#1 a-h:  Masterpieces of Short Fiction

This course takes you on an exciting ride through an itinerary that samples the world’s greatest short stories. We will key in throughout the lecture series on methods used by critics to discover meaning—the author, the reader, the language, and the world the story mirrors. Courses held 2 – 4 pm.

Class 1a: Monday, July 13: The Cask of Amontillado, Edgar Allan Poe; Young Goodman Brown, Nathaniel Hawthorne; The Overcoat, Nikolai Gogol

Class 1b: Monday, July 27: The Necklace, Guy de Maupassant; The Lady with the Dog, Anton Chekhov; The Real Thing, Henry James

Class 1c: Monday, Aug. 03: Araby, James Joyce; My First Goose, Isaac Baber; The Killers, Ernest Hemingway

Class 1d: Monday, Aug. 10: A Hunger Artist, Franz Kafka; The Rocking-Horse Winner, D.H. Lawrence; The Garden Party, Katherine Mansfield

Class 1e: Monday, Aug. 24: The Lottery, Shirley Jackson; A Good Man Is Hard to Find, Flannery O’Connor; An Interest in Life, Grace Paley

Class 1f: Monday, Aug. 31: A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings, Gabriel García Márquez; The Jewbird, Bernard Malamud; Sonny’s Blues, James Baldwin

Class 1g: Monday, Sep. 14: A & P, John Updike; The Woman Warrior, Maxine Hong Kingston; Happy Endings, Margaret Atwood

Class 1h: Monday, Sep. 28: The Moment Before the Gun Went Off, Nadine Gordimer; The Cathedral, Raymond Carver; Summary: Why Short Fiction Masterpieces? Michael Krasny

DVD Instructors: Professor Michael Krasny, San Francisco State University  
Class Size < 20  
Primrose Retirement Community, 2nd Floor Community Room, 1360 Adams Street, Mankato

#2: Thursday, July 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.—Vatican History and the Vatican’s Role in Today’s World

John Thavis, who spent 30 years covering the Vatican for the Catholic News Service, will discuss the subject and will have his heavily-researched, non-fiction book, “The Vatican Diaries,” available. His second book is due out in September, and he is researching a third book.

Presenter: John Thavis, Journalist and author  
St. John’s Episcopal Church, 302 Warren (Corner of Warren & Broad). Ample evening parking on Broad St.

#3 a-c: The Individual and Society: Individualism, Responsibility, and Freedom

The 3 sessions will cover (1) Individualism, (2) Responsibility, and (3) Freedom. Sessions will include both lecturing and some discussion. Different interpretations of the terms and how they function in contemporary life will be explained—for example, freedom as non-interference and freedom as opportunity.

Class 3a: Thursday, July 16, 6:00-8:00 p.m. - Individualism

Class 3b: Monday, July 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m. - Responsibility

Class 3c: Wednesday, July 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m. - Freedom

Presenter: Ron Yezzi, Retired Professor of Philosophy  
St. John’s Episcopal Church, 302 Warren (Corner of Warren & Broad). Ample evening parking on Broad St.

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Partnering with Minnesota State University, Mankato  
A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System and an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity University
Lack of educational opportunities faced by women in many Middle Eastern countries is well known; less well known are the efforts being made to rectify this situation. This presentation will review these efforts in the UAE and the issues being addressed in order to make this a successful effort.

**Presenter:** Dr. Margaret Preska—Former MSU President and lifelong educator

St. John’s Episcopal Church, 302 Warren (Corner of Warren & Broad). Ample evening parking on Broad St.

**5:** Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2-4 p.m.—Seniors Helping Seniors: Don’t be fooled

Seniors are one of the most targeted groups in the United States today. It’s not just the phone and mail scams we usually hear about. Don’t be fooled as you go about your daily life, knowing you have a good knowledge base to avoid the most common tricksters. We will look at many types of what is and isn’t commonly identified as fraud and how we can assist one another in staying safe as seniors.

**Presenter:** Char Lusher, Retired – RN, Educator, Therapist, Volunteer-AARP, TRIAD, Vine

United Church of Christ – 150 Stadium Court, Mankato (Corner of Stolzman & Stadium)

**6:** Wednesday, Sept. 2, 3-5 p.m.—The World’s Most Political Fish

Powerful predators with a specialized physiology, tunas are supremely adapted to ruling the blue oceans. In the past few decades, demand has increased wildly, catapulting tuna from fish in tiny round cans to $100 steaks and sushi. We’ll learn how their biology intersects with maritime law and restaurant trends to make them “the most political fish in the world.”

**Presenter:** Dr. Joel Carlin—Assoc. Prof, Biology/Environmental Studies

Snell Motor’s Community Rm, 1900 Madison Ave., Mankato (NE corner Madison and MN 22)

**7:** Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2-4 p.m.—Nobel Pre-Conference Program Presentation

This pre-conference presentation will provide a snapshot of the upcoming Nobel Conference on “Addiction,” the array of speakers, and which aspect of addiction each will address.

**Presenter:** Scott Bur, Director of the Nobel Conference

Snell Motor’s Community Rm, 1900 Madison Ave., Mankato (NE corner Madison and MN 22)

**8:** Thursday, Sept. 17, 2-4 p.m.—Grange to Green Party: Minnesota’s Maverick Politics

We will examine the maverick tradition of party politics in Minnesota, the evolution of the Grange Party, People’s Party, Labor Party, and others, that have brought different ideologies and values to the state. We will learn about the evolution of Minnesota politics and the independent spirit that makes Minnesota unique.

**Presenter:** Dr. Avra Johnson, Assoc. Prof., MSU-M Dept. of Politics

Snell Motor’s Community Rm, 1900 Madison Ave., Mankato (NE corner Madison and MN 22)

**9:** Friday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.—Mayo House, Cox Home, and Treaty Site Tour

Learn about W.W. and Louise Mayo (parents of Dr. Charlie and Dr. Will), E. St. Julien Cox and the Treaty Site History Center. Mayo House tours (12/Group) at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. (other group may visit coffee shop); 12:30-1:45 lunch on your own in Le Sueur or St. Peter; 2 p.m. at Cox House, and 3 p.m. at Treaty Site History Center. (Free admission to all sites; Lifelong Learners will provide Mayo family history, maps and car pool info.) For more tour information, see special write up in enclosed newsletter. (Limited to 24)

**Presenters:** Mayo: Becky Pollock, St. Peter: Susie Carlin, both historical site staff

Mayo House, 118 No. Main St., Le Sueur; Cox House, 500 N. Washington, St. Peter; Treaty Site History Centr 1851 N. Minnesota Ave. (1 mile N of St. Peter on Hwy. 169, east side)

**10:** Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2-4 p.m.—End of Life Decisions

As we approach the end of life, we may make plans and decisions regarding our death. Options include Hospice, having a voice in our own death, and (in some states) euthanasia, sometimes referred to as “Death with Dignity.” Donnette brings 15 years of experience as a Hospice volunteer to the presentation, while Jack will discuss laws regulating euthanasia and its current use in permissive states.

**Presenters:** Donnette Wheelock, Hospice Volunteer, and Jack Kent

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