

# JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	3
4	5	6 9:30AM MONTHLY PROGRAM	7  SPRING REGISTRATION OPENS 9:00AM www.hope.edu/hasp/classes	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 9:30AM – SMT08 (H) Radon in Homes  1:00PM – HUM06 (H) Crystal Cathedral	20  1:00PM – SOC03 (H) Trump Impact on Fed Workforce	21	22  1:00PM – SMT03 (H) Athletic Performance	23 9:30AM – SMT05 (O) Healthy Options Close to Home	24
25	26	27 9:30AM – HUM08 (H) Hope-Western Seminary Prison Panel	28 9:30AM – SOC13 (H) US Foreign Policy in Mid-East	29  1:00PM – HUM11 (C) Jane Austen & Film Adaptations	30	31
(C) CLASSROOM ONLY		(V) VIRTUAL ONLY		(H) HYBRID		(O) OFFSITE

# FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30AM – SMT07 (H) Medicare Decoded	<b>3</b> 9:30AM MONTHLY PROGRAM	<b>4</b> 9:30AM – SOC12 (H) US Leadership in World Economy	<b>5</b>  1:00PM – HUM11 (C) Jane Austen & Film Adaptations	<b>6</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>The Station Agent</i>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30AM – ART07 (O) The Basics of Growing Orchids	<b>10</b> 9:30AM – HUM02 (C) Non-Fiction Books <i>The Barn</i>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:30AM – HUM05 (H) Interfaith Connections  1:00PM – SOC02 (H) Adaptive Leadership	<b>13</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>Cider with Rosie</i>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:30AM – ART07 (O) The Basics of Growing Orchids	<b>17</b>  1:00PM – SOC10 (H) Life at Home During WWII	<b>18</b> 9:30AM – SMT06 (H) Blockchain and Cryptocurrency  1:00PM – ART05 (C) On Humor	<b>19</b> 9:30AM – HUM01 (C) Barmen Declaration	<b>20</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>Breaking Away</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30AM – HUM04 (C) Writing the Short Story  1:00PM – ART01 (O) Diversity Matters II	<b>24</b>  1:00PM – SMT02 (C) Geological Resources in Michigan	<b>25</b> 9:30AM – SOC04 (H) Ukraine Update	<b>26</b> 9:30AM – HUM01 (C) Barmen Declaration	<b>27</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>Mr. Morgan's Last Love</i>	<b>28</b>
(C) CLASSROOM ONLY		(V) VIRTUAL ONLY		(H) HYBRID		(O) OFFSITE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30AM – HUM04 (C) Writing the Short Story	<b>3</b> 9:30AM MONTHLY PROGRAM	<b>4</b> 9:30AM – SMT14 (V) Chemical and Paper Engineering	<b>5</b> 9:30AM – ART03 (O) HASP's 4th Annual Oscar Party  1:00PM – SOC06 (H) Helping Holland's Homeless	<b>6</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>Operation Finale</i>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  1:00PM – SMT15 (H) Mac and Kalamazoo River Greenway Projects	<b>10</b> 9:30AM – HUM02 (C) Non-Fiction Books <i>Private Revolutions</i>	<b>11</b> 9:30AM – HUM03 (H) Religion in America  1:00PM – SOC11 (H) Ranked-Choice Voting Explained	<b>12</b> 9:30AM – ART03 (O) HASP's 4th Annual Oscar Party	<b>13</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>Les Choristes</i>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:30AM – SMT13 (H) Geologic History of Michigan	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:30AM – HUM03 (H) Religion in America	<b>19</b> 9:30AM – ART03 (O) HASP's 4th Annual Oscar Party	<b>20</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>Local Hero</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30AM – SMT01 (H) Inflammation as Silent Spark  1:00PM – SMT01 (H) Inflammation as Silent Spark	<b>24</b>  1:00PM – SOC05 (C) Social Media & Mental Health	<b>25</b> 9:30AM – HUM03 (H) Religion in America	<b>26</b> 9:30AM – SMT16 (H) Wildlife Tracking Program	<b>27</b> 9:30AM – ART02 (C) Verplank Film Series <i>The Good Traitor</i>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30AM – ART06 (C) Making Music	<b>31</b>  1:00PM – SMT04 (H) Sustainable Packaging				
(C) CLASSROOM ONLY		(V) VIRTUAL ONLY		(H) HYBRID		(O) OFFSITE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 9:30AM – HUM03 (H) Religion in America	<b>2</b> 9:30AM – SMT11 (H) Creation and Evolution	<b>3</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> GOOD FRIDAY	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  1:00PM – SMT10 (H) Black Holes	<b>7</b> 9:30AM MONTHLY PROGRAM	<b>8</b>  1:00PM – ART04 (H) Mackinac Island's Cottages	<b>9</b> 9:30AM – SMT11 (H) Creation and Evolution	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30AM – SOC08 (H) Descent into Darkness	<b>14</b> 9:30AM – HUM02 (C) Non-Fiction Books <i>The Anxious Generation</i>  1:00PM – HUM09 (H) Clergy Freedom of Speech	<b>15</b> 9:30AM – SOC07 (O) Immigration, Zeeland	<b>16</b> 9:30AM – SMT11 (H) Creation and Evolution	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30AM – SOC08 (H) Descent into Darkness	<b>21</b> 9:30AM – SMT09 (H) Carbon Dioxide Removal  1:00PM – SMT12 (H) Natural History of Great Lakes	<b>22</b> 9:30AM – SOC07 (O) Immigration, Holland	<b>23</b> 9:30AM – SMT11 (H) Creation and Evolution  1:00PM – SMT17 (C) Hi-Fidelity Audio Renaissance	<b>24</b> 9:30AM – HUM10 (H) Harmel Academy	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30AM – SOC08 (H) Descent into Darkness  1:00PM – ART01 (O) Diversity Matters II	<b>28</b> 9:30AM MONTHLY PROGRAM  1:00PM – SMT12 (H) Natural History of Great Lakes	<b>29</b> 9:30AM – HUM07 (H) Green Street in Black & White	<b>30</b>	<div> <b>Monday, May 18 <u>or</u></b>  <b>Tuesday, May 19</b>            9:30am – ART08 (O)            Migas's Garden         </div>	
(C) CLASSROOM ONLY		(V) VIRTUAL ONLY		(H) HYBRID		(O) OFFSITE

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### **SMT08 – The Uninvited Guest: Radon in Michigan Homes**

It's invisible. It's silent. And it's odorless. But it's there, an uninvited guest in every homeowner's basement. It's radon! Leslie Smith will examine naturally occurring radioactive radon gas: its origins, how it enters our homes, and how it affects our health. He will also share practical advice on how to test for and reduce the presence of radon indoors.

*Leslie Smith is an indoor radon specialist with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Materials Management Division. During his more than 33-year career with EGLE, he has served as an environmental cleanup project manager, air quality inspector, enforcement coordinator, and environmental assistance liaison and community engagement coordinator. Smith has a BS in resource development from Michigan State University.*

Date: MONDAY, January 19  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Linda Fulton

### **HUM06 – The Success and Collapse of Crystal Cathedral Ministries: A Senior Staff Pastor's Perspective**

In 1999, when Terry Nyhuis became its pastor of congregational life, Crystal Cathedral Ministries was at its peak of influence, health, and effectiveness. But by 2004 things had begun to unravel, and when Nyhuis retired in 2006 the megachurch's trajectory toward collapse was set. Six years later, it had ceased to exist. Join Nyhuis as he explores what made ministry at this megachurch so effective, the factors and decisions that resulted in its collapse in only a decade, and what we can learn from the life and death of this influential ministry.

