High Noon at the
Upcountry History Museum
2016 Fall Schedule

All lectures begin at noon on Wednesdays and last one hour. For more information, contact Furman’s Marketing and Public Relations office at 864-294-3107 or vince.moore@furman.edu.

September 28

“Brexit: Where Did It Come From and Where Is It Going?”
Dr. Brent Nelsen, Professor of Political Science

On June 23, residents of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union, the 28-nation bloc that was formed just after World War II. How did that happen and how will it affect the United Kingdom, the EU, the United States and the world? Dr. Nelsen, who teaches courses on Europe and the European Union and is co-author of Religion and the Struggle for European Union, will explain.

October 5

Open Date, No Lecture Today

October 12

“NASA: Glorious Past, Productive Present, Uncertain Future”
Dr. Jack Hansen, Former Deputy Center Director for Research of NASA Ames Research Center

Few organizations over the past six decades have been more inventive or influential than the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Dr. Hansen, a former NASA executive and a member of Furman’s OLLI program, will discuss the agency’s structure and budget as well as its past and current accomplishments. He will also look at the future of NASA, especially in the area of unmanned and manned space exploration.

October 19

“Red Team vs. Blue Team: Political Polarization in the United States”
Dr. David Fleming, Associate Professor of Political Science, Furman University

Almost half of Republicans and Democrats view the other party as a threat to the nation’s well-being, and views of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are getting increasingly negative. How did we get here? As the 2016 election heats up, Dr. Fleming will discuss how political polarization is affecting American government and the race for President.


October 26

Open Date, No Lecture Today

November 2

“I Need a Drink!”
Dr. Onarae Rice, Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, Furman University

There are many motivating factors that govern our desire to drink alcohol. Some of us drink responsibly while others struggle to regulate their alcohol consumption. For instance, those who have experienced traumatic events and develop Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) often choose to self-medicate with alcohol. Dr. Rice will discuss alcohol's neurobiological impact on the brain and its relationship to PTSD suffers. Additionally, he will present some encouraging findings from his research laboratory that may lead to new treatments for those who 1) abuse alcohol; 2) have PTSD; and 3) self-medicate with alcohol because of their PTSD.

November 9

“And the New President of the United States Is...”
Jim Guth, Professor of Political Science, Furman University

Will it be Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump? Did the Democrats make significant inroads into the Republican majorities in the House and Senate? Dr. Guth, who regularly shares his political insight with the national media, we'll be at High Noon the day after the election to explain what happened and what it all means.

November 16

“Sykes-Picot and the Modern Middle East”
Dr. Hilary Falb Kalisman, Assistant Professor of History, Furman University

From leading scholars to leaders of nations and terrorist organizations, blame for the seemingly perpetual conflict in the Middle East has been laid on the doorstep of a 100-year old secret agreement bearing the names of a British aristocrat and a French career diplomat. Dr. Kalisman, a historian of the Modern Middle East, will discuss the history of the Sykes-Picot agreement, and its impact on the borders and conflicts in the region. She will also contrast this history with narratives surrounding Sykes-Picot’s significance and our age’s attraction to mapping and remapping the world.