

THE Veritas VOICE

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ZOOM, HYBRID, OR ALL IN-PERSON – FALL TERM IS HERE WITH OPTIONS FOR YOU!

The Veritas Fall term is always enthusiastically awaited by our Veritas members, whether longtime or new to the society. Since most of our members take the summer off, when the fall catalog is released, there is excitement in the air as members choose what classes they will take, prepare for registration day, and then wait for that first week of October to either attend or login to their classes. This Fall is no different, as the Curriculum Committee, led by chair Judith Skretny, has put together a wide array of classes for members.

Veritas will be offering classes in three types of delivery methods. Monday, Thursday, and Friday classes will all be on Zoom—allowing people to tune in from their homes. Tuesday will offer four Hybrid courses where members can either come to campus or choose to view on Zoom. Wednesday's four classes will be all in-person offerings—as the types of classes that day will best lend to being together in the classroom.

With eighteen different courses to choose from, in all different time slots with no classes overlapping, Veritas members are sure to find something that interests them or a topic that they have not previously explored. Take an armchair voyage around the world, looking at the World's Most Amazing Buildings, Structures, and Landmarks, dive into history and study the Art Nouveau movement, or refine your wellbeing with the Art of Qigong, Mindfulness for All Ages, or The Practice of Journaling.

The Fall catalog is scheduled to be emailed on Wednesday, August 31st. Online registration will open at 9 a.m. on September 7th and close September 23rd. Classes begin on October 3rd and run through November 11th. The membership fee remains at \$30 for the Fall term, and courses will be \$25 each.

As a reminder, Veritas members who are coming to campus for class, either on Tuesday or Wednesday, are required to upload their COVID vaccination card before classes begin. See Catalog page six for further information.

Fall 2022 – Key Dates to Remember

August 31 — Veritas Fall Catalog Emailed to Members

September 7 — Fall Registration Opens

September 8 — Prospective Member Information Session

September 11 — Welcome Back BBQ & Trivia Night

September 21 — Fall Registration Closes

Week of September 26 — Confirmation Emails Sent

FALL LUNCH AND LEARN OFFERS RANGE OF TOPICS

The Friday Lunch and Learn series continues this fall in the “lunchless” (or “self-catered”?) Zoom form it has had since the coming of Covid. From the comfort of your own home, you can enjoy learning about varied and interesting aspects of our public life, from a range of great speakers:

October 8: Congressman John Yarmuth

John Yarmuth retires at the end of this year after sixteen years in the U.S. House of Representatives, representing our district (KY-3). He unseated Republican Anne Northrup in the 2006 election, and has won re-election fairly easily ever since. After Democrats resumed control of the House in the 2018 election, Yarmuth became Chair of the all-important House Budget Committee, in which role he has received an “A” grade from the nonpartisan Lugar Center’s Congressional Oversight Hearing Index. He is the only Democrat in the Kentucky Congressional Delegation, and the only member of the Progressive Caucus. A native of Louisville, Yarmuth graduated from Atherton High School and Yale University. Early in his political career, he served as an aide to Republican Senator Marlow Cook, after which he went into publishing, first as founder of *Louisville Today* magazine, then from 1990-2006 as the founder and Editor of the LEO (Louisville Eccentric Observer) Weekly newspaper. He and his wife Cathy have one son, Aaron, who succeeded his father as Editor of LEO.



October 15: Mike McCarthy, President of Solid Light

Mike McCarthy is President of Solid Light, Inc., a Louisville-based developer of museum exhibits, including Cincinnati’s famous Underground Railroad Museum, the local Falls of the Ohio Museum, and Richmond’s American Civil War Museum, among others. Mike is a Bellarmine University graduate with training as a sculptor and years of experience in construction and budget management, which qualify him uniquely to lead Solid Light’s team of designers and fabricators.



