FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Teofilo Ruiz, Chair
Distinguished Professor of History and Spanish & Portuguese
College of Letters and Science

Jonathan Aurnou
Associate Professor of Earth and Space Sciences
College of Letters and Science

Kathleen Bawn
Associate Professor of Political Science
College of Letters and Science

Juliana Gondek
Professor of Music
School of the Arts and Architecture

Carlos V. Grijalva
Professor of Psychology
College of Letters and Science

Kathleen L. Komar
Professor of Comparative Literature
College of Letters and Science

Ertugrul Taciroglu
Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering
The Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science

www.fiatlux.ucla.edu

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

Fiat Lux
2011-12 Seminars

Arts & Humanities

Ancient Near Eastern Studies 19
Aaron Burke, ● S12
Ancient Warfare and Modern Concerns

Architecture and Urban Design 19
Diane Favro, ● F11
Streetwalking in Ancient Rome

Classics 19
Alex Purves, W12
My Broken Tongue: Reading Sappho’s Poetry

Comparative Literature 19
Katherine King, ● S12
Women Warriors: Amazons and Others from Ancient Greece to Modern Times

Kathleen Komar, ●● F11
The Short Works of Franz Kafka, or How the Modern World Works

Ross Shideler, ● W12
Poets and Desire

Dance 19
Victoria Marks, W12
Dances that Redefine Disability

Lionel Popkin, S12
Dancing in Proximity: Contact Improvisation

Design | Media Arts 19
Erkki Huhtamo, ●● F11
What Is Interactive Media?

English 19
Charles Batten, ● S12
The Birth of the Comic Strip

King-Kok Cheung, F11
Bilingual Poetics in Chinese American Literature

Jascha Kessler, ● W12
What a Poem Says

Robert Maniquis, ●● S12
Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn

Joseph Nagy, ●● F11
Cartoons, Folklore, and Myth

Karen Rowe, ●● S12
Origins of Identity: History and Memory in Women’s Poetry

Mona Simpson, ●● W12
Another Cool Thing to Do at UCLA

Brian Stefans, F11

Richard Yarborough, ● S12
Word Up: Oral Tradition in African American Poetry

Ethnomusicology 19
Patricia Keating, ● F11
Sacred Harp Singing

Steven Loza, S12
Religion as Art and Science

Roger Savage, ● W12
Music Theory through Recorder

Timothy Taylor, S12
Sound Around

Film & Television 19
William McDonald, ● W12
The Art of Cinematography

French 19
Patrick Coleman, ● W12
Getting Started with Proust

Sara Melzer, S12
Buddhism and the Art of Living Mindfully in the Present

The Vasa cube is awarded for every four seminars taught.

● 2011-12 Vasa cube recipient
● Previous Vasa cube recipient
German 19  
Robert Kirsner, ● F11  
*Is Nonviolent World Possible?*

James Schultz, ● W12  
*Love, Violence, and Courtliness in Medieval Romance and Epic*

Honors Collegium 19  
Andras Bodrogligeti, ●● F11  
*Figure of Speech of a Special Kind: Cryptology in Chagatay*

Andras Bodrogligeti, ●● S12  
*Strolling on the Silk Road: Through Bactria, Fergana Valley and Tarim Basin*

Chris Hanscom & Mina Kang, S12  
*Medicine and Literature: Storytelling at the Heart of Medicine*

Islamic 19  
Ismail Poonawala, ●● S12  
*Classical Islamic Civilizations through Documentaries*

Japanese 19  
Seiji Lippit, S12  
*After the Quake: Haruki Murakami and Post-Catastrophe Literature*

Korean 19  
John Duncan ● & Jennifer Jung-Kim, F11  
*Changing Views on the Korean War: Films, History, and Peace*

Linguistics 19  
Jessica Rett, F11  
*Gossip and Facts across Languages*

Music 19  
Paul Chihara, S12  
*Music in Film*

Juliana Gondeck, ● W12  
*Vocal Arts: Steps to Better Singing*

Movses Pogossian, S12  
*Lure of Chamber Music: Look from the Inside*

Music History 19  
Thomas Harrison, ● S12  
*Progressive Rock*

Raymond Knapp, ●● S12  
*Staging Race in the American Musical*

Portuguese 19  
Jose Luize Passos, W12  
*Brazilian Society through Film*

Scandinavian 19  
Arne Lunde & Timothy Tangherlini ●●, S12  
*Gods and Giants: Nordic Mythology*

Timothy Tangherlini, ●● W12  
*Facebook for Vikings: Social Networks Analysis and the Saga*

South Asian 19  
Gyanam Mahajan● & Stephanie Watkins, ● W12  
*Language and Media Framing: Sustainability in South Asia*

Spanish 19  
Jesus Torrecilla, S12  
*Muslims and Spain: A Complex Relationship*

Maarten Van Delden, S12  
*Spanish Oral Poetry and Poetic Action*

World Arts & Cultures 19  
David Gere, ● F11  
*How You Look to Me: Photography in Hedrick Court*

