

CoLA Speakers' Bureau
Revised Spring 2017

College of Liberal Arts, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Dean of the College: Dr. Meera Komarraju

Our faculty members are passionate about their areas of expertise and would enjoy sharing their enthusiasm with your students! We offer a series of topics that our faculty members are prepared to speak about in your classrooms. You might think of them as TED Talks for middle and high schoolers. It's also a way for your students to begin to think about their futures in college and the professional world.

In the following pages is a brief description of each topic with an average time frame of about 30 minutes followed by time for questions and answers. If you are interested in hosting a speaker, please feel free to email the instructor, or contact Dr. Pamela Smoot (olivia@siu.edu) or Dr. Andrew Balkansky (abalkan@siu.edu) in the CoLA dean's office.

The College of Liberal Arts at SIUC includes 18 departments and 4 Centers and the topics listed below reflect these various disciplines.

Arts - 3: Art and Design, Music, Theater

Humanities - 7: Africana Studies, Communication Studies, English, History, Languages Cultures & International Trade, Paralegal Studies, Philosophy

Social Sciences - 8: Anthropology, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Economics, Geography and Environmental Resources, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology

Centers: Archeological Investigation, English as a Second Language, University Museum, Phenomenology Research

AFRICANA STUDIES

The Cultural Realities of the Constitution:

This presentation discusses the American Constitution, bringing into focus cultural, historical, and social realities that engendered it, and continuing realities influencing its interpretation through the centuries into the twenty-first century.

Dr. Joseph Brown, SJ, Professor, Africana Studies jbrownsj@siu.edu

What is Africana and what makes it a global peoplehood?

Aspects of Africana will be discussed in this presentation. The global character of Africana will be put succinctly within historical, cultural, political, social and economic contexts and linked to the American experience.

Dr. Leonard Gadzekpo, Interim Chair, Associate Professor Africana Studies gadzekpo@siu.edu

ANTHROPOLOGY

Climbing Out of the Family Tree Topic: Human Evolution 30–45 minutes. This presentation introduces students to the anatomical evidence for human evolution. How are we similar to other primates? How do we differ from them? What did our earliest ancestors look like? This presentation includes an optional fossil show-and-tell component, depending on time constraints.

Dr. Jeremiah Scott, jescott@siu.edu

“What can bones tell us?”

Topic: Forensic Anthropology

30 minutes. This presentation describes how forensic anthropologists help law enforcement identify victims of crimes through the biological profile: assessing age, sex, stature, and ancestry from human skeletal remains. Law enforcement seek the help of forensic anthropologists in identifying bones found throughout Southern Illinois, and need to know if the bones are human or animal. The differences between human and animal bone will be shown, and students will have the opportunity to assess bones to discover if they are human or animal.

Kaleigh Best, MS, kaleigh.best@siu.edu; Lindsey Roberts, MA, lindseyroberts@siu.edu ; Jessica Spencer, MA, jessi.spencer@siu.edu

Title: “The Real CSI” (30 minutes)

Topic: Forensic Anthropology

Forensic Anthropology is a set of scientific methods used to identify human remains, determine cause-of-death, and solve homicides. This talk will review the main components of forensic anthropology. The broad range of human skeletal variation will be examined as well as topics in several related subfields including: archaeology, anatomy, chemistry, and physics.

Kaleigh Best, MS, kaleigh.best@siu.edu; Lindsey Roberts, MA, lindseyroberts@siu.edu ; Jessica Spencer, MA, jessi.spencer@siu.edu

Title: “Who knew that Nigeria produces more movies than Hollywood?” (30-45 minutes)

Topic: African Popular Culture

This brief introduction to new developments in African film production introduces students to Nollywood – the second largest movie industry in the world. Western media floods us with scenes of disease and war, creating a distorted image of daily life in Africa. Nollywood movies, which are freely available on YouTube and Netflix, provide an alternative view of life on the continent from an African perspective.

Dr. John C. McCall, jmccall@siu.edu

Title: “What happens after archaeologists dig up artifacts?”

Topic: Archaeological Science

(30 minutes) This presentation will discuss the ways that chemistry, biology, and other sciences are integrated into archaeology to help us explore the cultures of people who lived in the past. The presentation examines the multidisciplinary field of archaeology, showing students how archaeologists approach problems with a wide array of scientific techniques.

Anthony Farace, afarace@siu.edu

Title: "The Americas before Columbus"

(30 minutes) Fun facts about human prehistory in the Western Hemisphere, from early inhabitants through the rise of urban states, including the Aztec, Maya, and Inca civilizations. The talk also covers the methods that archaeologists use to reconstruct the past.