October 22: Frank Hutchins, Anthropology Professor

Frank Hutchins, a native of Bardstown, is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Bellarmine. A graduate of the University of Kentucky, he earned his Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador, and is currently the Director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Summer Field School in Ecuador for the Study of Language, Culture, & Community Health. He teaches a wide variety of courses at Bellarmine, including a number of travel



courses for hands-on experience. Most recently, for example, he led a group of Bellarmine students to the Mexican border area for a close-up look at the controversial border wall and population movements and immigration issues.

October 29: Brooke Pardue, President-CEO, Louisville Parks Alliance

Brooke Pardue is President-CEO of Parks Alliance of Louisville, formerly the Louisville Parks Foundation, where she was a board member for five years, including the last two as chairperson. Brooke was the new organization's first full-time hire. Her extensive experience with organizations includes serving as Congressman John Yarmuth's Constituent Services Manager in Kentucky's Third District for several years. She will speak on "Catching Up on Green Space in West Louisville."



November 4: Marshall Bradley, Jr., President of the Lincoln Foundation

Marshall Bradley, Jr. has, since 2019, been the President of the Lincoln Foundation, a historic 501 c3 organization dedicated to academic excellence and college degree attainment for talented students from underserved communities throughout Metro Louisville. The Foundation provides academic enrichment programs and support from the eighth grade through college graduation, assisting students in overcoming social and economic obstacles through academic achievement. Bradley received both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Bellarmine, and held senior positions at National City Bank, Chase, and Old National Bank. He also served on the Boards of Walden Theatre, Neighborhood House, and the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions, and more recently was Chairman of the Board of the Community Foundation of Louisville.



November 11 Ashley Smith, Director of Development, Waterfront Park

Ashley Smith is Director of Development for Louisville's Waterfront Park—recently in the news as it continues its westward expansion. She is a University of Kentucky graduate, with an MBA from the University of Louisville, with experience promoting whale and dolphin conservation and Canada's Nova Scotia. Louisville's beautiful and much-envied Waterfront Park is ". . . not just a place . . . (but) . . . an experience that's different for everyone . . . a peaceful oasis in the heart of the city . . ." The first three phases of construction are complete, and the fourth will occupy space between 10th and 15th Streets.



WHAT IS THE VALUE OF MY VERITAS MEMBERSHIP?

Since becoming a Veritas member, you may have wondered what your Veritas membership is really getting you. Sure, you now have the ability to register for classes, but why else are you paying that fee? Since the Spring, the Membership Committee has been hard at work redefining what the Veritas Membership really means. This Fall, a membership handbook will be sent to all registered members and will be available on the website. The handbook is a one-stop shop for all things Veritas and will give an in-depth explanation of all the benefits available to our members. Below is a brief overview:

New Membership Benefits this Fall:

- Veritas "Student" ID cards with photo
- Student discounts at community partners including Speed Art Museum and the Louisville Zoo
- Free Admission to most Bellarmine Athletic events (more details in handbook)

Continued Membership Benefits:

- Register for classes of interest
- Access to year-round activities including:

lecture series, virtual and in-person field trips, social events such as Holiday Lunch and Spring Celebration

- Free parking on campus (valued at \$100/yr)
- Full use of Bellarmine Library and SuRF Center (Sport, Recreation, and Fitness) (valued at \$250/yr)
- 15% discount on select Continuing Education Enrichment courses

Become a Card-Carrying Member!

This Fall, Veritas members will have the option during registration to opt-in to receive a Veritas "Student" ID card. Veritas members will be able to upload their photo after registration using a link that will be emailed, and cards will be printed and available the first week of class. The Student ID never expires and will be automatically renewed each term you register. The student ID will be used to access the above benefits including admission at the community partners, Bellarmine athletic events, Bellarmine Library and SuRF.

Show your Veritas Student ID card wherever you go to see what student discounts might



Veritas Board member Marilyn Schorin shares an example of the student ID card available to Veritas members.

