

Schedule

2019-2020 Community Lecture Series

All lectures are held from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
at the Portage County Public Library
in the Pinery Room

September 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Mitigating Wildlife Mortality Along State Highway 66
Peter Zani (Biology)

October 8, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
The History of Beer
Terese Barta (Biology)

November 12, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
The Role of Media in a Healthy Democracy
Saemyi Park (Political Science)

December 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Understanding Society Through Science Fiction
David Barry (Sociology and Social Work)

February 4, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Preserving the Legacy of Place
Doug Miskowiak (Geography and Geology)

March 10, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Refugee Literature: Writing and Refugitude
Lauren Gantz (English)

April 7, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Data Analytics: Past, Present and Future
Kurt Pflughoeft (Computing and New Media Technologies)

May 5, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
"Wicked and Cruel": Joshua Glover and Wisconsin's Fight Against Federal Tyranny
Rob Harper (History and International Studies)

Location

All lectures take place at:

Portage County Public Library
Pinery Room
1001 Main Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481
715-346-1548

For more information on the
Community Lecture Series
or to view past lectures, please visit:

www.uwsp.edu/cols/lectureseries

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is an Equal Opportunity/
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Free Lecture Series

College of Letters and Science

Community Lecture Series

2019-2020

Sponsored by the

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Welcome to the Community Lecture Series! The UW-Stevens Point College of Letters and Science is delighted once again to offer this sampling of expertise and talent from our faculty and staff. Now in its 12th year, the Series has been a great way for our college to engage with the community, promote dialogue and advance life-long learning.

Whatever your interests may be, we trust that these lectures will inspire and challenge us all to see the world from new perspectives. We're proud of the knowledgeable and dedicated scholars who come from throughout the U.S. and the world to make Central Wisconsin their home. What better way to meet and hear what makes our faculty such passionate teachers?

We cordially invite you to attend one or more of these free lectures. Join us and see what UW-Stevens Point has to offer!



Sincerely,

Eric Yonke, Ph.D.
Interim Dean
College of Letters and Science
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

www.uwsp.edu/cols/lectureseries

Mitigating Wildlife Mortality Along State Highway 66

September 10 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library

Peter Zani (Biology)



Installed in 2016, a tunnel underpass on State Highway 66 offers wildlife safe passage between a wetland area and Jordan Pond. While the underpass was designed for turtles, it has also become a passageway for rodents and house cats, mink, skunks, raccoons and other mammals. Learn more about an innovative solution that has decreased animal mortality and increase driver safety along a busy roadway.

The History of Beer

October 8 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library

Terese Barta (Biology)



According to one source, beer is the oldest recorded recipe in the world. Few beverages are as synonymous with a location as beer is with Wisconsin. Learn more about the history of beer, with an emphasis on the history of beer in our state.

The Role of Media in a Healthy Democracy

November 12 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library

Saemyi Park (Political Science)



What kinds of media outlets do we use as an information source? How does the media influence public opinion? This talk invites you to understand

the critical roles of media in our society by examining media effects and media biases.

Understanding Society Through Science Fiction

December 10 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library

David Barry (Sociology and Social Work)



From *The Twilight Zone* to *Black Mirror*, the genre of science fiction continues to provide a snapshot of

where society is headed. This talk explores the way social science and science fiction have always been intertwined.

Preserving the Legacy of Place

February 4 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library

Douglas Miskowiak (Geography and Geology)



A legacy is something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or from the past. Legacies can be grand or tiny, lovely or ruinous. Imbued with human character and meaning, a place is more than a location in geographic space. Places are influenced and characterized by legacies, natural or cultural. This lecture uses mapping technology, called Geographic Information Systems or GIS to compile and share a rich narrative about two places in the Wisconsin Northwoods. The lecture provides a means to reflect upon and design the legacy of places you care deeply about.

Refugee Literature: Writing and Refugitide

March 10 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library



Lauren Gantz (English)

According to the U.N., one out of 110 people in the world is currently displaced. In the face of this global humanitarian crisis, refugee writers offer powerful testimony about the experience of displacement.

This talk will examine how multiple authors negotiate their own refugee status and work to imagine futures for their communities.

Data Analytics: Past, Present and Future

April 7 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library



Kurt Pflughoeff (Computing and New Media Technologies)

Data analytics and data science have permeated many aspects of the business-to-business and business-to-consumer markets. These techniques

have not only introduced operational efficiencies but also expanded the basket of products and services. Corporate analytics projects are focused on four broad categories: descriptive, diagnostic, predictive and prescriptive. In this talk, we will define data analytics, discuss historical and forward-thinking examples and instill the importance of data-directed decision making.

"Wicked and Cruel": Joshua Glover and Wisconsin's Fight Against Federal Tyranny

May 5 6:30 p.m. at the Portage County Library



Rob Harper (History and International Studies)

When laws are unjust, should they be broken? In 1854, hundreds of Milwaukeeans smashed open

the county jail to free Joshua Glover, a refugee from slavery. The Wisconsin Supreme Court refused to punish them. The ensuing controversy still resonates today.