*HASP member Terry Nyhuis is a retired Reformed Church in America pastor. Before joining Crystal Cathedral Ministries, he served at Lake Hills Community Church in Southern California and at Trinity Reformed Church in Holland. Throughout his studies and career, Nyhuis emphasized personal, leadership, and organizational development. He earned a BA from Hope College, an MDiv from Fuller Theological Seminary, and a DMin from George Fox University.*

Date: MONDAY, January 19  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Jeanne Nyhuis

### **SOC03 – The Federal Workforce One Year Later: The Impact of Trump’s Executive Orders**

Within the first 30 days of his second term, President Donald Trump signed two important executive orders pertaining to the federal workforce. These orders were part of the Department of Government Efficiency initiative intended to significantly reduce the size and change the composition of the federal workforce. A year later, Amy Webber will explore how these executive orders have changed federal work, how they have affected government services, and what the future holds for public servants.

*HASP Director **Amy Webber** worked for 19 years as both a federal government contractor and a federal employee. The latter positions included terms at the Departments of Defense, Housing and Urban Development, State, Justice, and Commerce. Webber holds an MA in criminology and criminal justice from the University of Memphis.*

Date: TUESDAY, January 20  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Tom Glover

### **SMT03 – The Science of Athletic Performance**

Molli Munz and Zachary Stichnoth will discuss the goals and science-based process of designing individualized strength and conditioning programs for athletes in team sports at Michigan State University. Their presentation will consider the methods used to develop desired attributes and improved performance, and how physics is used in the enhancement of athletic performance. They will also review the development of young adults, both physically and mentally.

***Molli Munz** is director of olympic sports science and in her 18th year as a strength coach at Michigan State University. She earned a BS in health and fitness at Central Michigan University, where she was a 4-year starter and a 2-time captain of the women’s basketball team. Munz also has a master’s degree in kinesiology from MSU. **Zachary Stichnoth** is an assistant director of athletic performance and a strength coach at Michigan State University. He received a BS in exercise science from DePaul University and a master’s in kinesiology from MSU.*

Date: THURSDAY, January 22  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: John Kobs



### **SMT05 – Healthy Options and Opportunities at Your Local Community Center**

Come see what the new Holland Charter Township Community Center has to offer. Utilizing the resources at the new Center, options and opportunities will include cardio training, strength training, and pickleball. Participants will be split into groups and receive instruction and guidance, with an emphasis on basic skills and proper technique.

Note: Participants should wear comfortable clothes and athletic shoes suitable for working with the exercise equipment and trying pickleball.

***Darrin Duistermars** is parks and recreation director for Holland Charter Township. He is a member of the USA Softball National Board of Directors, the West Ottawa Board of Education, and the Holland Convention & Visitor's Bureau. Duistermars is also the public announcer for Hope College Athletics, including soccer, basketball, lacrosse, and softball. **Ben Bekius** is director of the Holland Charter Township Community Center. He has an extensive background in community-based marketing, partnership development, and facility operations. Bekius previously spent 18 years with Dick's Sporting Goods.*

Date: FRIDAY, January 23  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: OFFSITE (The Holland Charter Township Center is located in the Shops of West Shore at 12343 James St., Holland. Parking is available next to the facility.)  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Susan Couch

### **HUM08 – The Impact of the Humanities and Restorative Justice in the Hope-Western Prison Initiative: A Panel Discussion**

As a follow-up to a fall 2025 course, this panel discussion will focus on two aspects of the Hope-Western Prison Education Program (HWPEP). First, consideration will be given to the impact of the humanities on the Hope College students participating in HWPEP. Second, the panelists will discuss the ways in which restorative justice is both taught and practiced throughout the program.

***Kary Bosma** directed the Calvin Prison Initiative for eight years before becoming co-director of the Hope-Western Prison Education Program. She has an undergraduate degree in criminal justice from Calvin University. **David Stubbs** is co-director of HWPEP, a professor of ethics and theology at Western Theological Seminary, and an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA). He holds BS and MS degrees from Stanford University, an MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a PhD from Duke University.*

Date: TUESDAY, January 27  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Doug Brouwer

### **SOC13 – Great Decisions: American Foreign Policy in the Middle East**

Hope College's Janis Gibbs will provide an update on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the war in Gaza, adding historical context to the Great Decisions video. She will speak about the establishment of Israel as an independent sovereign state in 1948; the Six-Day War between Israel and a coalition of Arab states (primarily Egypt, Syria, and Jordan) in June 1967; the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and the Golan Heights of Syria; the question of genocide; and efforts to resolve the conflict in Gaza.

Note: This course will NOT be recorded.

*A member of the Hope College faculty since 1996, **Janis Gibbs** is an associate professor of history, a co-advisor of the college's Fulbright Program, and a faculty member in its Vienna Summer School. Her research concentrates on sixteenth-century Germany, and her teaching interests include the modern Middle East and the history of civil liberties in wartime. Gibbs earned a JD from the University of Chicago Law School and an MA and a PhD from the University of Virginia.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, January 28  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Kit Janssen Leggett

## HUM11 – From Page to Picture: Jane Austen on Film

Are you a fan of Jane Austen? Which do you think was better: the novel or the movie? Hope College's Christiana Salah will examine Jane Austen as not only one of the great literary writers but also a wellspring of Hollywood and BBC adaptations. We will analyze scenes from Austen's writing to get a feel for her funny and insightful prose, and then consider how her work was adapted for the screen.

**January 29:** Our focus will be on Austen's first published novel, *Sense and Sensibility*, and the 1995 film adaptation directed by Ang Lee. We will look at excerpts from Austen's text alongside Emma Thompson's Oscar-winning screenplay and discuss the challenges of bringing a beloved classic to life in film.

**February 5:** We will talk about the many different places that *Pride and Prejudice* shows up in modern literature and pop culture, as well as the two most famous screen adaptations: the 1995 miniseries with Jennifer Ehle and Colin Firth, and the 2005 Keira Knightley film.

Note: Prior reading and/or viewing is suggested, but not required.

*Christiana Salah is an assistant professor of English and an affiliated professor of women's and gender studies at Hope College. She teaches literature courses focused primarily on British writers of the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as a wide variety of both general education and introductory courses. Salah has a BA from Colby College, an MFA from Emerson College, and MA and PhD degrees in English from the University of Connecticut.*

Dates: THURSDAYS, January 29 and February 5  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$10.00  
Coordinator: Cynthia Prah

### **SMT07 – Medicare Decoded: An Insurance Agent’s Perspective**

Medicare is the second-largest government social benefit program (behind Social Security), providing around \$1 trillion in benefits annually to approximately 66 million people. Yet despite its size and scope, Medicare is exceedingly complex and easily – and often – misunderstood. Chad Ludema will provide an overview of Medicare based on his more than 25 years of experience as a licensed insurance agent specializing in the field. His presentation will be followed by an FAQ session in which Ludema will offer answers to common questions and misconceptions about Medicare. There will also be time for participants to pose their own questions.

*Holland native **Chad Ludema** is a partner and independent insurance agent at Harvest Insurance Agency & Financial Services. He has a bachelor’s degree from Davenport University.*

Date: MONDAY, February 2  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Tom Robinson

### **SOC12 – Great Decisions: United States Leadership of a Changing World Economy**

The liberal international economic order the United States created in 1944 and maintained for decades is now failing in the face of domestic and foreign challenges. President Trump has abandoned America’s commitment to open trade in favor of nationalist mercantilism, which will likely hinder our nation’s economic growth. Nevertheless, the US can still renew its domestic industry, military, and educational system so as to overcome the many pressing obstacles and provide essential global leadership.

