td>Lucia Re</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<td>Classic Islamic Civilizations through Documentaries</td>
<td>Islamic 19</td>
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<td>How Tasty is My Little Frenchman</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Carron</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<td>The Art of Cinematography</td>
<td>William McDonald</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<td>S11</td>
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<td>Italian-American Writers and Artists</td>
<td>Italian 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buddhism and the Art of Living Mindfully in the Present</td>
<td>Sara Melzer</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jennifer Jung-Kim &amp; John Duncan</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endangered Languages</td>
<td>Patrick Coleman</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<td>Russell Schuh</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<td>Korean 19</td>
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<td>How to Watch a Movie</td>
<td>Yuen Huo</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idealism in the American Musical</td>
<td>Thomas Minor</td>
<td>S11</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Diversity Challenge</td>
<td>Richard S. Marken</td>
<td>F10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Modern French Court in Literature and Film</td>
<td>Malina Stefanovska</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blockbuster Portrayals of the Korean War and Prospects for Peace</td>
<td>Raymond Knapp</td>
<td>F10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa in Global Contexts</td>
<td>Dominic Thomas</td>
<td>F10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headline Opera</td>
<td>Malina Stefanovska</td>
<td>W11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science Fiction and Religion</td>
<td>German 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headline Opera</td>
<td>Philosophy 19</td>
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<td>The Biology of Birth Control</td>
<td>Psychology 19</td>
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<td>Early Modern French Court in Literature and Film</td>
<td>German 19</td>
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<td>Human Evolution and Human Health—A Practicum</td>
<td>Psychology 19</td>
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<td>Science Fiction and Religion</td>
<td>German 19</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Science & Technology

Astronomy 19
Edward Wright, S11
The Dark Universe

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences 19
Richard Thorne, ● F10
Space Weather: Impact of Solar Activity on Earth

Bioengineering 19
Howard Winet, ● F10
Truth and Questions in Orthopaedics

Biomedical Research 19
L. Stephen Coles, F10
Introduction to Gerontology: Secrets of Oldest Old

Chemistry 19
Herbert Kaesz, ● F10
Serendipity in Science

Civil & Environmental Engineering 19
Scott Brandenberg, W11
Hurricane Katrina as a Warning about California’s Water Supply

Community Health Sciences 19
Rena Orenstein, ●●●● F10; W11; S11 (two seminars/quarter)
Cosmo Says You’re Fat? I Ain’t Down with That: Nutrition and Body Image Life Skills

Pamela Viele, ● F10
Boots to Bruins: From Combat to Campus Life

Dentistry 19
Francesco Chiappelli, ● F10
Podcasting Evidence-Based Health Care

Earth and Space Sciences 19
William Newman, S11
Climate Change and Our Energy Future

Adarsh Tripathi, S11
Rock Whispering and Extreme Climates

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology 19
Donald Buth, ● S11
Parasites: Eating Us Alive

James Lloyd-Smith, S11
Anti-Vaccine Movement: Controversy and Consequences

Ken Nagy, ● F10
Climate Change and the Earth’s Ecology

Peter Nonacs, ●● F10
Evolutionary Medicine: How Natural Selection Helps Us Understand Why We Get Sick

Honors Collegium 19
Michael Gresser, ●●● S11
How Drugs Are Made

Michael Gresser, ●● F10; W11
The Rise and Fall of a Blockbuster Drug

Human Genetics 19
Christina Palmer ● & Michelle Fox, ● W11
Genetic Counseling: Making Genetics Real

Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering 19
Anthony Mills, ● F10
Is There a Global Warming Crisis?

Medicine 19
Larissa Rodriguez & Cesar Ayala, F10
Long-Term Health Implications of Preparing for War: Case of Vieques

Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology 19
John Merriam, ●●● F10
Read Science Times on Tuesday and Discuss Over Coffee on Wednesday

Neurobiology 19
Edwin Cooper, ● S11
Links between Nervous and Immune Systems

Edwin Cooper, ●● S11
Integrative Medicine: Current Topics in Complementary and Alternative Medicine

South Asian 19
Gyanam Mahajan ● & Stephanie Jamison, W11
Analysis of Humor in Asian Languages and Cultures

Spanish 19
Anna More, F10
Before Rights: Sor Juana and the Defense of Women

Maartin van Delden, S11
20th Century Latin American Poetry

Study of Religion 19
Carol Bakhos, ● S11
Religions, Self and Society

World Arts & Cultures 19
David Gere, S11
Authors and Heroes: UCLA Common Book Experience

Lionel Popkin, F10
Dancing in Proximity: Contact Improvisation

David Shorter, F10
Aliens and Ghosts

Culture & Society

Aerospace Studies 19
1st Lt. Jared Grady, W11; S11
U.S. Air Force—Aim High: Fly, Fight, Win

Afro-American Studies 19
Scot Brown, S11
Get Up for Down Stroke: Soul and Funk Music Therapy

Anthropology 19
Daniel Fessler, ● F10
Animals in Translation: Evolutionary Approaches to Animal Thinking and Autism

Peter B. Hammond, ● F10
Racism: Cultural Production of Race Relations in Three Post-Colonial American Nations

Peter B. Hammond, ● S11
Racism: Cultural Production of Race Relations in Brazil, South Africa and the U.S.

