



# RHODES COLLEGE

Meeman Center for Special Studies  
celebrates a new decade  
with a limited edition of select courses

*In keeping with Rhodes' commitment to only the best,  
we are pleased to offer you outstanding  
adult study opportunities for fall, 1990.  
With distinguished faculty, stimulating subject matter, and  
provocative reading and group discussion in store,  
you'll want to reserve your place today.*



*The Meeman Center's most popular course:*

## **The Search for Values in the Light of Western History and Religion**

What does it mean to be human? What gives value and meaning to life? Does human life have a purpose? These are persistent questions that have puzzled and tantalized human inquiry throughout recorded history.

Come explore these questions and possible answers through lectures, readings, and discussion about works of some of the world's greatest minds. Through this **Search for Values in the Light of Western History and Religion** you will have an opportunity to probe your relation to the vast world of nature, to other human beings, other races, and other cultures throughout the ages.

This study of the ideas, beliefs and culture that have formed Western civilization is offered in eight units over a four-year cycle. Although it is a distinctly rich experience to take all of the eight units offered, each of the units stands on its own and can be taken and enjoyed individually.

Lectures will be given by a select team of Rhodes faculty.

The director, **Robert M. Watson**, holds a Master of Divinity from Episcopal Seminary in Virginia, an **M.A.** in history from Duke University, and a **Ph.D.** in history from Memphis State University. He is currently a professor for the Meeman Center for Special Studies and a member of the college's "Search" faculty in addition to serving as the faculty advisor to the Rhodes Adult Degree program. Tuition \$110.

### **I - "The Beginnings"**

#### **Eight Sessions**

**Wednesday Evenings, 7:30-9:30 p.m.**

**October 10-December 5**

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|-------------|---|
| October 10  | <b>"The Nature of History"</b><br>Douglas W. Hatfield, Ph.D., University of Kentucky  |
| October 17  | <b>"The Nature of Religion"</b><br>Fred W. Neal, Ph.D., University of Chicago   |
| October 24  | <b>"The Human Animal and Other Lost Tales: Mammal, Primate and Hominid Evolutions"</b><br>Alan P. Jaslow, Ph.D., University of Michigan |
| October 31  | <b>"The Nature of Humans"</b><br>Richard C. Wood, M.A., Columbia University   |
| November 7  | <b>"The Rise of Civilization: Mesopotamia"</b><br>Steven L. McKenzie, Th.D., Harvard University   |
| November 14 | <b>"The Rise of Civilization: Egypt"</b><br>Steven L. McKenzie, Th.D., Harvard University   |
| November 28 | <b>"Digging into the Past"</b><br>Milton Brown, Jr., Ph.D., Duke University   |
| December 5  | <b>"The Hebrew Character"</b><br>Milton Brown, Jr., Ph.D., Duke University  |

*A new and unique opportunity:*

## The Rhodes Lore of Literature

*“We will consider together  
not only ‘What is good literature?’,  
but “‘What good is literature?’”*

Dunbar Abston  
Program Director

“Lore of Literature” is created for those who enjoy a “good read” and would like to enhance that reading enjoyment through a more comprehensive and critical exposure to good literature.

This program of integrated literary studies is structured in a three-year cycle of offerings. Weekly sessions are designed to foster enjoyment, as well as understanding, of interesting and worthy literature through reading and discussion of outstanding literary works along with consideration of contemporary trends in critical scholarship.

This fall the program begins with two courses: “A Critical Introduction to Fiction” and “Poetry of the Twentieth Century in English.” Since much of the excitement of discovering good literature is through self-directed exploration, participants will have the opportunity to work with an instructor in a tutorial relationship to create a serious critical essay or write an original piece. They will also be encouraged to recommend areas of inquiry for future courses.

Participants will have the option to earn a Certificate of Achievement in Literary Studies, signifying completion of eight units of course work and a significant piece of creative or critical writing. Those seeking this option will be able to advance at their own pace over an unlimited time period.