***Stephen Smith** holds the Robert W. Haack Endowed Chair of Economics at Hope College, where his teaching includes economic growth and development, international economics, and econometrics. He has been a visiting professor at the American Enterprise Institute and a visiting scholar at the United States International Trade Commission. Smith also served as president of the Association of Christian Economists from 2021 through 2024. He earned an AB at Williams College and a PhD at Stanford University.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, February 4  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Kit Janssen Leggett

## ART02 – Laura Verplank Film Series

In HASP's early years, Laura Verplank pioneered presenting an ongoing series of introducing, presenting, and discussing films. Jack Hyde has continued this tradition, offering insightful background and analysis of the selected works.

**February 6:** *The Station Agent* (2003, 90 minutes)

In this feel-good comedy about friendship that transcends the barriers of prejudice, a "little person" (Finn) yearns to be invisible to others after suffering a lifetime of taunting about his appearance. Finn's life is transformed when he inherits a remote, abandoned railroad station.

**February 13:** *Cider with Rosie* (1998, 100 minutes)

This is a coming-of-age story about a boy in England's Cotswolds near the end of World War I and shortly thereafter. Lush landscape and literate storytelling are highlights of this gentle tale.

**February 20:** *Breaking Away* (1979, 100 minutes)

This humorous story of class distinction and the passion of competition will be a special delight for Hoosiers.

**February 27:** *Mr. Morgan's Last Love* (2013, 111 minutes)

Matthew Morgan (Michael Caine) is a retired, and widowed, American professor in his eighties. He lives in Paris and speaks no French. This is a deliciously slow-paced love story.

**March 6:** *Operation Finale* (2018, 2 hours)

In the spring of 1960, Nazi Adolph Eichmann was found in South America and taken to Jerusalem for trial. This accurate historical drama tells (as Paul Harvey would put it) "the rest of the story."

**March 13:** *Les Choristes* (2004, 97 minutes)

In this true story, Pierre, a successful orchestra conductor, returns home when his mother dies. He stumbles upon an old diary and is filled with memories of his childhood school and his music teacher, Clement Mathieu.

**March 20:** *Local Hero* (1983, 111 minutes)

An American oil executive is sent to Scotland to negotiate drilling rights in a pristine village. This lighthearted culture-clash film is a precursor of environmental commentary and served, perhaps unwittingly, as an unheeded warning of what lay ahead.

**March 27:** *The Good Traitor* (Danish with English subtitles, 2020, 115 minutes)

America's relationship with Scandinavia during the World War II era has been the subject of recent historical drama. This Danish film concerns the US-Denmark relationship when that country was invaded by Germany in April 1940.

*HASP member Jack Hyde has been presenting this and other series in recent years. He has been a high school special education teacher, a writer, and an editor. He is also an avid film buff.*

Dates: FRIDAYS, February 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, and 27  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$5.00 per session  
Coordinator: Elsa Hyde

## ART07 – The Basics of Growing Orchids

Landis Zylman invites HASP members to his home to share his passion for cultivating orchids.

### **February 9:** Introduction to the Orchid Collection

Zylman will review the many varieties of orchids in the collection and discuss their growth patterns.

### **February 16:** How to Grow Orchids

Zylman will share the particulars of caring for orchids, including light, temperature, fertilizers, and hybrids.

Note: Participants will use their own transportation. The Zylman home at 92 W. 40th St. in Holland is located on the south side of 40th St., between Richland Ct. and Central Ave. A sign, “Orchids,” is at the entrance of a long driveway.

*HASP member **Landis Zylman** earned a BS from Hope College and a DDS from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Having retired after 40 years in dentistry, he has been able to focus on his lifelong passion of gardening. Zylman continues to expand his passion for orchids, African violets, dahlias, and a large garden of produce and floral landscape around his home.*

Dates: MONDAYS, February 9 and 16  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: OFFSITE  
**Limit: 12 enrollees**  
Cost: \$10.00  
Coordinator: Debbie Bissonnette

## HUM02 – Non-Fiction Books

HASP members choose recent non-fiction books of interest and take turns leading lively discussions. Participants are expected to read the chosen book before the class. (Note: Books are available from Reader's World in downtown Holland at a 20% discount, at your local library, or from an on-line source in various formats.)

**February 10:** *The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi*, by Wright Thompson (2024). A native son examines the 1955 murder of Emmitt Till in Mississippi and forces us to study this shocking event in order to “heal our oldest, deepest wound.”

Discussion leader: Barb Springer Selig

**March 10:** *Private Revolutions: Four Women Face China's New Social Order*, by Yuan Yang (2024). A British journalist examines the lives of four women born in China in the 1980s and 1990s as they try to create better lives for themselves and their families in the new Chinese economy.

Discussion leader: Sue Bohlander

**April 14:** *The Anxious Generation*, by Jonathan Haidt (2024). The prominent social psychologist seeks to explain the rise of mental illness in American youth. He believes that the lack of play-based childhood, overprotective parenting, and the use of smart phones and social media play a role, and he has ideas for how parents and schools can raise healthier children in this digital age.

Discussion leader: Debra Williamson

Dates: TUESDAYS, February 10, March 10, and April 14

Time: 9:30am - 11:00am

Mode: CLASSROOM

Cost: \$5.00 per session

Coordinators: Betsy Snider and Barb Springer Selig

## HUM05 – Bridging Religious Divides

In our world today, religion is often portrayed as a divisive force that separates people from or, worse, puts them at odds with each other. At Oman’s Al Amana Centre, a legacy of the Reformed Church in America’s work in the Arabian Gulf, people of different religious convictions meet, learn, discuss, and develop friendships, all with the goal of building bridges and fostering peace among faith communities. Join Jeffrey Japinga, Justin Meyers, and Ahmed Al Mukhaini as they explore the importance of interfaith conversations and relationships, and how they can bring positive change to both individuals and communities.

*HASP member **Jeffrey Japinga** is a retired Reformed Church in America (RCA) and Presbyterian Church (USA) minister, having served for nearly four decades in numerous congregational, denominational, and seminary callings across three denominations. Currently, he is chairman of the board of Al Amana Centre. Japinga has a BS from Northwestern University, an MDiv from New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and a DMin from McCormick Theological Seminary. **Justin Meyers** is executive director of Al Amana Centre in Muscat, Oman, where he has worked since 2013. Previously, he pastored RCA churches in Schenectady and Queens, New York. Meyers has an MDiv from Western Theological Seminary. **Ahmed Al Mukhaini** has been an adjunct lecturer at Al Amana Centre since 2008. He has BSc and MA degrees from universities in the United Kingdom.*

Date: THURSDAY, February 12  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Jean Norden

## SOC02 – Adaptive Leadership in Theory and in Everyday Life

Adaptive leadership, a framework developed by Harvard Kennedy School professors Ron Heifetz and Marty Linsky, focuses on innovation and collaboration. It was designed to help individuals and organizations (typically businesses but increasingly churches and other non-profits) adjust to change and thrive in new, often complex, conditions. The concept of “adaptive action” can help avoid devoting excessive time and energy to analyzing problems and focusing on obstacles, and instead use key questions and other strategies to find meaning in circumstance and stimulate thoughtful and faithful action, even in times of uncertainty.

*HASP member **Jeffrey Japinga** is a retired Reformed Church in America and Presbyterian Church (USA) minister. He served for nearly four decades in congregational, denominational, and seminary callings across three denominations. One of those roles was as an assistant professor of church leadership at McCormick Theological Seminary, where Japinga invited hundreds of church leaders to explore the possibilities of adaptive leadership. He has a BS from Northwestern University, an MDiv from New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and a DMin from McCormick.*

Date: THURSDAY, February 12  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Steve Norden



## SOC10 – Life on the Home Front During World War II

Join Debra Wake as she offers an engaging look at the many changes and adaptations that took place on the home front during America's involvement in World War II. These included rationing and scrap drives as well as Michigan's large-scale milkweed production and the response to Japanese balloon bombs. She will also discuss significant changes that occurred in entertainment and sports.

