

Fall 2025

At-a-Glance Program Schedule

Learn. Connect. Share.



Photo Courtesy: Theo Goodwin

- *Digital Catalog posted Monday, August 4*
- *Join us for Orientation and Open House on Friday, August 8, from 10am — 12:30 pm in the Student Union*
- *Enroll in your programs starting Monday, August 11*

How to Contact Us

Renaissance Society Office:

350 University Ave., Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95825 916-758-5133 renaissa@csus.edu

Renaissance Society Website: www.csus.edu/rensoc **Office Hours: M-F; 10-1**

Welcome to Fall 2025



We hope you had a wonderful summer filled with travel, family, and friends. As we return to classes, we're sure you will enjoy sharing these experiences with your Renaissance friends.

We wrapped up the 2024-2025 year with over 1,800 members. These members were able to select from 71 seminars, 133 single presentations, 46 Shared Interest Groups, 20 Community Presentations, and 26 Forums.

Our goal is to reach 2,000 members in 2025-2026. To meet our expenses, as you know, we increased our annual dues by only \$20 to \$120 per year – an incredible value! If we can meet this goal, and with your generous donations to "Give Something Extra", we will be able to continue offering opportunities for all members to *Learn* and *Connect* with others while we *Share* our time, treasure, and talents with fellow members, students, and our community.

Please help us reach our goal of 2,000 members by recruiting friends, neighbors, and family to share all that the Renaissance Society has to offer. There is no age limit and no geographic limit for our membership – we have members living in other cities and even other states or countries. Our online programming allows members to participate from anywhere! We continue to prioritize inclusivity and welcome all who are interested in continuing to learn and explore topics, ideas, and experiences regardless of education levels, economic status, or background. Invite them all to join us!

We are always interested in hearing what types of presentations and activities interest our members the most. We are eager to learn how our members would like to share their knowledge and skills, and how they might contribute their talents to the Renaissance Society's community. We welcome your opinions about future programs and how we can enhance our social activities. Most importantly, we want to know what we are doing well and where we can do better. Please contact me anytime!

We have an exciting fall ahead, with lots of great presentations, seminars, Forum speakers, and plenty of fun. Thank you for all you do! We look forward to seeing you in class or on Zoom!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deanna Hanson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deanna Hanson, Renaissance Society President

At-a-Glance Program Schedule

This At-a-Glance Program Schedule (AAG) organizes programs by day of week, time of day, and type of program. Use the Abbreviation Key below to identify each program's delivery format and recording status.

Abbreviation Key

D = Diversity program; Z = Zoom-only; IP=In-person only; H = Hybrid (IP + Z) program; IP+R = In-person (live) & recorded; R = Program recorded; NR = Program not recorded; SE = Selective enrollment; WI = Walk-in program – enrollment helps us notify you of changes, seats available first-come/first-served



Catalog page numbers and on-campus classrooms were not available at the time of printing. Use the AAG page number space to write in the catalog page numbers for the programs that interest you. See the catalog for the classroom locations.



Program Definitions

Seminars – led by one or more members, range from 3-13 weeks, and focus on one subject.

Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) – facilitated by members, offer activities centered on what people enjoy doing together. These groups usually meet off campus or on Zoom.

One-Time Presentations – feature a variety of single presentations by member and guest speakers.

- *Monday Big History Series* enrollments are open to non-members.
- *Tuesday Speaker Series, Friday Morning Series; and Friday Afternoon Series* require membership to attend.

Forums – Friday's premier speaker program held at 3 pm and features prominent community leaders who address newsworthy issues.

Program Identifiers and Delivery Formats

Diversity (D) programs address in detail or in part, issues encompassing various aspects of culture, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, ability, sexual orientation, or social economics, to foster mutual understanding. This understanding is essential for creating inclusive environments where all individuals feel valued and respected.

In-person and Recorded (IP+R) programs are offered live in-person but not live on Zoom. They are recorded for future viewing.

Selective Enrollment (SE) programs are Friday in-person and hybrid Seminar and SIG groupings that are offered on the same dates and times. Members can sign up for only one of the programs in each of these groupings. All other programs allow for overlapping enrollment.

Note: Recorded Friday Seminars are no longer included in the Selective Enrollment groupings.

Walk-in (WI) programs allow you to enroll in advance, which allows us to notify you of last-minute program changes. However, available seats are first-come/first served.

FALL 2025 AT-A-GLANCE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

See Abbreviation Key for Delivery Formats.
Enter the page number from the catalog here.

DELIVERY FORMATS	MONDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE					Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates		
	Seminars					
Z/R	12–1pm	How to Invest in this Market and Economic Cycle (6 weeks)	Sanjay Varshney	Oct 27-Dec 1		
Shared Interest Groups						
Z/NR	9:30–11am	Third Monday Book Club (Year-round monthly)	Marian Kile	Sep 15-Nov 17		
IP/NR	10:30am–12:30pm	Friends of The New Yorker Magazine (Year-round weekly) (KOH Library, The Center at 2300)	Judy Day David Bowles	Sep 8-Dec 1		
Z/R	3–4pm	Qi Gong	David Mitchell Marilyn Bradford	Sep 8-Dec 1		
One-Time Presentations – Monday Big History Series [Ranny Eckstrom]						
Welcome to a deeper exploration of the forces that continue to shape our world. This semester, we focus on the accelerating pace of change – from revolutionary inventions and global exchanges to the powerful ideas and movements that redefined societies. Our presenters will guide us through key turning points that sparked innovation, challenged old systems, and inspired resistance and adaptation. Get ready to view history not just as a timeline of events, but as a living narrative of human ingenuity, struggle, and resilience that echoes into our present and future.						
D/Z/R	10–11:30am	Monday Big History Series – Innovations and Innovators	Ranny Eckstrom	Sep 8-Dec 1		