Dr. Balkansky is Professor of Anthropology; he studies early civilizations, human adaptations to the environment, and pottery/crafts among other things; abalkan@siu.edu, 618-536-6651

ART AND DESIGN

Studio Art

“Let's Talk Art and Money”

A presentation on the importance of education in understanding vertical artist (museums/contemporary galleries of fine art relationships), horizontal artist (commercial/alternative galleries, and art fair relationships), and other professions related to the study of art.

Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, Associate Professor, Drawing/Painting/Core Curriculum, mekka@siu.edu or 618-924-3810

“Printmaking as the Curricular Crossroads between Drawing and Painting”

This presentation would discuss the impact that printmaking has on drawing and painting and how the three disciplines inform each other.

Marie Bukowski, Director of the School of Art + Design, and Professor, Printmaking bukowski@siu.edu

“Interconnection”

Sun Kyoung Kim presents a lecture about her metal work and contemporary metal art.

Sun Kyoung Kim, Associate Professor, Metals/Jewelry, sunkim@siu.edu

“Attractors” Jerry Monteith presents a lecture about his “Attractors” series, which is based on the fishing fly as paradigm object.

Jerry Monteith, Professor, Sculpture, monteith@siu.edu

“Visual Artist Lecture

Alex Lopez presents a lecture about his sculpture.

Alex Lopez, Associate Professor, Sculpture, alxlpz@siu.edu

“Explaining myself”

Pattie Chalmers gives a lecture that attempts to make connections between a slightly discordant body of work.

Pattie Chalmers, Associate Professor, Ceramics and Head of Undergraduate Studies pattiechalmers@gmail.com

“Cenophobia: fear of empty spaces”

A demonstration of several techniques for creating an active surface on clay including sgraffito, stencil, inlay, sliptransfer, low tech litho, silkscreen + shellac resist.

Pattie Chalmers, Associate Professor, Ceramics and Head of Undergraduate Studies pattiechalmers@gmail.com

Art History

"Made in China: Global Trade in the Early Modern World"

In our modern world, objects from China are everywhere. Everyday we wear, eat, drive, talk through, and write on objects made in China. While this globalization may seem modern, in fact it is not new. Chinese goods such as porcelain, silk, spices, and tea have been avidly consumed and collected by people in Africa, the Americas, and Europe for at least five hundred years. This talk tells the extraordinary story of the beginning of global trade through the trade in porcelain and other luxury objects around the world."

Stacey Sloboda, Associate Professor, Art History, sloboda@siu.edu

“Greek Myth, Roman Death: Staging Medea on Roman Sarcophagi”

Why did numerous ancient Roman noblewomen have themselves buried in coffins carved with scenes from Euripides’s mythological tragedy Medea, a play telling the story of a barbarian woman who, jilted by her husband, takes her revenge by killing their own two children? Why would any respectable woman choose this story to commemorate her own life? Come find out, and learn more about how Romans viewed their lives — and their deaths — through the prism of Greek myth.

Dr. Mont Allen, Assistant Professor, Art History, montallen@siu.edu

“Video Installation and Politics: Zenib Sedira, and *Retelling Stories My Mother Told Me* “

Since Franco-Algerian artist Zenib Sedira presented her video installation *Retelling Stories My Mother Told Me* in 2003 xenophobia and racist attacks on former colonial subjects have escalated in France, symptomatic of the unresolved trauma of the Algerian War (1954-1962). In 2010 the mayor of the town of Vallauris in the South of France censored an exhibition by Zenib Sedira at the Picasso Museum of War and Peace because the artwork in which her mother speaks publicized a still taboo subject: the French military's institutionalization of rape and torture, including rape, during that war. In *Retelling Stories* Sedira's mother answers questions about the war with stories about rape, violence, and how Algerian *Harkis* assisted the French. To video Sedira adapts women's traditional role in North African oral cultures, transmitting collective and personal history through stories told to children and women. Very recently, attacks in Paris, attributed to the extremist political Islamic group ISIS, killed almost 140 people. Many French Muslims fear retaliation. *Retelling Stories* raises questions about ongoing divisions in French society, and globally, that incite such violence

Dr. Laurel Fredrickson, Assistant Professor, Art History, lfredrickson@siu.edu

Design

“Let’s Discuss Design”

Design, play and consumer behavior, fabrication and rapid prototyping, digital tools, innovation, creativity, problem solving, design systems and research.

Aaron Scott, Associate Professor, Design, ascott@siu.edu
“Diseñemos: We Design”

This presentation examines the role that cultural identity plays in the product develop process of five Mexican Industrial Designers practicing design in the United States.

Rob Lopez, Associate Professor, Design, roblopez@siu.edu; 618.453.7590

“Design Research Studio Case Studies”

This presentation showcases two case studies of client-based design research conducted by SIU Design students and faculty as part of the Design Research Studio.