***Debra Wake** is a member of the American Rosie the Riveter Association and has written numerous articles about Rosie and the American home front during World War II. She retired after 25 years as manager of youth, family, and camp programs at the history museum complex in Dearborn now collectively called "The Henry Ford." More recently, Wake served as the education and volunteer coordinator for the Holland Museum. She received a BA in history from the University of Michigan-Dearborn.*

Date: TUESDAY, February 17  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Frances Hackney

## SMT06 – Blockchain and Cryptocurrency: Fundamental Concepts and Key Questions

Tom Robinson will discuss the fundamental concepts and principles of blockchain technology, as well as its origins, common industry applications, and basic technical components. He will also explore how cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin leverage blockchains. Finally, Robinson will outline some of the key opportunities, challenges, and risks associated with the technology and the use of digital currency, both today and in the future.

*HASP member **Tom Robinson** graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. His career includes roles as a developer, program manager, and senior leader in organizations that have launched portable scanning, radio frequency infrastructure, and embedded application products. Robinson's current focus is on developing strategy and applying technology to solve complex problems in the healthcare industry.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, February 18  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Randall Miller

## ART05 – On Humor

Join Lee Copenhaver as he discusses different types and theories of humor including superiority, release, incongruity, and surprise, as well as a few techniques such as timing, gesture, and audience involvement. He will also offer a bit of history and some examples drawn from masters of televised and written entertainment. Consider: can a good joke be ruined by having it explained? Maybe not! Course participants will have the opportunity to use their best lines, and some exercises will encourage the creation of new ones.

*HASP member **Lee Copenhaver** taught music theory/analysis, ear-training, and orchestration at Grand Valley State University for 33 years. He is a cellist with the Holland and West Michigan symphonies; he also enjoys composing and arranging music, writing poetry, and saying funny things. Copenhaver earned degrees in music education at Mansfield University of Pennsylvania and Ithaca College, and an MM in cello performance and a PhD in music theory from the University of Iowa.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, February 18  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Terry Nyhuis

## HUM01 – The Barmen Declaration: What It Was and What It Means Today

**February 19:** In the 1930s many German churches bowed down to Hitler while others refused. This latter group, led by Karl Barth and Dietrich Bonhoeffer among others, was called the “Confessing Church” because it was based on a confession of faith in God, not allegiance to a human ruler. In 1934 the Confessing Church drafted the Barmen Declaration, a call to resistance against the theological claims of the Nazi state. What exactly was the Barmen Declaration and why was it important?

**February 26:** Culture watchers today observe that in some countries the Church is facing a situation similar to that of the Church in Germany during the Nazi era. They argue that the Church can and should learn from the Barmen Declaration. Are they right? What can we discern from the Barmen Declaration as we face the challenges of today?

***Steven Bouma-Prediger** is a professor of religion at Hope College, where he has taught for over 30 years, and an adjunct professor at Western Theological Seminary. He is a graduate of Hope and has master's degrees from the Institute for Christian Studies and Fuller Theological Seminary as well as a PhD from the University of Chicago. Bouma-Prediger has authored 8 books and published over 100 articles.*

Dates: THURSDAYS, February 19 and 26  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$10.00  
Coordinator: Stephen Hemenway

#### **HUM04 – Writing the Short Story: Beyond the Narrative and “Show, Don’t Tell”**

Although most commonly understood in the realm of music, an etude (from the French word for study) can also refer to works of literature that are written primarily for the purpose of studying a particular literary form, technique, or device. Linda Walvoord will share two stories of her own creation to demonstrate in detail how a fiction story works. We will find that “show, don’t tell” does not begin to cover the art.

**February 23:** Walvoord will share a 500-word story – known as a “short short” – that is complete in itself. We will explore the use of selective detail, tight dialogue, and the critical importance of tone. Participants are encouraged to bring colored markers for their use in analyzing the work.

**March 2:** A story of over 5,000 words will be studied to answer the question of why it may be a complete story in itself, and not just a first chapter of a novel or a novella. We will again focus on how dialogue, scene, action, and “the rest of what you need” fit together. And we will investigate how the handy formula ABDCE (Action, Background, Development, Climax, and Ending) may be utilized to structure a written work with movement, tension, and meaning.

*HASP Member **Linda Walvoord** earned a BA from Hope College and, eschewing the celebrated MFA that is coveted today, a PhD in American literature from the University of Chicago. She has taught short fiction as literature and written and published fiction for children (in book and story form) as well as a few stories for adults. Walvoord has presented several HASP courses, including on the art of writing poetry.*

Dates: MONDAYS, February 23 and March 2  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$10.00  
Coordinator: Cynthia Prah

## **ART01 – Diversity Matters II: African American and LGBTQ+ Works in the Kruizenga Art Museum Collection**

The Kruizenga Art Museum (KAM) opened in 2015 with a mission to educate, engage, and inspire its visitors by exhibiting art from a broad range of cultures and chronological periods. In support of this mission, the KAM has made special efforts to collect artworks that reflect the racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity of contemporary American society.

**February 23:** In celebration of African American History Month (February), KAM Director and Curator Charles Mason will present and discuss a selection of works by African American artists in the KAM collection.

**April 27:** Looking forward to National Pride Month (June), Mason will present and discuss selected KAM collection works by LGBTQ+ artists.

Note: Participants may register for either or both sessions.

***Charles Mason** is the director and Margaret Feldmann Kruizenga Curator at Hope College's Kruizenga Art Museum. Before coming to Hope, he served variously as director and curator at museums in California, Ontario (Canada), Florida, and Ohio. Mason has a BA and an MA from Cambridge University in England and an MA from the University of California.*

Dates: MONDAYS, February 23 **and/or** April 27  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: OFFSITE (The Kruizenga Art Museum is located at 271 Columbia Ave. on the Hope College Campus.)  
**Limit:** 20 enrollees  
Cost: \$5.00 per session  
Coordinator: Lynn Bekins

### **SMT02 – Resource-Full: Michigan’s Ample Geologic Resources and Their Regulation**

Michigan is a very “resource-full” state because of its unique geology and variety of geologic resources. These include metallic ores in the Upper Peninsula, oil and natural gas fields in the Mitten, and even some as yet undeveloped resources such as hydrogen. Management of these resources is the responsibility of the State’s Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), specifically its Geologic Resources Management Division (GRMD). EGLE’s Mark Snow will survey Michigan’s broad range of geologic and other resources and explain GRMD’s regulatory role in their development.

*Mark Snow is permitting and technical services section manager in the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy’s Geologic Resources Management Division, where he has worked for 20 years. Previously, he was in environmental consulting and land surveying. Snow has a BS in geology from Michigan State University.*

Date: TUESDAY, February 24  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Linda Fulton

### **SOC04 – War in Ukraine Update: Spring 2026**

Bob Wood and his Ukrainian students will provide a current update on the war in Ukraine, including their own personal experiences. Consideration will be given to the diplomatic efforts to end the war, what has occurred militarily in Ukraine, and the status of economic sanctions against Russia.

*Bob Wood earned a BA in history from Michigan State University and an MA in political science from Western Michigan University. He has taught social studies and government courses at high schools in Seattle and Muskegon as well as at Muskegon Community College. Wood divides his time between his home in Grand Haven, Michigan, and Lviv, Ukraine, where he teaches in the Center of Modern Foreign Languages at Ukrainian Catholic University.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, February 25  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Randall Miller

### **SMT14 – Not Just a Cardboard Box: Chemical and Paper Engineering Today**

James Springstead of Western Michigan University will discuss the many and varied ways in which chemical and paper engineering is utilized in the development and manufacture of a wide array of paper products for packaging and other uses. These include multi-step processes such as raw material selection, pulping, bleaching, paper formation, and finishing. He will also review the academic components of degree programs in this field, the demand for qualified workers, and what a graduate from such a program actually does in the workplace. Finally, Springstead will discuss the research currently being conducted in his lab and department.

