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 curiosity. No textbooks, exams or papers.

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 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.

The cost of the program is $125 per person. (We are on the honor system for registrations to match the number of participants.)

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

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

Fall Lecture Series
Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 12 - October 19
3:15 – 5:15 P.M.
Auditorium 743
Alexandria Technical & Community College

REGISTRATION

Preferred parking in South parking lot. Additional parking in West and North parking lots.

LOCATION

ADDRESS
1601 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, MN 56308

2023 Fall Season
A Provocative Lecture Series with Scholars from Across the State
Join conversations that explore our world.

Fall Season: September 12 - October 19
Auditorium 743
Alexandria Technical & Community College

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BETHANY ON THE LAKE
**TOPIC & SPEAKERS**

**Supreme Court Review and Preview**
Professor Johnson reviews the major cases of the Supreme Court’s 2022 term and previews major cases to be decided in its 2023 term.
- Tim Johnson
  Political Science and Law
  University of Minnesota

**The Power of Building an Inclusive Community**
This will be a presentation about the many ways bias and stereotypes impact relationships everyday. Through our presentation, we welcome questions and answers as we discover the hidden power of building an inclusive community.
- Keith Turner and Carl Crawford
  Higher Education Services
  The Promise is You

**Telling Stories**
We are all storytellers of one kind or another, trying to make sense of the world by telling and listening to stories. It is important to know this because, like so many things in life, stories can be used for good or ill. We hear stories and they stick, and whether we realize it or not they affect our actions and, more dramatically, our perspective.
- Louis Johnston
  Author
  College of St. John’s/College of St. Benedict

**There has Always Been Drinking in America: Alcohol, History, Culture, and What it all Means for Prevention**
For this session, presenter will be virtual via ZOOM at ATCC
This keynote explores America’s cultural relationship to alcohol, from the thirteen colonies and prohibition to today’s music and movies. Using humor and examples from history, movies, music, television, and more, Dr. Rodney Warnbeam provides the larger context of what it means to prevent the misuse, abuse, and devastating consequences of a substance that has always been part of the American experience.
- Rodney Warnbeam
  Political Science and Senior Research Scientist
  University of Wyoming

**What If’s from the 1980’s**
This class will invite you to consider an alternative approach by exploring a handful of moments from the 1980’s where an individual (or two), by making different choices, might very well have created dramatically different results and changed the world as we know it. We will explore cold war tensions in the early part of the decade, efforts to reach an international agreement on global warming late in the decade, and a key Supreme Court nomination in between.
- Ken Jones
  History Emeritus
  College of St. John’s/College of St. Benedict

**Crime of the Century**
The kidnapping of Charles Lindberg, Jr. and the subsequent investigation and trial.
- Lacey Fontaine
  Program Assistant
  Charles Lindbergh House and Museum

**It Happened in a National Park**
Millions of people from around the world visit America’s national parks each year. For most, it is an enjoyable experience to be cherished for a lifetime. But some people die while visiting national parks. Others have disappeared, never to be seen again. Natural disasters within the parks have brought fear, devastation and death. Arlin Nikolas will share the stories of some of the most fascinating and impactful events to have transpired within America’s national parks.
- Arlin Nikolas
  History, Retired
  Minnesota State Community and Technical College Fergus Falls

**A Lifetime of Memories: Little Golden Books**
The Magic of Little Golden Books is explored by examining the physical, aesthetic and intellectual dimensions of Little Golden Books (and all children’s books) and why reading to children is so powerful and important.
- Dr. Ellen Radel
  Retired Professor Emerita
  Southwest MN State University

**The Increasingly Complex Global Challenges Facing US Foreign Policy**
This program will discuss the Ukraine crisis, potential instability in Russia, rising tensions in US-China relations, US success in alliance management contrasted with diplomatic headwinds in the developing world, and the implications of a global “chip war” and the advent of generative AI.
- Tom Hanson
  Diplomat in Residence
  University of Minnesota-Duluth

**Runes and Runic Inscriptions**
What are runes? What does runic writing teach about Scandinavian ancestry? This presentation will provide an overview of the thousands of runestones existing today, primarily in Sweden, Norway and Denmark, but some being researched in North America. Also reviewed with be examples of runes in pop culture.
- Loraine Jensen
  Founder-President of American Association for Runic Studies

**The Ground Beneath Our Feet: Life in the Soil**
Did you know one tablespoon of soil contains over 40 billion microscopic living things? These microbes recycle nutrients that feed plants, stabilize Earth’s climate, and even produce many antibiotics we use as medicines! Come learn what new research reveals about the ground beneath our feet.
- Miriam Gieske
  Biology
  University of Minnesota Morris

**Queen Elizabeth II and the End of Britain’s Empire**
The death of Queen Elizabeth II has prompted reflection on Britain’s many transitions during her reign. This lecture will focus on what is arguably the greatest among them: the disintegration of Britain’s empire.
- Dr. Jacqueline R. deVries
  History
  Augsburg University