Rob Lopez, Associate Professor, Design, roblopez@siu.edu; 453.7590

“So you think you want to be a designer: here's what to expect”

This presentation will inform students of the Communication Design specialization @SIUC. The focus will include questions students need to answer prior to determining a career choice in design, and/or other opportunities that can provide creative career possibilities.

Kay Zivkovich kmpzivko@siu.edu

“Don’t jump in a ditch! Disaster preparedness and resiliency, the truth, the myth, and the creative solutions”

Learn to prepare for natural disasters and discuss how to bounce back afterwards.

Dr. Tao Huang, Assistant Professor, Design, thuang@siu.edu

“Make a killer APP “

Learn about user experience research and how design thinking and disruptive innovation can lead you to create apps and business that people love to use.

Dr. Tao Huang, Assistant Professor, Design, thuang@siu.edu

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Title: Crime Prevention for All

Topic: CPTED and Situational Crime Prevention

A presentation that demonstrates crime prevention techniques that can be done by anyone. The talk will review the basic premise and examples of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and Situational Crime Prevention Techniques.

Dr. Julie Hibdon, jhibdon@siu.edu

Title: The Where of Crime

Topic: Crime Mapping/Crime Analysis

This presentation demonstrates the utility of crime mapping and crime analysis to criminal justice agencies and communities. The talk will include a definition of crime hot spots, as well as a discussion of the factors that can contribute to these crime concentrations.

Dr. Julie Hibdon, jhibdon@siu.edu

ECONOMICS

“Economics of Dating”

Summary: Dating is not the same thing as shopping for clothes, but the clothes shopper shares some things common with the person looking for a boyfriend or girlfriend. Choices, incentives, markets, and institutions are part of the magic and science of human relationships, and economics has a lot to do with the dating game. Some understanding of economics can help people to play the dating game, and even improve the game itself.

Dr. Zsolt Becsi, becsi@siu.edu

“Economics of Bullying”

Summary: Bullying hurts, so why do bullies do it? Part of the answer is that bullies find that bullying has benefits -- including a sense of empowerment-- that outweigh the costs -- including getting punished. To cut down on bullying, the benefits must be cut or the costs raised. The economics of incentives, rewards, and punishment provides valuable tools for reducing the bullying problem in American high schools.

Dr. Zsolt Becsi, becsi@siu.edu

ENGLISH

Title: Strategies for College Success

This presentation will look at proven techniques to improve academic and social success in college, and what you can do to begin preparing now. [30 minutes]

Dr. Mark Amos, maamos@siu.edu

Title: Medieval Literature:

This presentation will look at the medieval roots of many of the gendered behaviors modern Americans have inherited, especially those currently being challenged and expanded or altered. [30 minutes]

Dr. Mark Amos, maamos@siu.edu

Title: Vampire Narratives” or “*Harry Potter*”

This presentation will explore fan cultures and literary critical conversations about book three of the *Harry Potter* series, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. We will focus on how distinct, though often overlapping, readerships make meaning from this text and its depictions of criminality, friendship, kinship, and animality. [30 minutes]

Dr. Betsy Dougherty, dohugany@siu.edu

Title: Poetry and Economics

This presentation will revolve around the following sorts of questions: What did everyday life look like before economics became a dominant lens through which to view the world? How does the aesthetic evaluation of poetry counter or contribute to our modern economic world? And how do conceptions of exchange, use, borrowing, and ownership inform Renaissance lyrics, particularly Shakespeare’s sonnets about usury and coinage; Herbert’s poems about salvation and property; and Milton’s encomiastic sonnets? Our general goal will be to figure out how these poets advance notions of value and utility that counter those of a comparative market economy. [30-40 minutes]

Dr. Ryan Netzley, rnetzley@siu.edu

Title: Learning, Conversion, and Verse:

This presentation will ask students to think about what early modern literature can tell us about modern education. Or rather, we'll look at what literature can tell us about teaching literature. Our focus will be on portraits of learning offered by seventeenth century writers such as Shakespeare, Donne, Herbert, and Milton—especially empirical, epiphanic, and automatic learning. In pursuing these issues, we'll see how their verse questions the value of problem-solving as an educational model, as well as modern understandings of education as preparatory deferral. [30 minutes]

Dr. Ryan Netzley, rnetzley@siu.edu

Title: Ten Things You Didn't Know (or Thought You Knew) about Shakespeare.