*James Springstead is an associate professor in the Department of Chemical and Paper Engineering at Western Michigan University, where he teaches courses in chemical and biochemical engineering at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. His current research focuses on the areas of heart disease, immunity, and the testing of active green sands for metal casting. Springstead has three degrees in chemical engineering: a BS from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS and a PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, March 4  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: VIRTUAL  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Randall Miller

### ART03 – HASP’s 4th Annual Oscar Party

Roll out the red carpet, grab some popcorn, cast your ballots, and join the discussion of this year’s Academy Award nominees. Make your predictions on who will win, who should win, and who should have been nominated, as films like *Avatar: Fire and Ash*, *Bugonia*, *Frankenstein*, *Hamnet*, *Jay Kelly*, *One Battle After Another*, *Sinners*, and *Wicked: For Good* compete for the film industry’s most coveted accolades.

**March 5:** This session will explore the history of the Academy Awards, examine its competitive categories, and profile five of the ten Best Picture nominees.

**March 12:** Course participants will profile the remaining five Best Picture nominees, dissect the Academy’s preferential voting system, and cast their ballots for HASP’s own Best Picture winner.

**March 19:** The final session will review the actual ceremony’s results, compare and contrast them with early predictions, discuss broadcast notes, and recognize Oscar history-makers.

*Former HASP director and honorary member **Ian MacNeil** is the director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Aquinas College. He earned a BS from Aquinas, where he first developed a passion for movies. MacNeil has presented his study of Oscar history and predictability methods at Aquinas and the Grand Rapids Public Library, as well as at HASP.*

Dates: THURSDAYS, March 5, 12, and 19  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: OFFSITE (Knickerbocker Theatre)  
Cost: \$15.00  
Coordinator: Debbie Bissonnette

### **SOC06 – Refresh: Hygiene and Hope – A Ministry to Holland’s Homeless**

Homelessness has grown in the Holland area (as well as around the country) over the last several years, especially after the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Since 2019, Holland’s First United Methodist Church has worked closely with Community Action House to serve the unhoused through the Refresh: Hygiene and Hope program. This ministry brings together multiple partners to provide access to services that increase dignity and reduce barriers to housing stability. Learn what’s being done and where opportunities still exist to move the needle on homelessness in Holland.

***LuAnne Stanley Hook** has been an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church since 2019. She has worked in youth ministry, victim support, adoption and pregnancy counseling, and crisis management. Hook helped originate the Refresh: Hygiene and Hope program, which she now oversees at First United Methodist Church. She has degrees from DePauw University and Vanderbilt Divinity School.*

Date: THURSDAY, March 5  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: George F. Ward

### **SMT15 – Protecting Our Water: The Macatawa and Kalamazoo River Greenway Projects**

Dan Callam and Kelly Roche of the Outdoor Discovery Center (ODC) Network will discuss the extensive greenway projects underway in Ottawa and Allegan Counties, including those involving the Macatawa and Kalamazoo River Greenways. These and other ODC Network efforts are designed to improve the water quality of lakes and rivers so as to provide a healthier recreational experience.

***Dan Callam** is greenway manager at the Outdoor Discovery Center Network, where he has worked for twelve years coordinating restoration and recreation projects across Ottawa and Allegan Counties. He is a graduate of Hope College. **Kelly Roche** is advancement officer for the ODC Network, furthering its mission of outdoor education and conservation in West Michigan. She has an undergraduate degree from Western Michigan University and an MBA from the University of Illinois Chicago.*

Date: MONDAY, March 9  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Randall Miller



### HUM03 – Religion in America: From World War II to the Present

Completing his series on American religious history, James Bratt will consider the momentous changes that have occurred on the country's religious scene since the end of World War II.

**March 11:** The great postwar “religious boom” that brought the rate of formal religious affiliation to its historic high in 1960.

**March 18:** The dramatic decline in “mainline” Protestantism and the reemergence of evangelicalism beginning in the 1970s.

**March 25:** The ways in which renewed immigration after 1965 changed the face of American religion, particularly in the Roman Catholic Church and in the proliferation of non-Christian faiths.

**April 1:** The controversies over evangelical political activism in the 21st century and the simultaneous rise of religious “nones,” bringing us back to the national religious profile of the late 19th century.

*James Bratt earned a BA from Calvin University and a PhD from Yale University. He taught at the University of Pittsburgh and at Calvin, where he focused on the intellectual and religious history of early America. Bratt is the author of eight books and numerous articles, a Fulbright Scholar, and the recipient of Calvin University's Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching.*

Dates: WEDNESDAYS, March 11, 18, 25, and April 1  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$20.00  
Coordinator: Barry Bandstra

### SOC11 – Ranked-Choice Voting Explained

Simply stated, ranked-choice voting (RCV) is a method of voting that allows voters to rank candidates for public office in order of preference. If no candidate receives a majority of first-place votes, the lowest-ranked candidates are eliminated and their votes reallocated until one candidate has a majority. An effort is currently underway to place on the November 2026 ballot a constitutional amendment that, if passed, would allow RCV in the State of Michigan. How exactly does RCV work? In what other states, and for what types of elections, has it been adopted? What are the arguments for and against it? This course will address these and other questions.

*Michael Dirksen is a visiting assistant professor of political science at Hope College. He received a BA from Hope, an MA from American University, and a PhD from the University of Illinois Chicago. In addition to ranked-choice voting and its potential impact on Michigan elections, Dirksen's academic interests include peace and conflict resolution.*

Dates: WEDNESDAY, March 11  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Barbara Kidd

### SMT13 – The Geology of Michigan and the Great Lakes through the Eras

Sarah VanderMeer will provide an overview of the geologic history of Michigan, from the Late Precambrian through the Cenozoic (current) Era, and explore how the Michigan we know today came to be. She will also discuss the formation of the Great Lakes and notable Michigan rocks (such as petoskey stones and yooperlites), as well as the geology and glacial history of the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore.

*A Holland native, **Sarah VanderMeer** received a BS in geology from Hope College and a PhD in geosciences from Western Michigan University. Her research focuses on the glacial geomorphology of the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. VanderMeer is currently principal scientist at an environmental consulting company in Boulder City, Nevada, and an instructor at Nevada State University.*

Date: MONDAY, March 16  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: David Van Appledorn

### SMT01 – Silent Spark: Inflammation's Role in Mental and Neurological Disorders

Ehraz Anis will explore the emerging science behind inflammation's role in disorders of the brain, from mood disorders such as depression to neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's.

**March 23, 9:30am:** Anis will discuss how immune signals quietly shape brain function, behavior, and long-term neurological health.

**March 23, 1:00pm:** Real-world examples will be used to provide a deeper understanding of how chronic inflammation may act as a hidden driver of psychiatric and neurodegenerative conditions, and how this might transform diagnosis and treatment.

***Ehraz Anis** has been a postdoctoral fellow at the Van Andel Institute since 2021; he also serves as a clinical study coordinator. His current research focuses on the gut-brain axis and inflammatory/metabolic pathways in Parkinson's disease and mood disorders such as depression. Anis has a BS in biochemistry and a PhD in neuroscience from Aligarh Muslim University, as well as an MSc in biotechnology from Jamia Hamdard University.*

Dates: MONDAY, March 23  
Time: 9:30am – 11:00am **AND** 1:00pm – 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$10.00  
Coordinator: Jane MacPherson

## **SOC05 – Social Media and Adolescent Mental Health**

Hope College's Rebekah Starkenburg will explore current trends affecting mental and emotional health among emerging adults (ages 16-25). She will discuss the impact of trends such as technology use that have altered modes and styles of communication and self-understanding, particularly among teens. Starkenburg will also share strategies for building flourishing communities, better understanding the emerging-adult population, and strengthening intergenerational bonds to foster resilience and well-being.