### Faculty

**Dunbar Abston**—Mr. Abston exemplifies dedication to life-long learning. He holds an A.B. in English Literature from Princeton University, an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, and after almost 30 years in business, he made a career change and recently earned a Master of Philosophy in English Literature at Oxford University, England.

**Richard Wood**—until his retirement from the College in 1988, Professor Wood was professor of English literature and humanities at Rhodes for 21 years. He has published both creative and critical literary works. He received his B.A. from Rhodes and his M.A. from Columbia University.

Additional instructors in the program will be drawn from the Rhodes faculty and will include acknowledged experts in the community.

## A Critical Introduction to Fiction

Instructor: Dunbar Abston  
Eight Sessions  
Monday Evenings, 5:30-7:30  
September 24-November 12

The personal pleasure of reading fiction is greatly enhanced by learning new ways to read more perceptively. Learn what to look for as you read a story, various critical approaches, new and different writing techniques, and recognizable literary devices. Reading skills are a means to increase a reader's enjoyment, and enhancing those skills is what this course attempts to do.

This course gives exposure to worthy writers through readings and discussion of short stories and a few short novels by outstanding authors ranging from Tolstoy, Conrad, and Joyce to Flannery O'Connor and Eudora Welty. Tuition \$125.

The only required text will be *The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction* (Third Edition), edited by R.V. Cassill. This is available in paperback.

## Poetry of the Twentieth Century in English

Instructor: Richard Wood  
Eight Sessions  
Tuesday Mornings, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
September 25-November 13

The last decade affords both sweeping and detailed views of a century of astonishingly vigorous and varied poem-making. And America has produced the most notable contributors of experimental modes of expression. Although "make it new" was a catch-phrase of a generation that had felt the impact of the First World War, and "modern" a label that yet attaches to artistic fashions of the early 20th century, the art of poetry is one of great antiquity and continuity—composing rites and casting spells, delighting with verbal play, exalting with elevated narrative or religious chant.

The course will concentrate on the study of poems from poets such as Whitman, Frost, Sandburg, ee cummings, Ransom and others, to reflect times and circumstances that offer pleasure, comfort, or mental stimulation. Whether "poetry consists of propositions about life," as Wallace Stevens held, or affords "a momentary stay against confusion," as Robert Frost suggested, plain liking precedes the yearning for knowledge. Tuition \$125.

The only required text is *The Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry*, (Second Edition), Richard Ellman and Robert O'Clair, eds. (Available in paperback.)

Enrollment in both the fiction and poetry sections of the Lore of Literature is limited to 15 participants per class.



# Independent Study Opportunities

The Meeman Center offers a unique opportunity for you to design your own course. If you (solo or with a friend or two) have a particular interest (including a foreign language) that you would like to pursue through independent study or directed inquiry, the Center will seek to make arrangements for you to study on your own or in your small group with one of the outstanding members of the Rhodes faculty. Tuition and other arrangements will be made on a per person basis. Please call 726-3965 for additional information.



*A generous gift from Mr. James R. Humphreys has been given in support of the 1990 Special Studies Programs in memory of **Bernice A. and Edward G. Humphreys***



## Registration Application

Tear off and mail to: Rhodes College, Meeman Center for Special Studies  
2000 North Parkway, Memphis, TN 38112  
or call (901) 726-3965

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_ Soc. Sec. # \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please register me for the following courses: Tuition

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Payment enclosed:  Check  Mastercard  Visa

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty, staff, and currently enrolled students of Rhodes College are eligible for a 50% discount. This also applies to retired Rhodes faculty and spouses.

Full refund of tuition up to one week prior to the first class session is given, and refund of 80% up to, but not including, the second session. There is no refund after the second session.

**RHODES**  **COLLEGE**

Meeman Center for Special Studies  
2000 North Parkway/Memphis, TN 38112-1690

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