The presentation will address questions and issues in Shakespearean scholarship and biography such as the following. Was Shakespeare the author of the 40 or so plays attributed to him? How did outbreaks of the Bubonic Plague actually contribute to Shakespeare's remarkable productivity? What was it like to see a play in a theater without modern lighting, acoustics, and personal hygiene? What do Shakespeare's plays tell us about his involvement in the dangerous world of early modern politics? Why was his *Richard II* performed before the 1601 revolt against Elizabeth I? Was Shakespeare a secret Roman Catholic in a country where Catholics were frequently burned at the stake? Why does Shakespeare's will only leave his wife the "second best bed" in their house? Do Shakespeare's plays anticipate (or complicate) our modern notions about gender, race, and sexuality? How did Shakespeare become Shakespeare; that is, how popular was he in his own day? [30-40 minutes]

Dr. Patrick McGrath, pjmcgrath@siu.edu

Title: Romantic Poetry

Dr. Scott McEathron, mceath@siu.edu

Title: The Lady of Shalott: The Poem and the Painting or "Spots of Time" [an aesthetic concept used by William Wordsworth]

Dr. Scott McEathron, mceath@siu.edu

Title: "My Last Duchess" [the poem by Robert Browning]

This presentation will focus on Robert Browning's most famous short poem, "My Last Duchess." We will examine the way it is at once (1) a full illustration of the "dramatic monologue" form in English poetry, (2) a remarkable example of the irony produced when a poet manages to send signals to a reader behind the speaker's back, (3) a chilling picture of the abuse made possible by social-class power, and (4) a portrait from a past age—in this case, sixteenth-century Italy—when women were bought and sold (and killed) at their husband's pleasure. And all of it in fifty-six lines rhymed in couplets so cleverly that you rarely hear the rhymes. [30 minutes]

Dr. Ken Collins, kkcoll@siu.edu

(CENTER FOR) ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The Challenges of the Multicultural School: Insights into Dealing with Students and Parents from Other Countries

When dealing with students and parents from other cultures, their behaviors often seem mystifying to us (as ours do to them!) and so we inevitably judge each other – both positively and negatively – according to our own values and assumptions. However, by doing so we are failing to interpret them correctly and to do justice to all their complexity and uniqueness. We are living in an increasingly globalized world, Southern Illinois is at a crossroads of many

different cultures, and many schools are grappling with this diversity. This talk aims to examine our own cultural assumptions as they pertain to education and then examine the assumptions found in other cultures to gain insight on some of these cultural differences both inside and outside the classroom. The goal is both to encourage our understanding of others and to help newcomers to our culture navigate our educational system.

Mary Black, Center for English as a Second Language; maryblack@siu.edu

The Challenges of the Multiculturalism: Understanding Our Own and Others' Cultures as a Source of Richness and Peace

When dealing with people from other cultures (including different American sub-cultures), we inevitably judge them – both positively and negatively – according to our own values and assumptions. However, by doing so we are failing to interpret them correctly and to do justice to all their complexity and uniqueness.

We are living in an increasingly globalized world, and Southern Illinois is a crossroads of many different cultures. Cross-cultural training is a tool that helps us to understand why we do what we do culturally, and then to analyze why people from other cultures do what they do. In this way, we can stop judging them based on our own values and assumptions and instead understand and appreciate them. It is a tool to combat stereotyping and encourage mutual understanding and is therefore an extremely powerful instrument not only for helping individuals navigate different cultures but more importantly for building bridges of peace and understanding among peoples within a country and around the world.

Mary Black, Center for English as a Second Language; maryblack@siu.edu

GEOGRAPHY AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

“Where Am I? What is Geography and how can I get a job in that area?”

30 minutes. This presentation is interactive and describes the discipline of geography and what we do at SIU: Climate, Water Resources, GIS (Geographic Information Systems), and Sustainability. Students participate in identifying remote sensing (satellite) images of the earth, some from Carbondale and Southern Illinois. Environmental Studies is an area of high job growth, and involves interdisciplinary understanding; we'll discuss what that means and why it's important.

Dr. Leslie Duram is Professor of Geography and Director of Environmental Studies; her research includes local food systems, alternative agriculture, environmental public participation, and campus sustainability; duram@siu.edu, [453-6084](tel:453-6084)

“What You Do Can Save the World!”

30 minutes. This presentation describes Environmental Sustainability: 3 pillars (people, planet, prosperity). There are many measures for sustainability, and we'll discuss a few: Carbon Footprint, Lifecycle Assessment, and LEED buildings, for example. The presentation will also ask students to assess their own actions and how they might make better environmental decisions.

Dr. Leslie Duram is Professor of Geography and Director of Environmental Studies; her research includes local food systems, alternative agriculture, environmental public participation, and campus sustainability; duram@siu.edu, [453-6084](tel:453-6084)

“Climate Change Science”

This presentation will provide an overview of contemporary climate science with a focus on addressing common myths surrounding one of the most important, and contentious, issues of our time.

Dr. Justin Schoof is Professor and Chair of Geography and Environmental Resources; he studies climate variability and change and statistical applications in climate science; jschoof@siu.edu, 453-6019

“Biofuels – friends or foes?”

