Senior College is a lecture series for adults in West Central Minnesota. A distinctive array of lectures by college level scholars from across the state stimulates learning and fuels curiosities in a congenial setting at Alexandria Technical & Community College.

Two semesters, one in spring and one in fall, and a short winter session in January comprise the year. A single registration allows access to all lectures of the season.

The affordable fee is made possible with support from Alexandria Technical & Community College Foundation, special session partners, and the generous giving of individuals.

Senior College was established by Alexandria Technical & Community College in 2006 in response to community interest in informative and challenging college learning that is stimulating and social without the pressures of textbooks, grades, or degrees. Senior College is designed for adults 50+ and welcomes adults of any age.

### LECTURE SERIES

**Tuesdays and Thursdays,**

**September 15 – October 29**

**3:15 – 5:15 P.M.**

**SPONSORED IN PART BY**

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### SENIOR COLLEGE GOES VIRTUAL

**As we stay safely at home, we can still join in learning about our world.**

**ZOOM** is an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing and webinars that works across all mobile devices, desktops, telephones, and room systems. Faculty have been using ZOOM for teaching all Spring and many of you are already using it as it has fast become a way for easy connecting for many groups.

**THE ZOOM EXPERIENCE**

Once you register, you’ll receive an email with a link from Senior College. With a single click, you are joining the group. You can control volume, use of your video, and you can ask questions of the presenter. It’s as simple as that. You’ll be able to see the speaker, visuals and other participants.

You can connect from ANY device with internet access that has audio – computer, laptop, ipad, phone.

A trial run before the season begins will assure your set up works and get you acquainted with the program and your controls. During the season, we will have a help line.

Connect and engage in learning with wonderful faculty from around the state and beyond – all in the comfort of your home - no rushing to class, no driving, no parking, no mask - and you can have your own treats! ZOOM also offers the opportunity for anyone to connect from anywhere, so you can invite friends from afar to join in.

**REGISTRATION**

The cost of the program is $95 per person. (We are on the honor system for purchasing tickets to match the number of participants.) Registrants will receive a virtual background that may be used as background for video conferencing.

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**TASTE OF ZOOM: A TRIAL RUN**

**Thursday, September 10, 3:30 pm**

All registered students will have an opportunity to get oriented to ZOOM and your controls with Wolf Gerdes, Technology, Alexandria Technical and Community College and favorite IT guru for Senior College.

You’ll also get a taste of the Senior College ZOOM experience with a short demo with Louis Johnston, Professor of Economics at College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University and a frequent and favorite lecturer for Senior College.

If for some reason, your set up doesn’t work, you may request a refund. Request for refund must be made by noon on September 17.

Please visit www.alextech.edu/SeniorCollege for the most up-to-date information.

Info/Registration: 320-762-4510 • 888-243-1313

**Border Crisis? Central American Immigration in Historical Perspective**
Central Americans now account for the largest number of immigrants apprehended at the US southern border. How does this compare with prior trends? What are the driving forces? This presentation places Central American immigration into historical perspective.

- Brian Larkin, History, College of St. Benedict/St. John's University

**All the News That’s Fit to Ignore: Changing Audiences for Political Information Online and Offline**
The changing media landscape has led to alarm over the spread of misinformation and disinformation. What do we know about these disorders and how they matter? What can be done to improve the quality of the information voters use to make informed decisions in 2020?

- Benjamin Toff, Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Minnesota

**What's Next on the Docket for Net Neutrality?**
The legal battle over the FCC’s efforts related to Net Neutrality has been fought for over 15 years. Learn about the history of the policy, the four legal cases that have defined it, and what comes next as the policy heads towards the Supreme Court.

- Christopher Terry, Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Minnesota

**COVID-19 and the 2020 Election: How it Changed Everything and Nothing**
Covid-19 changed America, but did it change American politics? This talk looks at the impact of the coronavirus on the 2020 elections and what impact we can expect it to have in November and beyond.

- David Schultz, Political Science, Hamline University

**Geopolitics and Global Governance**
Always timely and thought-provoking, Tom will discuss an international project on the trends and issues in geopolitics and the future of global governance.

- Tom Hanson, Diplomat in Residence, University of Minnesota Duluth

**The Trump Administration in Latin America: The Return of the Monroe Doctrine**
In Oct 2018 National Security Advisor Bolton declared that Cuba, Nicaragua, and Venezuela are a “troika of tyranny” and that their governments must be replaced. Bolton is gone, but his policy remains in place. This presentation analyzes the impact of this pointed policy shift on relations within the Western Hemisphere.

- Gary Prevost, Political Science, College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University

**Immune System Response to Viral Infections**
COVID-19 has dramatically impacted our lives over the past several months. In this lecture, Dr. Johnson will explain how the immune system is able to detect and eliminate viruses, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

- Rachel Johnson, Biology, University of Minnesota Morris

Registration is required for season.
A complete syllabus is at www.alextech.edu/seniorcollege