David Shorter, F11  
*Aliens and Ufology: ET Documentaries*

Neurobiology 19  
Edwin Cooper, ●● S12  
*Links between Nervous and Immune Systems*

Edwin Cooper, ●● S12  
*Integrative Medicine: Current Topics in Complementary and Alternative Medicine*

Neurology 19  
Zhengfeng Guo, S12  
*Frontiers in Alzheimer's Disease Research*

Neuroscience 19  
Ellen Carpenter, W12  
*Laboratory Mouse: Its Contribution to the Advancement of Science*

Scott Chandler, ● S12  
*Shall We Dance? How Brain Controls Movement in Health and Disease*

Nader Pouratian, F11  
*Mind Reading and Manipulation: Fact or Fiction*

Nursing 19  
Janet Mentes, ●● W12  
*Who Wants to Live to 100? Aging in the 21st Century*

Lynn Woods, ● S12  
*Elders on YouTube: Have You Seen the Old Woman and the Mercedes?*

Physics 19  
Nina Byers, ● F11; W12, S12  
*Physics of Nuclear Power: Power Plants and Nuclear Weapons of War*

Michael Jura, ● S12  
*Energy in the Modern Economy*

Pharmaceutical Science 19  
Alan Grinnell, ● S12  
*What Behavioral Abnormalities Tell Us about How Human Brain Functions*

Stephanie White, W12  
*Why Can't Fido Talk? Biological Evolution of Language*

Psychology 19  
Robert Bilder, F11  
*Personal Brain Management*

Aaron Blaisdell, ● F11  
*Human Evolution and Human Health—A Practicum*

Richard Marken, ● F11  
*The Psychology of Personal Control*

Thomas Minor, ●● S12  
*Psychobiology of Stress Resilience*

Statistics 19  
Nicolas Christou, ●● F11  
*Statistics and Portfolio Risk Management with Stock Market Applications*

Frederic Paik Schoenberg, ●● S12  
*Hold 'em or Fold 'em: Poker and Probability*
Science & Technology

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences 19
Lawrence Lyons, W12
Secrets of the Northern Lights: The Earth's Aurora
Richard Thorne, ● F11
Space Weather: Impact of Solar Activity on Earth

Bioengineering 19
Howard Winet, ● F11
Truth and Questions in Orthopaedics

Chemistry 19
L. Stephen Coles, ● F11; W12; S12
Introduction to Gerontology: Secrets of Oldest Old
Neil Garg, F11
Chemicals: Friends or Foes
Herbert Kaesz, ● F11
Serendipity in Science
David Scott, ● W12
Chemistry and Art

Community Health Sciences 19
Eve Lahijani ● & Gia Marson ●, F11; W12; S12 (two seminars/quarter)
Cosmo Says You're Fat? I Ain't Down with That: Nutrition and Body Image Life Skills

Chemistry & Technology

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology 19
Donald Buth, ● W12
Parasites: Eating Us Alive
Malcolm Gordon, ● F11
Self-Help Approach to Saving the Planet
Gregory Grether, W12
Evolution in Galapagos Islands
Kenneth Nagy, ● W12
Climate Change and the Earth’s Ecology
Peter Nonacs, ● F11
Evolutionary Medicine: How Natural Selection Helps Us Understand Why We Get Sick
Philip Rundel, F11
Conservation Science in Era of Global Climate Change
Charles Taylor, F11
Forensic Use of DNA
Blaire Van Valkenburgh, F11
You Are What You Eat

Geography 19
Laurence Smith, ● S12
Space Imaging of Earth's Environment

Honors Collegium 19
Michael Gresser, ●● F11, W12
The Rise and Fall of a Blockbuster Drug
Michael Gresser, ●● S12
How Drugs Are Made
Andrea Kasko, S12
Common Human Experience

Human Genetics 19
Michelle Fox & Christina Palmer ●●, W12
Genetic Counseling: Making Genetics Real

Medicine 19
Oleg Melamed, ● F11
Why Doctors Make Mistakes

Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology 19
John Merriam, ●● F11
Read Science Times on Tuesday and Discuss Over Coffee on Wednesday

Culture & Society

Aerospace Studies 19
1st Lt. Jared Grady, ● F11; W12
U.S. Air Force—Aim High: Fly, Fight, Win

African American Studies 19
Uri McMillan, S12
On Hip-Hop: Poetics and Politics of a Form

Anthropology 19
Daniel Fessler, ● F11
Animals in Translation: Evolutionary Approaches to Animal Thinking and Autism
Peter Hammond, ● F11
Stigma: Anthropology of Dangerous Other
Paul Kroskity, ●● W12
Language Myths: Beliefs About Language(s) that are Harmfully Wrong
Joseph Manson, W12
The Social Brain: Neurobiology, Emotion, and Social Interaction
Susan Perry, F11
Long-Term Studies of Wild Animal Populations
Monica Smith, ● F11
Clothing, Culture, and Controversy
Jason Throop, S12
Oneself as Another: Anthropology, Empathy, and Intersubjectivity

Chicano 19
Keith Camacho & David Hernandez, F11
Visualizing Immigrant Narratives

Communication Studies 19
Dee Bridgewater, ● W12
What’s So Funny? The Serious Business of Movie Comedies

Economics 19
Simon Board, ● F11
Winner’s Curse

Economics 19
Moshe Buchinsky, F11
College Education: Should We Go to College?

