

15 August – 12 September

9.00 – 10.30 am

Joy Moylan

“Big Bang” Breakthroughs in European Music

Join Joy Moylan and Margo Hodgkins in hearing about and discussing five momentous discoveries that have profoundly influenced European music during its extraordinary history. What do they mean to us today when so-called classical music seems to have become incorporated into a much bigger mainstream of musical genres? Each week we will draw upon one discovery as presented in the highly acclaimed 1999 UK Channel 4 documentary by Howard Goodall, “Howard Goodall’s Big Bangs” followed by questions and discussion facilitated by Joy.

Joy is a graduate in music both from UWA and the Melbourne Conservatorium of music, and her specialities are in both piano and voice productions. She continues to work as a highly regarded piano teacher.

15 August – 12 September

11.00 am - 12.30 pm

Carl Altmann MA

Sculpture Through the Ages: Part 2

Sculpture can be a very physical art form and has been practiced down through the centuries from Palaeolithic times to the present day. Part 1 of this course covered sculpture from the Palaeolithic Age, the Egyptians, Greeks and the Romans Part 2 picks up the sculpture story from this point to the modern day. Please note that this course can equally be enjoyed independently or as an extension of Part 1.

Carl Altmann MA is a respected art historian and lecturer and has been involved in art education, design, visual literacy, painting, drawing and textiles for several decades. He is also a practicing artist and art judge.

15 August – 12 September

1.30 pm - 3.00 pm

Rory O’Brien

South Africa – A Socio-political History

South Africa, the southernmost country on the African continent, is renowned for its varied topography, great natural beauty, and cultural diversity, all of which have made the country a favoured destination for travelers since the legal ending of apartheid (Afrikaans: “apartness,” or racial separation) in 1994. But what do we know of its tumultuous past? In this course we will learn about the fascinating history of South Africa including the Anglo-Boer War, Namibia and diamond mining, the indigenous people of South Africa and the reality of living and working under apartheid.

Rory O’Brien grew up in Cape Town and Namibia. He obtained a degree in the Arts and Honours in Geography from Rhodes University and Master of City and Regional Planning from Cape Town University. He worked in Planning both in South Africa during the apartheid years and his adopted home in WA and retired a Life Fellow of the Australian Planning Institute. He has lectured at Curtin, Murdoch, Edith Cowan Universities and the University of Notre Dame and is a member of and lecturer for U3A.

1 October – 31 October

9.00 – 10.30 am

Daniel Midgely

Current Issues in Language

Language reveals a lot about ourselves and our society. It's what we use to communicate, build and maintain our social relationships, and tell others who we are. That means we can use language as a window to understand a lot about what's going on. This course will use language as a way of understanding the times we live in. Every week, linguist Daniel Midgely will show how language has come up in recent news and explain the linguistic principles behind the scenes.

Daniel is a linguist and host of the Because Language podcast. He is also the voice of the Speakeasy on ABC Radio Perth, and the Polish a Word segment on ABC Radio Adelaide.

1 October – 31 October

11.00 am - 12.30 pm

Jim and June Barns

Russia and Ukraine – understanding the present by knowing the past

Jim and June will guide us through Russia's dramatic history since the establishment of the Rus' state. On this journey we will meet Peter the Great, Catherine the Great and Napoleon and discover their influence on the nature of Russian Government. The Russian Revolution and Civil war precede the establishment of the USSR with the influence of Lenin, Trotsky and Stalin, the rise of Communism and the subsequent Cold War. The thaw of the Gorbachev years takes us towards the fall of Communism and breakup of the USSR. The history and role of Ukraine will be examined as will the rise of a new 21st century monster, Putin. Can any or all of this help to explain the horror we see unfolding on our daily news?

Jim and June are retired school teachers. After retirement they joined U3A. They have given presentations on various topics to a number of clubs, including MALA on two occasions. Jim has an Honours Degree in History from the University of Western Australia.

1 October – 31 October

1.30 pm - 3.00 pm

Prof Kevin Vinsen

How Computers Work

Love it or hate it, digital technology has revolutionised the world, our ability to understand it and connect to it. By and large, the "Boomer" generation was by-passed, and we now must catch up on a massive scale. Desk top computers sit on our desks, laptops sit on our laps and various other "devices" sit wherever we decide is convenient. But how do they work? Kevin will, in his own quirky and inimitable way, take us inside these black boxes. From there, it's up to us to decide where we, and he, take these lectures. Sign up and start thinking!

Kevin considers himself one of the luckiest geeks on the planet. He is paid to do what he loves - astronomy and computing with some of the biggest baddest computers on the planet. Kevin's main research interests are computing for data intensive astronomy, developing methods for the automated classification of galaxies and gravitational waves using multi-wavelength data, machine learning algorithms and modelling complex systems.