FALL PROSPECTIVE MEMBER INFORMATION SESSION

The Veritas Society is recruiting new members this Fall! The Promotion Committee will be hosting an Information Session on Thursday, September 8th at 2 pm on Bellarmine's campus, and on Zoom, for those interested in joining Veritas.

Membership is open to those retired or semi-retired, 55 years and older, who want to keep their minds active, open, and growing. Membership is no longer restricted to those in the Louisville area and there are increased spots in classes due to the availability of Zoom and Hybrid courses.

We encourage you to invite your friends to attend the information session to hear what Veritas is all about! They can RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/buveritas> or email veritas@bellarmine.edu. Specific location information will be sent to those that RSVP.

VERITAS MEMBERS BEAT THE HEAT THIS SUMMER WITH VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES

Many Veritas Members took advantage of the opportunity to virtually explore attractions around the country this May and June without ever leaving the house! Eleven virtual field trips were hosted by the Veritas Office in an effort to keep members engaged between class sessions and provide learning opportunities that members may not otherwise receive, since fewer people are traveling. With over 300 spaces filled in these virtual trips, the additional programming continues to prove to be a success and each virtual trip has little to no cost, depending on the hosting organization. Some of the highlights were the Park Ranger from the San Juan National Heritage Site in Puerto Rico (shown at right), a spotlight on the Coral Reefs Exhibit from the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC, and a modified Yellowstone National Park tour given by a Park Ranger from his home because of the flooding that washed

out the roads in the park. Virtual field trips to the Helen Keller Archives at the American Printing House for the Blind and a lecture about Whiskey and Hemp and the Effect on Climate Change from Mt. Folly Farm in Winchester, Kentucky, have inspired the planning of in-person field trips, hopefully later this year! The Veritas Office hopes to be able to continue offering this programming to our members between terms.



MEET DENISE DAVIS

(Part of our series of member profiles; Denise is a new presenter this fall, on The Practice of Journaling.)

You are a new presenter; are you also new to Veritas?

Yes, I am new to Veritas. Back in 2017, upon returning to Louisville after living in Manhattan for three years, I first discovered its existence and intended to begin taking classes. Instead, I wound up beginning work on a degree at Earlham School of Religion, so I opted to wait before taking Veritas classes.

Are you retired? What is your professional or career background?

I never “officially” retired. I simply quit working eleven years ago. I taught theology at Assumption High School for fourteen years, my specialty being feminine spirituality. Prior to that, I spent seven years at home when my children were young. And, even before that—when I was still young—I was an adjunct writing instructor at universities in both the Los Angeles area (where I’m originally from) and here in Louisville.

How/when did you become interested in journaling, and what role has it played in your life?

I began journaling all the way back in high school. At first, I did it sporadically, but as the decades passed, it became my primary spiritual practice. I begin with reflecting upon the daily readings of the Catholic Church and one poem. (Currently, I’m using the book *Holocaust Poetry*, compiled by Hilda Schiff.) I then just write. At times, journaling has enhanced my ability to enter into the complexities of my life; other times, it is a creative outlet as I play with fictional characters or draft a poem here and there. I also love to ponder big ideas. Honestly, I can’t imagine not journaling. I probably have over 50 filled journals. I don’t envy my kids when I die. Surely, they won’t want to read them, and yet, do you just trash someone’s life thoughts?

Describe yourself in three words.

Most often, people tell me that I am intense, passionate, and articulate.

I understand your class is entirely in person? Do you have thoughts one way or the other about teaching in the shadow of Covid?

This class will be in-person, but I also enjoy teaching through Zoom. I do not prefer hybrid classes, either as a student or teacher—just too hard to meet the differing needs of all participants. With this being said, I wouldn’t mind teaching the same class twice in a semester—one on-line, and one in-person—if there’s interest for both. As a student at Earlham, I was aware of the limitations of not being able to

access what I needed/wanted due to a class being offered through a particular means.

Describe a perfect day in Louisville.