The Federal government has been promoting biofuel production for three main reasons: to limit our imports of foreign oil, and so improve national security; to promote environmental quality, and in particular to reduce our carbon footprint or GHG emissions, and finally to support the agricultural sector and the rural communities that depend on it. However, there are several unresolved issues regarding biofuels. In particular, biofuels are considered a potential source of higher food prices, and the overall environmental impact of land-based biofuels has been questioned. Are biofuels a good strategy to move away from fossil fuels? How do they impact the American consumer? We will discuss pros and cons of a technology which is quite important for the state of Illinois.

Dr. Silvia Secchi is Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Resources and Director of the Environmental Resources and Policy PhD Program; her research includes conservation policy, environmental impacts of agriculture, the role of agriculture in climate change adaptation and mitigation, ecosystem services, floodplain management, and land-based energy production; ssecchi@siu.edu, 453-6020

HISTORY

Three Mile Island and US Politics in the 1970s

This talk examines the 1979 nuclear crisis at Three Mile Island, the worst accident in the history of atomic power in the United States. The accident was more than a watershed in the history of nuclear power. By looking at how the community responded to the crisis at the plant, this talk argues that the accident illuminated key transformations in US political culture in the late 1970s.

Dr. Natasha Zaretsky, Associate Professor of History, zaretsky@siu.edu

"What Was so 'Great' about the 'Great Depression'?"

30-40 minutes with Powerpoint

Decades after the Great Depression of 1929-1942, American leaders are still haunted by the economic bust that wouldn't go away. Have our policymakers drawn the correct lessons from this economic downturn? Or, are we repeating many of the same mistakes in the 21st century? To answer the "Greatness" question, Dr. Jonathan Bean will give a quick run-through of events and the many sides of this fascinating decade will be illustrated by Powerpoint. One take away of this lecture: despite hard times for many, this was also a period that saw many exciting new developments and a rising standard of living for those with jobs. In short, it was (to borrow a cliché), the best and worst of times.

Dr. Jonathan Bean, jonbean@siu.edu

“Studying Nazi Germany in the 21st Century”

30-40 minutes w. powerpoints. This presentation will reflect on the challenges of studying Nazi Germany and its crimes seventy years after the end of World War II. By discussing his research on the Third Reich, including his work on advertising and on National Socialist views of the United States, Dr. Jonathan Wiesen will pose the question: Is there still something uniquely pressing in our study of Nazism, or is it time for the Third Reich to pass into history like other events.

Dr. Jonathan Wiesen, jwiesen@siu.edu

LANGUAGES, CULTURES, AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

GERMAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

“Words and Things: Multilingual Play”

The philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein wrote that “the limits of language are the limits of the world.” What happens, then, when one begins to speak, think, and live in a *new* language? This presentation draws on short texts from language philosophers (Wittgenstein, Martin Heidegger) and multilingual writers (Yoko Tawada, Peter Bichsel) that play with language in order to explore the relationship between language and thought, the limits of language, the way that language shapes how we grasp the world, and the possibilities opened up by entering into a new language. The presentation includes a mix of recorded readings, video adaptations, and text excerpts, and can be offered in the form of a lecture or a group discussion.

Dr. Jacob Haubenreich, Assistant Professor of German, haubenreich@siu.edu

SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

"The Opportunities and Advantages of Being Bilingual"

In this modern United States, the melting pot of all nations, the advantages of being bilingual are endless. With an increasing population of Spanish-speaking individuals from all Spanish speaking nations, the horizon of knowledge has no limits. It opens all possible doors; it brings a multitude of new friends; it increases tremendously the employment possibilities; it makes us think in the two languages we know; it also makes us dream in those two languages we have learned how to master. I would say it is no longer a choice but rather a necessity. Let's meditate for a second on these words of Nelson Mandela: “If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart. ♡”

Dr. Alejandro Cáceres, Associate Professor of Spanish; caceres@siu.edu

“Hla k tal? OMG! Is this Spanish?”

Much of communication IRL, particularly among the young, involves text messaging. Learn some of the most common abbreviations you can use when texting, tweeting, or emailing your BFFs in Spanish. Create some messages and send them to your friends in class, but don't let your Spanish teachers see—they may mark you down for spelling! Bring your cellphones to class and get ready to LOL. B4N!

Dr. Lourdes Albuixech, Associate Professor of Spanish; albuixel@siu.edu

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

“Opening the Door to the Chinese World: An Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture”

An introduction to Chinese language and culture around the world with a focus on the Chinese writing system, history, and customs.