Ecology 19
Maria Casanova Rivas, W12
Winner’s Curse

Evolutionary Medicine: How Natural Selection Helps Us Understand Why We Get Sick

Evolution in Galapagos Islands

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Education 19
Tiffani Brown Garnett & Kristen McKinney, W12; S12
What’s UCLA’s Temperature: Examining Campus Climate
Marjorie Orellana, W12
Immigrant Youth, Ethnography, and Education
Robert Rhoads, ● F11
Student Activism from the Sixties to the Present
Linda Sax, ● F11
Gender Gap in College: How and Why Does College Differ for the Two Sexes?

Geography 19
Stephen Bell, ● W12
Land and Society in Latin America

History 19
Scott Bartchy, ●● S12
Honor and Shame in Clash of Civilizations and Religions
Robin Derby, ● W12
Oral History, Gender, and Violence
Robin Derby, ● S12
Zombies!
James Gelvin, ● F11
The Arab Uprisings
J. Arch Getty, W12
Rise and Fall of Marxism
Russell Jacoby, W12
First Utopia: More or Less
Vinay Lal, ● W12
Nonviolent Resistance and Its Future
Ludwig Lauerhass, ● W12
Hiroshima: How We Remember the Bomb
Saree Makdisi & David Myers, W12
Learning to Talk about Israel-Palestine
William Marotti, W12
Japan, Darkness, Aesthetics, Toilets, and Women: Reading in Praise of Shadows

Teofilo Ruiz, ●●● F11
Dystopias of the 20th Century
Teofilo Ruiz, ●●● F11
Social World of Jane Austen: Pride and Prejudice
Teofilo Ruiz, ●●● W12
Plato’s Republic: Freedom, Community, Property, and Equality
Teofilo Ruiz, ●●● W12
Los Angeles: Architecture and Ethnicity
Bin Wong, F11
Chinese Popular Culture through Historical Film and Soap Operas

Honors Collegium 19
Halle Aten, F11 (three seminars)
Fostering Success: Promoting College Completion for Former Foster Youth
Gene Block, S12
Diversity and Effective Leadership
Ernesto Guerrero ● & David Maldonado ●, W12 ; S12
Retention issues in Higher Education
Ann Kerr, ●● W12
Perceptions of U.S. Abroad: Discussions with Visiting Fulbright Scholars
Linda Koffman, W12
Legal Aspects of Buying and Selling Commercial Real Estate in U.S.
Gerald Levey, W12
Leadership of Large Organizations
Daniel Lowenstein, ● W12
(two seminars)
G.K. Chesterton, Master of Paradox
Susan Plann, ● W12
Undocumented Student Experience
Suzanne Seplow, ●●● F11; W12; S12
LGBT is Not a Sandwich: Straight Talk on the Effects of Silence on Sexual and Gender Minorities in Los Angeles
David Taylor, S12
Mental Illness and the Movies

Human Complex Systems 19
John Bragin ● ● & Dwight Read, F11
Cities and People: Understanding the Dynamics of Society and Its Built Environment

Information Studies 19
John Richardson, ●● F11; S12
Just Google It: What It Is and When It’s Appropriate

Political Science 19
John Anderson, W12
Hardball! How to Do Politics

Public Policy 19
Albert Carnesale, ●● F11
Nuclear Power and Nuclear Weapons: Current Issues

Sociology 19
Phillip Bonacich, ● F11
Evolution of Cooperation and Altruism

Women Studies 19
Michelle Erai & Mishuana Goeman, F11
Indigeneity, Sex, and Gender on Screen: Indigenous Film and Critique

Abigail Saguy, ● W12
Coming Out As…
Judith Seltzer, S12
Family, Gender, and Inequality in the U.S.
Tanya Stivers, W12
Social Interaction in the Medical Visit

Undergraduate Law 19
Frances Olsen, ● F11
Nonviolence and Women’s Self Defense

Urban Planning 19
Randall Crane, ● W12
Suburban Sprawl: American Dream or Nightmare?
Rui Wang, F11
Urban Environment and Development in China

Women Studies 19
Michelle Erai & Mishuana Goeman, F11
Indigeneity, Sex, and Gender on Screen: Indigenous Film and Critique