A perfect day in Louisville is to spend at least an hour in one of our parks—either going for a long bike ride through Seneca/Cherokee or the Parklands, or hiking/walking on one of the many trails I can access from my home in the Highlands. That perfect day also includes feasting with my family—three adult children all happily partnered now, and three gorgeous grandchildren. And, of course, having a bit of time to journal/write as well.

What is the most influential book you’ve read?

Even though this sounds incredibly corny, anyone who knows me knows how much I read The Bible—both Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. As I said, I do read the daily readings. More than that, I find such wisdom and guidance in its mythology that I have to say that it is a foundational text for me, even though it’s been a long time since I’ve belonged to a parish or church. I truly enjoy delving into the stories—especially those involving women—with others to discover and create new ways of seeing and understanding them. One word of advice: never ask me about Genesis 2-4! I can talk for hours about that story, it being my very favorite.

Piece of music?

The soundtrack of the Broadway production: “The Great Comet.” I highly recommend it!!!



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Beyond the Veritas classes—and not limited to term-time—Veritas members are invited to take part in a variety of voluntary interest groups. Here are the ones currently meeting.

The Spirituality Interest Group has both in-person and zoom meetings, and both have been well-attended. The in-person group meets at 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Douglass Blvd. Christian Church, 2005 Douglass Blvd. The Zoom session meets at 10:30 a.m. the last Wednesday of the month. The groups are led by Barbara MacDonald, who has taught courses on Christianity, Spirituality, and Cosmology. A main theme incorporated in all her writings and classes is the awareness that we are spiritual beings having a human experience. She also holds that we learn from one another and welcomes all faith traditions to be part of the discussion. For more information and to get the Zoom link, contact Barb at barbpmac@gmail.com.

The Veritas Movie Dinner Group meets monthly on the first Thursday of each month. Members are asked to take turns choosing a movie at a local theater and then after the movie a nearby restaurant. There they can

discuss the movie and share their insights. Members can choose to go to both the movie and dinner or one or the other. Please feel free to contact Facilitator Linda Miller at lin-da.loves.walking@gmail.com or at 502-216-4075.

The Healthy Eating Group is meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month, eating at various restaurants that specialize in healthy fare. Contact Rebecca Beyerle beyerler@gmail.com or (502) 454-0368 for reservations or additional information.

The Mystery Book Discussion Group is meeting in person and on Zoom; it meets the first Tuesday of the month from 10:30 p.m. to noon at the Highlands-Shelby Park Library in the Mid-City Mall. Contact Rebecca Beyerle by email at beyerler@gmail.com to receive notices of future book choices.

The Ethnic Lunch Group meets the second Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at various locations for different ethnic food each time. For information and reservations, contact organizer Mary Helen Thompson at (502) 459-5750 or email her at thompsonmary-helen1@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: With this issue I have assumed the editorship of the Veritas Voice, succeeding Leslie Ellis—definitely an amateur replacing a pro! As someone who spent my life scribbling comments on student papers, I believe in the value of critical feedback, and also in having lots of writing on my desk. In other words, I invite your comments, your suggestions, and especially your written contributions. Have a book, movie, TV show you think Veritas members should know about? Is there a fellow member you think would be interesting to interview? Have you had a Veritas experience you just have to share? Pass it along! I already depend a lot on the incomparable help of Veritas staff (i.e., Abigail Walsh) and my fellow board members, but I'm more than happy to depend on you as well! I hope you have a great Fall term.—Jonathan Smith, Editor

JOIN VERITAS FRIENDS FOR A WELCOME BACK BBQ & TRIVIA NIGHT

In September, Veritas welcomes members and prospective members to come together for a Welcome Back Barbecue and Trivia Night. This will be the first trivia event Veritas has ever hosted and it is sure to be a blast! Many of our members are avid trivia players, so why not bring them all together to play against each other? The date of the event is Sunday, September 11th. The afternoon will kick off with the dinner buffet being served at 4:15 pm, followed by the first round of trivia beginning at 5 pm. The event will be held in Bellarmine's George G. Brown Frazier Hall, on the Norris Place side of campus.