Paul Koskryka, ●● W11
Language Myths

Susan Perry, F10
Studying Animal Behavior in the Wild

Brooke Scelza, W11
Exploring the Animal in All of Us

Monica L. Smith, ● F10
Politics and Poetics of Trees

Asian American Studies 19
Keith Camacho & David Hernandez, S11
Visualizing Immigrant Narratives

Communication Studies 19
Dee Bridgewater, S11
Cinema Therapy: Movies and Mental Health

Economics 19
Simon Board, W11
Winner’s Curse

Jernej Copic, S11
Tragedy of Commons: Economic Behavior and Environment

Roger E.A. Farmer, W11
How Economy Works

Hugo Hopenhayn, ● S11
Competitive Strategy Game

Moritz Meyer-ter-vehn, W11
Bargaining, Haggling, and Fairness across Cultures

Lee Ohanian, W11
The Economics of Sports

Marek Pycia, S11
Winner’s Curse

Aaron Tornell, ● W11
Roots of the U.S. Housing Crisis

Aaron Tornell, ● S11
Financial Crisis and Financial Booms

Pierre-Olivier Weill, S11
Bargaining, Haggling, and Fairness across Cultures

Education 19
John McNeal, W11
Issues in the Transformation of Schooling

Rashmita Mistry, S11
Civic Engagement in the Classroom: This I Believe
Marjorie Orellana, S11
Immigrant Childhoods

Jane Pizzolato, W11
Expressing Self: Art and Identity

Linda Sax, F10
Gender Gap in College: How and Why Does College Differ for the Two Sexes?

Carlos Torres, W11
Paulo Freire: Theory, Praxis and Revolution

Geography 19
Stephen Bell, W11
South America Called Them: Humboldt and Bonpland

Laurence Smith, S11
Space Imaging of Earth’s Environment

Stanley Trimble, W11
American Rivers

History 19
Scott Bartzch, W11
Honor and Shame in Clash of Civilization and Religions

Stephen Frank, S11
Women and Crime in History

James Gelvin, F10
Al-Qaeda and Jihadi Islam

James Gelvin, S11
Reading Revolution in Egypt

Ludwig Lauerhass, W11
Hiroshima: How We Remember the Bomb

Ghislaine Lydon, S11
From Salt to Cell Phones: History of Things and Things in History

William Marotti, S11
The 1960s Through Film

David Myers, W11
Faith and Reason in Jewish Thought: Maimonoides and Beyond

Teofilo Ruiz, F10
Dystopias of the 20th Century

Teofilo Ruiz, W11 (two seminars)
Pride and Prejudice: Social World of Jane Austen

Joan Waugh, S11
Are You a History Buff? Then Join the Seminar on Abraham Lincoln

Honors Collegium 19
Ann Kerr W11; S11
Perception of Americans Abroad: Discussions with Visiting Fulbright Scholars

Linda Koffman, W11
Legal Aspects of Buying and Selling Commercial Real Estate in the U.S.

Daniel Lowenstein, F10
Introduction to Samuel Johnson

Daniel Lowenstein, W11
Robert Penn Warren’s “All the King’s Men”

Susan Plann, S11
Undocumented Student Experience

Ronni Sanlo F10; Suzanne Seplow, W11
LGBT is Not a Sandwich: Straight Talk on the Effects of Silence on Sexual and Gender Minorities in Los Angeles

Suzanne Seplow, W11; S11
LGBT is Not a Sandwich: Straight Talk on the Effects of Silence on Sexual and Gender Minorities in Los Angeles

Steven Steinberg and Kenn Heller, W11
Digital Citizenship: Opportunities, Expectations, and Challenges of Living in the Digital Age

Human Complex Systems 19
John Bragin & Dwight Read, W11
Cities as Complex Systems: Urban Dynamics of Society and the Built Environment

William McKelvey, W11
Understanding and Managing Complex Natural and Social Systems

Information Studies 19
John Richardson, F10; W11
Just Google It: What It Is and When It’s Appropriate

John Richardson, S11
Facebook and Beyond: Role of Social Networking Sites in Presentation of Self in Society

Labor & Workplace Studies 19
Gaspar Rivera-Salgado, W11
Immigration Debate Through Film

Latin American Studies 19
Kevin Terraciano, W11
Introduction to Nahuatl (Aztec) Language and History

Management 19
Avinadhar Subrahmanyan, W11; S11
Understanding Financial Markets

Military Science 19
Christopher Dittami, F10
Army Strong 101

Political Science 19
Susanne Lohmann, S11
Can’t We Make Moral Judgments?

Public Policy 19
Albert Carnesale, F10
America’s Climate Choices

Sociology 19
Phillip Bonacich, S11
Evolution and Sociology of Altruism

David Halle, F10; S11
Sociology of Cinema: Hit Movies, 1920 to 2010

Ruben Hernandez-leon, S11
Migration as Business: Migration Industry in Global Perspectives

Rebecca Jean Emigh, W11
Commodities: What Can Be Bought and Sold?

Ivan Light, W11
Mexican Immigrant and Settlement

William Roy, F10; S11
Making Societies: The Historical Construction of our World

Abigail Saguy, W11
Social Construction of the Obesity Epidemic

Undergraduate Law 19
Devon Carbado, F10
Race Law Stories: Cases on Race, Law and American Society

Frances Olsen, F10
Nonviolence and Women’s Self Defense

Jonathan Zasloff & Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz, S11
Law and Passion in Jewish Thought

Urban Planning 19
Randall Crane, W11
Sprawl: American Dream or Nightmare?

Rui Wang, W11
Urban Environment and Development in China