



## Free Lecture Series • Spring 2018 • 895-3401

University Forum is a public lecture series sponsored and funded by the UNLV College of Liberal Arts, the Dean's Leadership Board, and the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art. All events are free and open to the public. The lectures will be held in the **Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art at 7:30 PM.**

For details visit the University Forum website at <https://www.unlv.edu/liberalarts/universityforum>.

**Tuesday, January 30**

**Jane Austen, Then and Now**  
**Devoney Looser, Professor of English, Arizona State University**

Our speaker this evening will introduce some of the unsung innovators who first turned the great English novelist, Jane Austen, into a household name.

**Monday, February 05**

**How Does Las Vegas Fit Into the Changing Landscape of Sport?**

**Steve Miller, CEO Agassi - Graf Holdings**

How likely is Las Vegas to succeed as a major league sport city? Steve Miller will address this question based on his extensive experience as a sport executive college athletic director and entrepreneur.

**Tuesday, February 13**

**Constructing the Modern Marimba**

**Timothy Jones, Assistant Professor of Percussion, UNLV**

An informational presentation and first screening of the documentary film that followed the building process of the modern marimba.

**Thursday, February 22**

**The Importance of Storytelling in a Digital World**  
**Shahab Zargari, Filmmaker and Communications Coordinator, College of Fine Arts, UNLV**

The talk examines how the art of storytelling is just as important now as ever, even in this fast-paced digital world.

**Monday, February 26**

**Seeing the Invisible in Space: Non-Optical Measurements in Astronomy**

**Paul La Plante, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Pennsylvania**

This presentation explores two contemporary telescopes that observe the cosmos using gravitational and radio waves instead of optical light to learn more about the early Universe.

**Monday, March 05**

**How Indiana Jones Got It Wrong: What We Can Learn From Ancient Maya Ceramics**

**Laura Kosakowsky, Professor of Anthropology, University of Arizona**

Dr. Kosakowsky reveals the difference between Maya ceramics in a museum display and an archaeological dig. She explores what we can learn from these ceramics about Maya ritual and everyday life.

**Friday, March 09**

**Race and Revenge: Rethinking the Legacy of the Civil War**

**Gregory Laski, Assistant Professor of English, United States Air Force Academy**

This lecture examines revenge as a mode of seeking justice for the wrong of slavery in African American literature and history after the Civil War.

**Thursday, March 15**

**The Power of Stories in American Indian Traditions**  
**Donald Fixico, Distinguished Professor of History, Arizona State University**

American Indian oral traditions enlighten us about the indigenous past and present. Seven stories are shared that tell us about indigenous worldviews where physical and metaphysical realities come together.

**Wednesday, March 21**

**Connecting Circles of Research/Activist Knowledge: Violence and Migration in the 21st Century**

**Bandana Purkayastha, Professor of Sociology and Asian American Studies, University of Connecticut**

This talk outlines some of the different approaches to understanding violence and migration in different parts of the world, and the role of researchers and activists in this process.

**Monday, April 02**

**Entrancing Sounds: Music in Clay, Then & Now**

**Susan Rawcliffe, Independent Artists and Researcher, Angel's Gate Cultural Center, Los Angeles CA**

Susan Rawcliffe will share her research through images and sound recordings of ancient flutes, with excerpts from contemporary ensemble recordings and live demonstrations of original ceramic sound sculptures.

**Monday, April 16**

**Origins of Maya Civilization Reconsidered: Ritual, Sedentism, and Olmec Connection**

**Takeshi Inomata, Agnese Nelms Haury Chair in Environment and Social Justice, School of Anthropology, University of Arizona**

Dr. Inomata is an internationally renowned archaeologist whose research in Guatemala and Mexico has focused on the origins of Maya civilization and its relationship with the Olmec.

**Monday, April 23**

**For the Freedom of Captive Nations: Eastern European Exiles in Postwar America**

**Martin Nekola, Independent Scholar**

The talk focuses on the formation and development of organizations of political exiles from the countries of East-Central Europe in the United States in early years of the Cold War.

**Thursday, April 26**

**Slippery: Hip Hop Studies**

**Jody Lykes, Hip Hop Scholar, UNR**

A dialogical journey through Hip Hop pedagogy, Hip Hop culture and aesthetics in the classroom, and Racial Identity Development Theory, the application of movement through different stages relating to an individual's racial awareness.