Dr. Shu-Ling Wu, Assistant Professor of Chinese and Linguistics; shulingwu@siu.edu
& Dr. Yubian Ma, Visiting Associate Professor (Zhengzhou University, China); mayb@siu.edu

“What is KANJI?: An Introduction to How to Read and Write Chinese Pictograms”

What is Kanji? What does Kanji mean to the peoples of East Asian countries (Chinese, Korean and Japanese)? What are Hiragana and Katakana in Japanese? Is Korean Hangul writing system different from Kanji? If so how? Appreciation of Kanji Sphere and East Asian Culture through the writing systems

Dr. Alan H. Kim, Professor of Japanese and Linguistics
President, International Circle of Korean Linguistics; alanhkim@siu.edu

ANCIENT LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

“The First Democracy”

Athens developed the first democracy 2,500 years ago. I'll prime students with the basic idea of Athenian people-power (*demos-kratia*), and have them derive the basic features of Athens' government and legal system from those principles. We'll then critique American democracy from the Athenian point of view. I'll close with a brief slide show on the technology of Athenian democracy.

Dr. David Johnson, Associate Professor of Classics; mjohnson@siu.edu

“Greek Myth, Roman Death: Staging Medea on Roman Sarcophagi”

COMMUNITY COLLEGE ONLY –

Why did numerous ancient Roman noblewomen have themselves buried in coffins carved with scenes from Euripides's mythological tragedy *Medea*, a play telling the story of a barbarian woman who, *jilted by her husband*, takes her revenge by *killing their own two children*? Why would any respectable woman choose *this* story to commemorate her own life? Come find out, and learn more about how Romans viewed their lives — and their deaths — through the prism of Greek myth.

Dr. Mont Allen, Assistant Professor of Classics and Art History; montallen@siu.edu

“Harry Potter Latin”

What do all those spells in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* books *really* mean? We'll practice pronouncing those spells (but carefully, for we don't want any mishaps!), what those Latin words mean, and how you might create a few spells of your own. We'll also learn what hidden meanings the Latin and Greek names in the Harry Potter world carry. The presentation will be highly interactive, and may—if you wish—include some clips from the movies.

Dr. Yasuko Taoka, Associate Professor of Classics; taoka@siu.edu

LINGUISTICS

Researching endangered languages

30-45 minutes. By some estimates 90% of the world's roughly 7,000 languages are under threat of extinction within the next 100 years. Linguists are racing against time to explore, document, and preserve as many as possible of these languages before they are lost forever. In this talk, Dr. Carstens recounts her experiences documenting languages in Africa such as Lutiriki, Swahili, Zulu, and Xhosa.

Dr. Vicki Carstens, Professor and Chair, Department of Linguistics carstensv@siu.edu

Myths and Truths about Spanglish

30-45 minutes. Spanglish is a contaminated language! Spanglish is not real Spanish because it is mixed freely! In this talk, I will debunk these and other widespread misconceptions about Spanglish and show that Spanglish is a complex linguistic variety that is rule-governed, like any other language. I will also discuss how there are also different *Spanglishes* that mainly pertain to different regions of the US. I will provide explanations for the formations of such phenomena as well as the rationale behind our attitudes towards Spanglish.

Dr. Itxaso Rodríguez-Ordóñez, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics itxaso.rodriguez-ordonez@siu.edu

The Language of Thought

45 minutes. In this talk, I explore the ways your native language does (or does not) inform the way you think about the world. We examine this topic in terms of its culturally cachet and historical development—before turning to the experimental evidence.

Dr. Jeffrey Punske, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics; punske@siu.edu

Myths and Lies about Grammar

30-45 minutes. “Don’t split your infinitives!” “Never use the passive!” Do these instructions sound familiar? How did these rules develop? Why did these rules develop? In this talk, I examine the development of many prescriptive rules of grammar and compare them with a more scientific, descriptive approach to language.

Dr. Jeffrey Punske, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics; punske@siu.edu

The History and Evolution of the English Language.

45 minutes. After the Romans abandoned their holdings in Britain, Germanic warriors from mainland Europe started to fill the vacuum left behind. They would eventually come to speak a language we know as English. But, of course, the history of English doesn’t end there. Subsequent Viking and French invasions, followed by a period of global dominance by English speaking nations, profoundly impact the language that we speak today. In this talk, I discuss how all of these events and more have shaped the language we speak today.

Dr. Jeffrey Punske, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics; punske@siu.edu

What does it mean to be a teacher of English in the 21st Century?

30-45 minutes. This talk will focus on the advantages and challenges of being a teacher of English at a time when the English language has established itself as the world’s biggest lingua franca, spoken by 508 million people, the majority of whom are non-native speakers of English. Specifically, the talk will focus on the issue of international intelligibility and how this affects the teaching of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, as well as assessment standards.

Dr. Krassimira Charkova, Senior Lecturer, Department of Linguistics sharkova@siu.edu

Learning a Second Language: Challenges and Benefits

30-45 minutes. In this talk I will discuss the process of learning a second language, what makes it so difficult for some people, and what we know (and don’t yet know!) about the best ways to study and learn a new language. I will also discuss some of the advantages of learning a new language, including the cognitive advantages that bilinguals often show over monolinguals.

