



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Winter 2019 Courses – Registration begins November 26

OUR WORST PRESIDENTS: AN ANATOMY OF FAILURE

Tuesdays 10-11:45 AM, January 8 – February 12

William Shakespeare might have said that some presidents are born failures, some achieve failure, and some have failure thrust upon them. Chris O'Sullivan will lead us on an irreverent journey through American history to explore what it takes to become one of our worst presidents. What role does personal and public character play? Are presidential actions primarily responsible for failure or is failure more a result of challenging times? Why do many of our presidential failures come in succession, such as in the 1850s, the 1920s, or the 1970s? What roles do changing perspectives and historical revisionism play in assessing presidential failure?

Chris O'Sullivan

(BA UC Berkeley, PhD University of London) has taught American history for nearly two decades at USF where he is the recipient of the Innovations in Teaching Prize as well as the Distinguished Lecturer Award. He is also the author of six books on American history including, most recently, *Harry Hopkins*.



AMERICAN POLITICS IN THE MOVIES

Thursdays 10-11:45 AM, January 10 – February 14

As soon as Hollywood movies could talk, they talked about politics. Two polar opposite films of the 1930s are ideal examples: "Gabriel Over the White House" (1933) with a Mussolini-like President suspending the Constitution; and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" (1939) as a populist legislator rallying young people to reform the government. That may sound all too familiar, but it should not be surprising. The history of American cinema provides a prescient lens through which to view our evolving political challenges and dispositions. This course will analyze and sample a wide variety of movies about American politics — from *All the King's Men* to *All the President's Men*, from *Nixon*, *Milk*, and *Lincoln* to *Bulworth* and *Dave*, from *Advise and Consent* to *In the Loop*, and many more.

Larry Eilenberg (PhD Theatre

Arts, Yale University) is an expert in contemporary theatre and comedy. He has worked extensively throughout professional theatre and formerly served as Artistic Director at The Magic Theatre, a major theatrical company in San Francisco. He is a professor at SF State University and has taught a number of summer courses for the CSU Summer Arts Program.



Registration begins 11/26/2018. Classes held at Raven Performing Arts Theater, 115 North Street, Healdsburg. Enrollment Fee: \$95 for each six-week course. Fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable (see back side for enrollment form).

Presented by Healdsburg American Association of University Women (AAUW). Proceeds support local educational programs and scholarships for women and girls. For more information, go to healdsburg-ca.aauw.net.