Information on the event was emailed to members in early August. If you would like more information or didn't receive the email, reach out to the Veritas Office at veritas@bellarmine.edu. The deadline for registering as a team or individual is September 2nd.

This fundraiser will benefit the Veritas Society Endowed Scholarship, which is awarded to a Bellarmine undergraduate student of good academic standing in the health sciences. Additional funds will also go toward Veritas' operating costs, as we continue to keep our membership fees and course fees low.

Special thanks to the Membership Committee for coming up with the idea, and for all their work to enhance our members' experience.

SUMMER COURSE TOPICS KEEP MEMBERS ENTERTAINED

During July, 77 Veritas members participated in the three-week summer term hosted on Zoom. The Monday class featured Veritas members Jerry Hubbs, Barry Chafin, Tina Adams, and Marilyn Schorin detailing their travel experiences and tips for travel during the pandemic. A docent from The Getty Museum in Los Angeles gave the history of hemlines, necklines, hair styles, trousers, and jewels in "A Passion for Fashion" on Tuesday mornings. Wednesday morning students

learned the secrets behind the Mediterranean diet and how to prepare Mediterranean meals at home. Thursday mornings were rounded out with Winston Churchill's years as Prime Minister until his death. In the afternoons, summer flicks were shown from Award-Winning Actor Sidney Poitier, Award-Winning Director Peter Bogdanovich, and Award-Winning Special Effects Wizard Douglas Trumbull.

HYBRID CLASSES – AN EVER-CHANGING WORK IN PROGRESS

Five years ago, online classes had never been considered an option for Veritas. Thanks to the efforts of our production team, Zoom classes were mastered more quickly than anyone could have imagined, and now, Veritas is beginning its third term of hybrid classes. Each term, the production team runs practice sessions with the presenters, meets as a team to compare experiences, spends hours searching online for tips and tricks, and then practices some more.

Hybrid classes serve three large purposes: they allow Veritas members who are ready to come back to campus to do so; they allow Veritas members who need to join from their home to participate; and they allow presenters who are ready to be in the classroom to have a live audience to present to. Hybrid classes require two production team members, plus a lot of equipment to operate the class.

Are hybrid classes perfect? No, and they never will be. But, as our production team works hard to improve week to week, we ask for class members' patience as we work out the kinks that come along!

In Memoriam

Frederick Smock, former Poet Laureate of Kentucky, longtime English Professor at Bellarmine, and frequent presenter of poetry classes for Veritas, has died at age 68 of heart disease.

Fred was a native of Louisville, graduating from Seneca High School and Georgetown College, and eventually studying creative writing with renowned author Sena Jeter Naslund at the University of Louisville. Naslund said of him: "His poems and many beautiful books, often published by Larkspur Press, are gems with the vitality of flowers. Each of them exhibits something of his own kind and gentle manner, informed by a unique way of experiencing and reshaping what we thought was the world."

Bud Spalding, Coordinator of the Summer Term, wrote "Professor Smock had a coterie of avid Veritas fans for his poetry courses, especially in Summer Term, as well as during academic years," and added, "I personally will miss seeing Frederick at Veritas classes, and frequently at the Uptown Cafe."

The University plans to hold a memorial service some time this fall. *Requiescat In Pace, amicus noster.*



WHO WE ARE

Since 1995, Veritas has offered the preeminent learning experience to people over 54 in the Louisville area. Our mission is to keep our minds active, open and growing, with the goals of:

- Understanding our past history and cultural heritage
- Informing members about what is happening around us
- Recognizing changes in the world and finding our place in it

We are retired or semi-retired people: doctors, educators, homemakers, office workers, administrators, artists, laborers, and executives. We are governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership.

WHAT WE DO

We are an active, participatory group that devises and develops its own programs, enlisting the best of regional talent for presentations. We offer a six-week program each fall and spring, and a shortened three-week summer term in July.

CONTACT US

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