Dr. Katherine Martin, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics martinki@siu.edu

MUSIC

“New Ears for your Choir”

Having another conductor stand in front of your choir to offer feedback and suggestions is one of the best ways to reinforce the teaching that is going on every day in the rehearsal. This workshop will allow another choral director to evaluate the choir, offer suggestions for elevating the performance, and enhance the musical experience. Especially helpful prior to concerts and competitions.

Dr. Susan Davenport, Director of Choral Activities, sgds@siu.edu

“Workshop, Clinic, or Master Class with Choir or Voice students”

As student groups prepare for concerts, or solo performers prepare for performances, it is beneficial to have another person evaluate and offer new ideas for achieving musical performance goals. The session can be tailored to specific environments and can be of variable lengths.

Dr. Jeremiah Selvey, jselvey@siu.edu

“Vocal techniques for choral, musical theater, and classical singing”

Topic: Singing styles

Just as ballet, jazz and tap dance have shared techniques and dissimilar techniques, various genres of singing do as well. These technical similarities and differences are presented, explored and experienced through observation and participation.

Prof. Tim Fink, tjfink@siu.edu

“How to Prepare for a College Voice (Singing) Audition”

Topic: College preparation for music students

This session will help students prepare for college singing auditions. Through demonstration, observation and singing, students will become familiar with the following:

What is the proper literature?

How should I stand?

Should I act?

What are the extra-musical aspects I should prepare?

Prof. Tim Fink, tjfink@siu.edu

“Soundpainting”

Topic: Improvisation

Through guided improvisation using hand signs, students will create live compositions. This activity is an excellent way to encourage student creativity and imagination. Musicians of any age and/or level can participate.

Prof. Jennifer Presar, jpresar@siu.edu

“New Ears for your Band”

Having another conductor stand in front of your band to offer feedback and suggestions is one of the best ways to reinforce the teaching that is going on every day in the rehearsal. This workshop will allow another band director to evaluate the group, offer suggestions for elevating the performance, and enhance the musical experience. Especially helpful prior to concerts and competitions.

Dr. Christopher Morehouse, Director of Bands, cmoreh@siu.edu

“The 1, 2, 3, of Improv”

Topic: Improvisation

Basic skills for improvisation in Jazz, Rock, and blues will be addressed. Primarily designed for students with basic knowledge of music and playing an instrument

Dr. Isaac Lausell, isaac.lausell@siu.edu

“Common ground between Latino and American Pop culture”

Topic: Latino and American Culture

Presentation will include information on Latino popular culture and will make comparisons between the music, history, and popular culture of Latin and American idioms.

Dr. Isaac Lausell, isaac.lausell@siu.edu

“So you think you can improvise?” - Developing techniques to foster creativity in everyday situations.

Topic: Interdisciplinary – using musical ideas in everyday situations

This presentation is about using improvisation skills that musicians and comedians harbor, and applying those techniques universally. These skills apply to public speaking, advertising, business negotiations, etc. Participants will take part in improvisational situations in small groups to help foster creative thinking skills and quality communication.

Dr. Richard Kelley, kelly2@siu.edu

PARALEGAL STUDIES

We Exist in a Paralegal Universe

30 Minutes plus or including time for questions, flexible to whatever each venue’s time constraints may be.

“Behind every great lawyer is a great paralegal” is a sentence scrawled on many a magnet and coffee mug. And there’s truth in the saying because paralegals aid attorneys in nearly every facet of the legal profession.

<http://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/paralegal>. This presentation provides a brief overview of the excellent and diverse opportunities and benefits of pursuing a paralegal education.

Prof. Daniel A. Silver, dsilver@siu.edu, 618-924-0580

POLITICAL SCIENCE

“What Should the US Do about Wars in the Middle East?”

40 minutes. This presentation focuses on the crisis in Syria and asks students how the US should react. Four background points are briefly covered: (1) how Syria and Iraq were created by Europeans and both later fell into dictatorships and revolutions; (2) how the US invasion of Iraq in 2003 ironically created conditions for the rise of ISIS; (3) how we should understand ISIS's threat to US interests; and (4) how the US failure to topple the Asad government has raised a hard new dilemma about what the US can or should do to resolve the conflict. PowerPoint slides focus on providing historical and current imagery to bring these points to life for the students. The presentation concludes by asking students what they think the US should or can do to resolve the conflict in Syria/Iraq.