***Rebekah Starkenburg** is vice president for student formation and dean of students at Hope College, where she leads the co-curricular student experience, including residential life, student health and counseling, and many other areas. She has over 25 years of experience in higher education, including over a decade as an executive-level leader. Starkenburg has a master's in student affairs administration from Michigan State University.*

Date: TUESDAY, March 24  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Steve Norden

## **SMT16 – The Motus Array: Tracking Birds, Bats, and Bugs**

Richard Keith, Brenda Keith, and Hannah Fisher will discuss the Motus Array, a wildlife tracking system utilized by the international research community and recently deployed in Michigan. The system aids in the study of the migratory behaviors of birds, bats, and insects carrying miniaturized tags that passively transmit information to stations placed across the landscape. These transmissions have revolutionized how we understand and protect biodiversity

***Richard Keith** and **Brenda Keith** are biologists, and he is director of the Kalamazoo Valley Bird Observatory, supervising bird banders and researchers at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, the Fort Custer Training Center, and the Pittsfield Banding Station. They work closely with Michigan State University researchers and the United States Geological Survey Bird Banding Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland. **Hannah Fisher** is a mechanical design engineer working on medical devices at Stryker in Kalamazoo. She is also a volunteer at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, where she bands birds and provides troubleshooting, setup, and site maintenance for the Michigan Motus Array. Fisher has a BS in biomedical engineering from Michigan Technological University.*

Date: THURSDAY, March 26  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: David Van Appledorn

### ART06 – Making Symphonic Music for Young and New Audiences

Self-taught in music composition, Dan Fisher will discuss his personal music background and development, built on his recording experiences with major orchestras and on the making and distribution of albums for CDs, radio, and streaming. He will also explain the process of creating a “symphonina” – a new genre of classical music consisting of a small yet complete melodic symphony that plays in about 10 minutes with 3 or 4 movements – which spreads the joy of symphonic music to younger audiences around the world. Fisher will conclude with a discussion of the Grammy Awards process.

***Dan Fisher** is an engineer, music composer, and world traveler. After studying engineering at the University of Maryland and the George Washington University, he worked in the music industry. Following retirement, Fisher has turned his passion for music into an award-winning pastime, launching his first album, Places Far Away, in 2022. In 2025, he received an award at the Hollywood Independent Music Award ceremony in the Contemporary Classical category.*

Date: MONDAY, March 30  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Claudia Berry

### SMT04 – Sustainable Packaging: Design to Disposal

Michigan State University’s Rafael Auras will explore the environmental footprint of modern packaging systems, highlighting how design and material choices shape sustainability outcomes. Consideration will be given to the development of packaging structures, the breakdown of biodegradable polymers, and methods for assessing environmental impacts across a package’s life cycle. Drawing from his research, Auras will share insights on polyethylene packaging and its American and European market alternatives.

***Rafael Auras** is a professor and the Amcor Endowed Chair in Packaging Sustainability at Michigan State University’s School of Packaging. He leads a research group focusing on mass transfer in polymers, biodegradable polymers, life cycle assessment, and designing packaging systems for sustainable development. Auras holds undergraduate and master’s degrees from universities in Argentina and a PhD in packaging from MSU.*

Date: TUESDAY, March 31  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Randall Miller

## SMT11 – The Basic Science of God’s Creation

Steve Hamberg will review and discuss the theology and the science that underlie creation and evolution.

### **April 2:** Science and the Bible

Pre-creation (God’s precise natural laws laid out before creation began) and traditional creation as expressed in Genesis 1 (with commentary on differing interpretations).

### **April 9:** Scientific Creation: The Heavens

How the universe went from a point of light to a vast space filled with galaxies.

### **April 16:** Scientific Creation: The Earth

The formation of planet Earth from the debris of exploded stars, and how God shaped a world capable of supporting life.

### **April 23:** Scientific Creation: Life

The mechanism of species development and the diversification of life through the various geological periods.

*HASP member **Steve Hamberg** practiced internal medicine in Holland for 32 years before retiring in 2022. He has a BS from Calvin University and a PhD and an MD from the University of Kansas. Hamberg did his residency at the University of Miami and spent four years as a medical missionary in Swaziland (now Eswatini).*

Dates: THURSDAYS, April 2, 9, 16, and 23  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$20.00  
Coordinators: Doug Brouwer and Bill Wells

### **SMT10 – Black Holes: Better Understanding the Universe**

Black holes are now known to occur at the end phase of stars' lives. They are also found at the centers of galaxies; this prompts the question, "Was the black hole there to form the galaxy or vice versa?" Scientists are developing new theories combining Einstein's general relativity theory (which deals with gravity on a massive scale) and quantum mechanics (focusing on the behavior of tiny particles) into an all-quantum gravity theory. This would help explain black holes more completely and provide insights into the very early universe. Join Karl Rijkse as he shares some of the weirdest stuff nature has to offer.

*Karl Rijkse is a retired chemist. He studied organic and analytical chemistry at the University of Amsterdam, and he received an MBA from Henley Management College in London. Fascinated by astronomy and related sciences from a young age, Rijkse has been a member of several astronomy clubs in various locations. Currently, he is vice president of the Shoreline Amateur Astronomical Association based in West Michigan.*

Date: MONDAY, April 6  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Louis Morel

### **ART04 – A Feast for the Eyes: Mackinac Island's Cottages**

From 1870 to 1910, Mackinac Island rang with the sounds of hammers and buzz saws. The Straits of Mackinac grew congested with barges full of lumber for building cottages and steamships full of people planning to summer in them. But these were no ordinary cottages. From their scrolled spandrels to the bell roof turrets, these homes were a reflection of resort life on Mackinac Island in its heyday. The island's history and architecture are an intellectual and visual feast; come take a peek!

*Kim Murphy served as a life enrichment coordinator in several Grand Rapids senior facilities for over 34 years. She recently transitioned to writing and public speaking full-time. Murphy is a 2023 Brilliance Award winner sponsored by West Michigan Woman. She attended California State University, Fullerton.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, April 8  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Sharon Tabaka

## SOC08 – Descent into Darkness: The Rise of Nazism in Germany

During the 1930s, many Germans welcomed the rise of the Nazis and Hitler's 1933 appointment as chancellor, an event that has been described as the day "the gutter came to power." Many have wondered how a society that produced so many "giants" in the sciences and arts could fall into lock-step behind leaders who were responsible for World War II and the Holocaust. Robert Schoone-Jongen will consider these and other questions.

### **April 13:** Why Hitler? Why then?

The Nazi rise to power happened because of the pressing problems the country faced in the winter of 1933 coupled with historical trends in German society, especially World War I and its aftermath.

### **April 20:** What the Nazis Promised

In 1920 the National Socialist Party published a 25-point program outlining how the Nazis planned to make Germany a world power once again. Proclaiming that Germans were a superior people who deserved to rule over those who were lesser, it promised to replace democratic debate with a regime that would get things done.

### **April 27:** Step by Step

The Nazi seizure of complete authority took place over a period of several months. During that time, Hitler made alliances with prominent businessmen and military leaders and staged public spectacles to gain popular support. He intimidated others into silence.

