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 simulates learning and fuels curiosity. No textbooks, exams or papers.

Senior College typically meets in a congenial setting at the Alexandria Technical and Community College. We are planning on classes to be offered via ZOOM. In the event we are able to offer in-person sessions, will offer a combination of on campus with live stream via ZOOM.

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, Bethany on the Lake, 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.

**ZOOM also offers the opportunity for anyone to connect from anywhere, so you can invite friends from afar to join in.**

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.

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, see the speaker and visuals, and ask questions. It’s as simple as that.

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 TEST**

Participants are encouraged to test their connection and equipment before the season begins.

Go to: [https://zoom.us/test](https://zoom.us/test)

Please visit [www.alextech.edu/SeniorCollege](http://www.alextech.edu/SeniorCollege) for the most up-to-date information.

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

**Fall Season: September 14 – October 28**

**REGISTRATION**

The cost of the program is $99 per person. (We are on the honor system for registrations to match the number of participants.)

Once registered, registrants will receive an email with a link to access the program from Senior College.

A Provocative Lecture Series with Scholars from Across the State

Join conversations that explore our world.

**ZOOM EXPERIENCE**

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**FALL LECTURE SERIES**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 14 – October 28

3:15 – 4:45 P.M.

**REGISTRATION**

The cost of the program is $99 per person. (We are on the honor system for registrations to match the number of participants.)

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Info/Registration: 320-762-4510 • 888-243-1313
White Supremacist Strategies: New Ideas Old Expressions
White supremacy is an umbrella term with three basic types of groups including the Ku Klux Klan, Neo-Nazis, and Skinheads. The Alt-right is a rebranding of White supremacist and anti-Semitic ideas. These groups have disavowed themselves of traditional symbols such as the Nazi Swastika but their ideology unmistakably is pro-white and racist.
- Lisa Waldner,
Sociology, University of St. Thomas

Persistence and Change in Criminal Records, Voting, and Disenfranchisement
This talk will connect crime and punishment with American democracy with a focus on voting restrictions for people with criminal records—an area of dramatic legal and policy change in recent years. After addressing the origins, scope, political impact, and public opinion, it considers the evolving meaning of these legal restrictions in the US and other nations.
- Chris Ugeen,
Sociology, Law and Public Affairs,
University of Minnesota

163 Years of Power, People, and Partisanship: A Short History of Minnesota Redistricting
The 2020 Census results have just been released and Minnesota will have to redistrict, setting off a major court. This talk examines the history and political fights with American democracy with a focus on voting restrictions for people with criminal records—an area of dramatic legal and policy change in recent years. After addressing the origins, scope, political impact, and public opinion, it considers the evolving meaning of these legal restrictions in the US and other nations.
- Tim Johnson,
Political Science/Law School, University of Minnesota

Minnesota and the Packaged Food Revolution
In 1900, Washburn Crosby and Pillsbury were Minneapolis flour mills. By 1950, they were national packaged food companies, selling breakfast cereals, cake mixes, and more across the country. Hormel went from an Austin-based meat packing firm to producing and selling SPAM, Dinty Moore Stew, and Mary Kitchen Hash around the world. By 1980, Totino’s, Jeno’s, and Schwan’s were the leading producers of frozen pizza in the US. We’ll trace a common formula that built Minnesota into an international center for developing and producing packaged foods.
- Louis Johnstone,
Economics, College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University

Babysan’s Burden: An Analysis of the American Occupation of Japan through Cartoons
Babysan appeared in 1951, arguably a humorous take on the Occupation by one of its own servicemen. In an innocuous and eager feminized image, American soldiers could find postwar Japan nonthreatening and even welcoming. But beyond a racist and misogynist portrait, Babysan showcased relations between two unequal powers in the aftermath of destruction with more complexity than it may seem initially.
- Elisha Perelman,
History, College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University

Under the Knife: Aztec Religion and Human Sacrifice Reimagined
2021 marks the 500th anniversary of the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire. During and soon after the conquest, Spaniards spun gruesome and chilling accounts of Aztec religion, particularly the public, ritual practice of human heart excision. Those narratives colored Aztec culture as barbaric for centuries. The anniversary prompts a rethinking of Aztec culture, allowing for a new interpretation not beholden to Spanish biases. What was Aztec religion really like?
- Brian Larkin,
History, College of St. Benedict and St. John’s University

Reinventing Globalization and World Order? Global Challenges in the Wake of COVID
By October, the Biden administration will have been in office for nearly nine months, the time to birth a new foreign policy. We’ll analyze current US foreign policy in the context of important trends emerging globally from increasing regionalization and dealignment, attempts to rein in the excesses of globalization and big tech companies, and pledges by governments and corporations to take climate change seriously.
- Tom Hanson,
Diplomat in Residence, University of Minnesota Duluth

Do We Have Dinosaurs Living Amongst Us, Which Some Would Call Birds?
Birds are not the dinosaurs that we imagine, but fossil and DNA evidence has become increasingly strong that birds evolved from a particular form of dinosaur. We will explore the science that supports that birds are the only living creatures that can be traced back through a dinosaur line.
- Van Gooch,
History, College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University

Harnessing the Immune System to Fight Cancer
Exciting new treatments for cancer are being approved every year. Many of these new cancer treatments work by harnessing the power of the immune system to kill off cancer cells while leaving healthy cells untouched. In this presentation, Dr. Johnson will explain how these new anti-cancer immunotherapies work.
- Rachel Johnson,
Biology, University of Minnesota Morris

Local Implications of Global Population Trends: Migration and Urbanization in Mongolia
Migration and urbanization are two key global population trends. This lecture utilizes Mongolia’s internal and international migration patterns as a case study to examine how global trends manifest differently in local places.
- Holly Barcus,
Geography, Macalester College

Climate Impacts and Action in Minnesota
This talk will summarize observed and expected climate impacts in the Midwest and Minnesota and outline some of the action underway to help our state prepare for these changes. We will also explore how we can contribute and help to catalyze the action needed to confront the many challenges of climate change.
- Heidi Roop,
Climate Science, University of Minnesota and Minnesota’s Climate Change Extension Specialist