Dr. Virginia Q. Tilley, Professor and Chair of Political Science, vtilley@siu.edu

PSYCHOLOGY

“Fixing the Broken Brain: Examining Recovery of Function Following Head Trauma”

Topic: concussions, recovery, neural plasticity

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a significant health problem that is unique in that impacts all members of society. Sports related concussions often afflict a number of young athletes in a variety of extracurricular events. These injuries have a dramatic impact upon the developing brain; leaving its effects well beyond the point of injury. Frequently, afflicted individuals will have difficulty concentrating in academics and even trouble with learning and memory. With this increased in the number of injuries, treatment of these neurocognitive deficits is becoming a growing concern. Neurotrauma has become a growing research field that has expanded tremendously over the past few decades. Many treatments have been examined and several advances have been made in the field; however, few of these have demonstrated widespread clinical success. Thus the aim of neurorehabilitation has always been the clinical application of methods (both pharmacological and otherwise) that lead to the maximization and restoration of neurological function following an injury to the nervous system. It is through additional research that we will be able to address the limitations of neurorehabilitation in order to refine them and improve their successful application. In this talk I will describe the approaches used by researchers in investigating functional recovery. I will also discuss how researchers, like myself, are investigating new and innovative approaches to treating TBI including concussion based injuries.

Dr. Michael Hylin, mhylin@siu.edu, 618-453-3516

“The Changing Brain: How Neural Plasticity Underlies the Formation of Memories and Development of the Brain”

Topic: neuroscience, memory, development, neural plasticity

The capability for the brain to change in response to some stimuli, either internal or external, is a fairly straightforward property of the nervous system. Although researchers now generally agree that plasticity is a normal function of the nervous system, this view is fairly recent. The ability for that brain to change is likely a general feature of the nervous system’s response to environmental changes. Researchers are using these principles to better understand how the brain responds to an environment that is constantly fluctuating. We see this in learning and the formation of new memories as well as during development. The brain has the capacity to undergo change in a number of different methods. This includes changes in the electrochemical properties of the brain; that will lead to changes in the structure of the neurons and ultimately the connectivity of various brain regions. In this talk I will discuss how neural plasticity is an underlying property of the brain that guides not only development but the formation of our memories. Because our memories often define who we are; it is with this understanding that we will better comprehend what makes us.

Dr. Michael Hylin, mhylin@siu.edu, 618-453-3516

“Normal and Abnormal Memory: Brain Mechanisms of Successful Learning and Pathological Gambling”

Topic: learning, memory, addiction, brain

Our ability to learn and remember information is critical to our everyday lives. It helps us get to where we are going, be successful in school, and have relationships with friends and family. However, when it goes awry, it can lead to disorders such as amnesia, Alzheimer’s disease, and addiction. Now, with the help of brain imaging technologies such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), we are beginning to understand how our brains enable us to learn and remember information as well as how, when things go wrong, result in maladaptive behaviors such as pathological gambling. In this talk I will describe recent brain imaging research on the neural mechanisms of learning, memory, and addiction.

Dr. Reza Habib, rhabib@siu.edu, 618-453-3529

Title: Can I Make Myself Do Something I Don’t Feel Like Doing?

Topic: Motivation, Procrastination, Self-regulation

Do you have difficulty pulling yourself away from things you enjoy (watch a favorite TV show/movie) to do the things you have to do (study, chores, errands)? Psychological Science examines these very issues and provides some answers! In this talk, I offer some insight into the WHY and HOW of managing your own behavior.

Dr. Meera Komaraju, Professor of Psychology, & Dean, College of Liberal Arts; meerak@siu.edu; 453-2466

SOCIOLOGY

What is sociology? How can we apply it to everyday life?

(30 minutes)

This presentation defines sociology and describes its place within academic disciplines. This is followed by examples of how to use sociological ways of looking at the world to understand your place in it and how to develop a sociological imagination, or the ability to understand yourself through examining your place in history and your biography.

Dr. Bill Danaher, Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology; danaherw@siu.edu

Studying Music, the Music Industry, and Musicians through the Lens of Sociology

(30 minutes)

Sociologists have a long history of studying music as part of society. The music we discuss in this presentation would cover a broad range of styles, from rock to popular, rap to country, and classical to jazz, depending on group interest. These styles of music are important as a reflection of our culture but can also affect our culture. For instance, if we discuss rock, we might investigate the interplay between aspects of subcultures surrounding the music. Some rock music genres develops specific ways of dressing and speaking, which may reflect a certain geographical area. This, in turn, can affect the larger patterns of dress and language across the culture, if the music becomes popular. Using music as a focus, allows us to see society in a novel way. It can provide a lens to understand how the music we listen to reflects the groups to which we belong.

Dr. Bill Danaher, Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology; danaherw@siu.edu

THEATER

The Department of Theater continues its tradition of providing educational outreach and support to area schools and organizations. Our faculty and can present workshops in variety of topics (creative dramatics, improvisation, acting, stage combat, playwriting, robotics in scenery, scenic painting, theater design, auditioning for colleges, etc.), and provide production advice and support in the areas of costuming, scenery, lighting, dramaturgy, and performance coaching. We enjoy working to the specific needs of the individual schools. Contact Susan Patrick Benson, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Theater: susanpb@siu.edu; 618-453-5741.