***Robert Schoone-Jongen** is professor emeritus of history at Calvin University, where his fields of study were United States and European 19th century history. Since his retirement he has presented classes on migratory patterns and history for Calvin's and Aquinas College's life-long learning programs. Schoone-Jongen received a BA from Calvin, a master's degree from the University of Kentucky, and an MA and a PhD from the University of Delaware.*

Dates: MONDAYS, April 13, 20, and 27  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$15.00  
Coordinator: Frances Hackney

## HUM09 – Do Protestant Clergy Have Freedom of Speech? It's Complicated!

The 1954 “Johnson Amendment” (named after then-United States Senator Lyndon Baines Johnson) set forth an absolute prohibition on all 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, including churches, from endorsing or opposing political candidates. The prohibition, which is still part of the Internal Revenue Code today, has been spottily enforced; it has also been criticized as violative of free speech. Our panelists (three pastors and a retired lawyer) will discuss their real-life experiences with electoral politics within the faith community.

***Robert Funicello** is a retired lawyer with First Amendment experience. He is a graduate of the Washington College of Law at American University and currently serves on various boards and committees in the Holland area. **Gordon Wiersma**, a graduate of Calvin University and Princeton Theological Seminary, has been a pastor of Hope Church RCA in Holland since 1999. HASP Member **Steve Norden** is ordained in the Reformed Church in America, and he was the founding pastor of New Hope Reformed Church in suburban Columbus, Ohio, where he served for 38 years. Norden currently chairs the HASP Social Studies Sub-committee. He has a BA from Hope College and an MDiv from Western Theological Seminary. HASP Member **Douglas Brouwer** has a BA from Calvin University and MDiv and DMin degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary. He has served several churches in both the United States and Europe. Brouwer is the chair of the HASP Humanities Sub-committee.*

Date: TUESDAY, April 14  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Linda Walvoord



## SOC07 – Celebrating America at 250: The Immigrant Experience in Holland and Zeeland

The *We the People* exhibition and oral history project, a joint initiative between the Holland Museum and the Zeeland Historical Society, explores immigration, identity, and belonging in West Michigan. With guided tours of exhibitions in both Holland and Zeeland, this course will feature historical artifacts, interactive storytelling, and personal narratives from the diverse communities that have found a home along the lakeshore.

**April 15:** This session will take place at the Zeeland Historical Society/Dekker Huis Museum (37 E. Main Ave., Zeeland) and will focus on early nineteenth-century Dutch settlers and Indigenous communities and how their stories and experiences have shaped the Zeeland community. (Admission fee: \$8.00.)

**April 22:** Offered at the Holland Museum (31 W. 10th St., Holland), this session will center on groups arriving since the 1920s, including Latino/Hispanic, Southeast Asian, and African immigrants, and how their contributions have influenced Holland. (Admission fee: \$8.00.)

Note: Participants may register for either or both sessions. The course will involve considerable standing and walking, and participants will use their own transportation.

*Michelle Stempien joined the Holland Museum in 2021 as education and community programs manager and became executive director in July 2024. A museum education professional with over twenty-five years of experience, she previously worked at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and at the University of Michigan Museum of Art. Stempien holds a BA from Carleton College and an MA in art history and museum studies from Case Western Reserve University. As exhibits curator at Holland Museum, **Maddalena Frissora** is responsible for researching, designing, and installing both permanent and temporary exhibits. She received a BA from Hope College and an MA in art history from the Academy of Art University. While completing her master's degree, Frissora interned at both the Tri-Cities Historical Museum and the Holland Museum as a curatorial assistant. **Katelyn Bosch VerMerris** has been the director of the Zeeland Historical Society since 2021. She has extensive experience in development, programming, museum leadership, and preserving local history. VerMerris has a BA from Calvin University and an MA in history from West Virginia University.*

Dates: WEDNESDAYS, April 15 **and/or** April 22  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: OFFSITE  
**Limit:** 20 enrollees  
Cost: \$13.00 per session (includes venue admission and course fee)  
Coordinators: Sharon Tabaka

## **SMT09 – Changing Our Climate: The Promise and Peril of Geoengineering and Carbon Dioxide Removal**

Global warming is likely to exceed levels considered safe for natural ecosystems, even with aggressive reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Scenarios to avoid dangerous levels of warming now rely on a combination of carbon dioxide removal (trapping carbon from the atmosphere and permanently storing it underground) and solar radiation management (reflecting back a fraction of the sun's energy). Mike Philben will explore the current state of these technologies, evaluate their potential for scaling up to a useful level, and discuss their potential risks and side effects.

*Mike Philben is an associate professor in the Departments of Chemistry and Geological and Environmental Science at Hope College. His research on carbon-climate feedbacks in cold ecosystems has led him from the boreal forests of Newfoundland and Labrador to the tundra of Nome, Alaska. Philben is currently investigating the role of Michigan peat bogs in the global carbon cycle. He holds a BA from Northwestern University and a PhD from the University of South Carolina.*

Date: TUESDAY, April 21  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Linda Fulton

## SMT12 – A Natural History of the Great Lakes Shores

Michigan, two peninsulas surrounded by large freshwater seas, has the second longest total shoreline (after Alaska) among American states. Geologically, Michigan's shorelines (situated on four of the Great Lakes) are unusually young, all having developed within the last 14,000 years. Ed Hansen will explore the natural features of these shorelines, with a special emphasis on those observable in western Michigan.

**April 21:** Hansen will provide an overview of the lakes' climate, hydrology, rock and sediment type, the roles of glaciation and deglaciation in forming the lakes, and historical lake level variation.

**April 28:** We will focus on erosional landforms such as bluffs, sea cliffs, and stacks, as well as arches and depositional landforms like beaches, spits, and coastal dunes. Hansen will also discuss how extratropical cyclones and storms influence the shaping of the coasts.

*HASP member **Ed Hansen** received a BS in geology from the University of Cincinnati and a PhD in geophysical sciences from the University of Chicago. He taught at Hope College for 35 years in the Geological and Environmental Science Department. In recent years, Hansen's main research interest has been the geology of the Laurentian Great Lakes, focusing on climate reconstructions of the region during the last 6000 years.*

Dates: TUESDAYS, April 21 and 28  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$10.00  
Coordinator: Linda Fulton

## SMT17 – A Timeless Connection: The High-Fidelity Audio Renaissance

Remember when you bought your first home stereo? For generations, a quality home stereo system has provided a cathartic, deep connection to music. David MacPherson will explore the "Golden Age of HiFi" and the current "high-end audio" renaissance, driven by the resurgence of vinyl and the availability of high-resolution digital downloads. He will also touch on the principles of accurate sound reproduction and provide a brief technical overview of HiFi speaker design, concluding with a demonstration of a modern, high-quality stereo system.

***David MacPherson** has 30 years of experience designing and building speaker systems for professional and home use. Thousands of loudspeakers designed by him are in service around the world. MacPherson currently serves as head of product development at Studio Electric, a Holland-based speaker company. He attended Michigan State University.*

Date: THURSDAY, April 23  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: CLASSROOM  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Jane MacPherson

### **HUM10 – Harmel Academy of the Trades: Crafting the Skilled Tradesman**

Explore the distinctive and innovative mission of Harmel Academy of the Trades, a Grand Rapids-based post-secondary institution dedicated to the training and intellectual formation of men in both a skilled trade and the Catholic faith. Discover how Harmel seeks to develop a “skilled tradesman” – a man who cultivates order in his professional work, his community engagement, and his spiritual life. We will examine the Academy's belief that studying philosophy, theology, and literature is essential for building a meaningful life in the trades, equipping students to put their own lives and the world around them in order.

*David Michael Phelps, president of Harmel Academy of the Trades, received a BA from Hope College and an MA in English language and literature from Central Michigan University. Before joining the Academy he was an assistant professor of English and a literature and composition instructor at Baker College.*

Date: FRIDAY, April 24  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Mark Rider

### **HUM07 – *Green Street in Black and White: A Chicago Story About White Flight***

“White flight” was a reality that drives the plot of Dave Larsen’s novel, *Green Street in Black and White*. Join the author as he examines the pattern of white flight as it took place in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago in the early 1960s, and more specifically among the Reformed Christian ethnic enclave and its institutions. Larsen will describe the writing and publishing process, read a chapter from the book, and engage the class in a discussion of its themes, plot, and characters. Participants are expected to read the book prior to the class. (Note: Reader’s World cannot offer a HASP discount for this book.)

*Dave Larsen is a native Chicagoan. A regular contributor to the Reformed Journal, he has also published articles and reviews in The Banner, Think Christian, and Christian Scholars Review. Larsen has a BA from Calvin University, an MRE from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies from Loyola University Chicago.*

Date: WEDNESDAY, April 29  
Time: 9:30am - 11:00am  
Mode: HYBRID  
Cost: \$5.00  
Coordinator: Doug Brouwer

### ART08 – Azalea and Rhododendron Garden Tour

Spring is the ideal time to visit John Migas's rhododendron and azalea gardens and nursery in full bloom. Many varieties of mature plants join in a captivating display of colors and textures throughout the wooded acres surrounding his Saugatuck home and gardens. A tour of the gardens will illustrate the many varieties of these species and how they are used effectively in landscape design. Migas will also explain the process of soil preparation, planting, and fertilization, as well as the development of new cultivars.

Note: The gardens are located at 6541 Bradley Rd. in Saugatuck; participants will use their own transportation. There will be considerable walking across uneven ground on hilly and wooded terrain.

*After moving to Saugatuck in 1985, **John Migas** began his love affair with azaleas and rhododendrons, which flourish in the climate and acid-rich soil of this coastal Michigan city. He developed a landscape business and became a popular grower and supplier of these spring bloomers. A respected member of the American Rhododendron Society and the Azalea Society of America, Migas holds 14 patents for new azalea cultivars.*

Dates: MONDAY, May 18 **OR** TUESDAY, May 19  
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm  
Mode: OFFSITE  
**Limit:** 25 enrollees  
Cost: \$5.00 per session  
Coordinator: Pat Eldean



**REGISTRATION OPENS: **WEDNESDAY, January 7, 2026**, at **9:00am****  
**[www.hope.edu/hasp/classes](http://www.hope.edu/hasp/classes)**

COURSE TITLE	SESSIONS	DATES / TIMES	MODALITY	COST	PAGE	INTEREST?	INTEREST?
SMT08 - Radon in Homes	1	MON, Jan 19 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	7		
HUM06 - Crystal Cathedral	1	MON, Jan 19 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	7		
SOC03 - Trump Impact on Fed Workforce	1	TUE, Jan 20 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	8		
SMT03 - Athletic Performance	1	THU, Jan 22 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	8		
SMT05 - Healthy Options Close to Home	1	FRI, Jan 23 (9:30am)	OFFSITE	5.00	9		
HUM08 - Hope-Western Seminary Prison Panel	1	TUE, Jan 27 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	9		
SOC13 - US Foreign Policy in Mid-East	1	WED, Jan 28 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	10		
HUM11 - Jane Austen & Film Adaptations	2	THU, Jan 29, Feb 05 (1:00pm)	CLASSROOM	10.00	11		
SMT07 - Medicare Decoded	1	MON, Feb 02 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	12		
SOC12 - US Leadership in World Economy	1	WED, Feb 04 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	12		
ART02 - Laura Verplank Film Series	8	FRI, Feb 06, 13, 20, 27, Mar 06, 13, 20, 27 (9:30am)	CLASSROOM	5.00 per session	13		
ART07 - The Basics of Growing Orchids	2	MON, Feb 09, 16 (9:30am)	OFFSITE	10.00	14		
HUM02 - Non-Fiction Books	3	TUE, Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 14 (9:30am)	CLASSROOM	5.00 per session	15		
HUM05 - Interfaith Connections	1	THU, Feb 12 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	16		
SOC02 - Adaptive Leadership	1	THU, Feb 12 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	16		
SOC10 - Life at Home During WWII	1	TUE, Feb 17 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	17		
SMT06 - Blockchain and Cryptocurrency	1	WED, Feb 18 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	17		
ART05 - On Humor	1	WED, Feb 18 (1:00pm)	CLASSROOM	5.00	18		
HUM01 - Barmen Declaration	2	THU, Feb 19, 26 (9:30am)	CLASSROOM	10.00	18		
HUM04 - Writing the Short Story	2	MON, Feb 23, Mar 02 (9:30am)	CLASSROOM	10.00	19		
ART01 - Diversity Matters II	2	MON, Feb 23 (1:00pm) <b>AND/OR</b> MON, Apr 27 (1:00pm)	OFFSITE	5.00 per session	20		
SMT02 - Geologic Resources in Michigan	1	TUE, Feb 24 (1:00pm)	CLASSROOM	5.00	21		
SOC04 - Ukraine Update	1	WED, Feb 25 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	21		
SMT14 - Chemical and Paper Engineering	1	WED, Mar 04 (9:30am)	VIRTUAL	5.00	22		
ART03 - HASP's 4th Annual Oscar Party	3	THU, Mar 05, 12, 19 (9:30am)	OFFSITE	15.00	23		
SOC06 - Helping Holland's Homeless	1	THU, Mar 05 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	24		
SMT15 - Mac & Kalamazoo River Greenway Projects	1	MON, Mar 09 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	24		
HUM03 - Religion in America	4	WED, Mar 11, 18, 25, Apr 01 (9:30am)	HYBRID	20.00	25		
SOC11 - Ranked-Choice Voting Explained	1	WED, Mar 11 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	25		
SMT13 - Geologic History of Michigan	1	MON, Mar 16 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	26		

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SMT01 - Inflammation As Silent Spark	2	MON, Mar; 23 (9:30am <b>AND</b> 1:00pm)	HYBRID	10.00	26		
SOC05 - Social Media & Mental Health	1	TUE, Mar 24 (1:00pm)	CLASSROOM	5.00	27		
SMT16 - Wildlife Tracking Program	1	THU, Mar 26 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	27		
ART06 - Making Music	1	MON, Mar 30 (9:30am)	CLASSROOM	5.00	28		
SMT04 - Sustainable Packaging	1	TUE, Mar 31 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	28		
SMT11 - Creation and Evolution	4	THU, Apr 02, 09, 16, 23 (9:30am)	HYBRID	20.00	29		
SMT10 - Black Holes	1	MON, Apr 06 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	30		
ART04 - Mackinac Island's Cottages	1	WED, Apr 08 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	30		
SOC08 - Descent into Darkness	3	MON, Apr 13, 20, 27 (9:30am)	HYBRID	15.00	31		
HUM09 - Clergy Freedom of Speech	1	TUE, Apr 14 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	5.00	32		
SOC07 - Immigration, Holland & Zeeland	2	WED, Apr 15 (9:30am) <b>AND/OR</b> WED Apr 22 (9:30am)	OFFSITE	13.00 per session	33		
SMT09 - Carbon Dioxide Removal	1	TUE, Apr 21 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	34		
SMT12 - Natural History of Great Lakes	2	TUE, Apr 21, 28 (1:00pm)	HYBRID	10.00	35		
SMT17 - Hi-Fidelity Audio Renaissance	1	THU, Apr 23 (1:00pm)	CLASSROOM	5.00	35		
HUM10 - Harmel Academy	1	FRI, Apr 24 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	36		
HUM07 - Green Street in Black & White	1	WED, Apr 29 (9:30am)	HYBRID	5.00	36		
ART08 - Migas's Garden	2	MON, May; 18 (1:00pm) <b>OR</b> TUE, May; 19 (1:00pm)	OFFSITE	5.00 per session	37		