Photo Courtesy: Michael Macias

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DELIVERY FORMATS	TUESDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE					Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates		
	Seminars					
Z/R	9–10am	The Use and Misuse of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) (6 weeks)	Don Nikkel	Sep 2-Oct 7		
D/Z/R	10–11am	Plastics: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly–Revised and Expanded	David Lewis	Sep 2-Dec 2		
Z/R	1–2:30pm	Irish Immigration to America (3 weeks)	Catherine Minicucci	Oct 7-Oct 21		
Z/R	1–2:30pm	You're Dead. Now What? (5 weeks)	Patricia Pavone	Sep 9-Oct 7		
D/Z/R	1–3:30pm	Indigenous Voices in Film: A Global Perspective	Chip Zempel	Sep 2-Dec 2		
Shared Interest Groups						
Z/NR	9:30–11am	Third Tuesday of the Month Book Club (Year-round monthly)	Marian Kile	Sep 16-Nov 18		
Z/NR	10–11:30am	First Tuesday Book Club (Year-round monthly)	Linda Rahn	Sep 2-Dec 2		
D/IP/NR	10am–12pm	Digital Photography–A Creative Journey (Arden-Dimick Library)	Jay McKeeman	Sep 9-Nov 18		
IP/ NR	12–2pm	Writers Workshop (Year-round weekly)	Anita Adams Ruth Rezos	Sep 2-Dec 2		
D/IP/NR	12:30–2pm	Mysterious Books: How Do We Get Hooked by Them? (Year-round monthly) (Rancho Cordova Public Library)	Jeanie Wilcox	Sep 2-Dec 2		
IP/NR	1–3pm	Chess for Beginners and Intermediates (Year-round bi-monthly) (Raley's)	Ivy Hendy	Sep 2-Dec 2		
IP/NR	1–3:30pm	Insight Meditation: A Three Afternoon Workshop (3 days: Tue & Wed & Thu)	Dennis Warren	Oct 14, & 15, & 16		
D/Z/NR	7–9pm	Art of the Self-Portrait (View also Fri SIGs for last class – Do You See What I See–Artists’ Salon) (8 weeks + 1 day))	Julia Stagg Linda Stagg-Brown	Sep 9-Nov 7		
One-Time Presentations – Tuesday Speaker Series [Phil Sexton – Coordinator]						
D/Z/R	1–2:30pm	Opposing the Authoritarian Takeover–Strategies	Duane Campbell	Sep 2		
D/Z/R	1–2:30pm	How to Win the Money Game	Nhu Nguyen	Sep 9		
D/Z/R	1–2:30pm	Northern California’s Chinese Immigrant History	Jeff Ferreira-Pro	Sep 16		
D/Z/R	1–2:30pm	Cancer Prevention: Fueling Up on Low Calorie Foods	Linda Middlesworth	Sep 23		
Z/R	1–2:30pm	The Geological Grain of California	Will Harris	Oct 28		
D/Z/R	1–2:30pm	Let's Get All Kids Reading!	April Javist	Nov 18		
Z/R	1–2:30pm	Can AMD Be Stopped from Progressing or Even Reversed?	Laurel Kolar	Dec 2		

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DELIVERY FORMATS	WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE					Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates		
	Seminars					
Z/NR	10am–12pm	The Country Girls Trilogy–Famous and Infamous (Monthly)	Louise DiMattio	Sep 10-Dec 3		
D/Z/R	3:30–5pm	Why Do We Do What We Do? (6-weeks)	Lori Bean	Sep 3-Oct 8		
Shared Interest Groups						
IP/NR/	9:25–11:30am	Walkabouts	Donna Eash Alan Wong	Sep 3-Dec 3		
D/IP/ NR	10–11:30am	Singing for Fun	Michael Hersher	Sep 10-Dec 3		
D/IP/ NR	10am–12pm	Intro to Walking Meditation Using a Labyrinth (1 day)	Christie Braziel	Sep 24		
IP/NR	10am–12pm	Le Cercle Français (Boardroom, Campus Commons)	Ruth Scodel Ana Facio	Sep 3-Dec 3		
D/IP/ NR	5:30–7:30pm	Dining Together (Year-round monthly) (Second Wednesdays)	Susan Wheeler Marge Tarbell Susie Fogg	Sep 10-Dec 3		

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Photo Courtesy: Nancy Schoellkopf

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DELIVERY FORMATS	THURSDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE					Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates		
	Seminars					
Z/R	10–11am	The Benign Cover-Up of the Assassination of JFK (6 weeks)	Jim Hodges	Sep 4-Oct 9		
Z/R	10–11:30am	Reframing the US Constitution	Robert Benedetti	Sep 4-Dec 4		
D/Z/NR	10am–12pm	Responding to the Assault on Our Democracy	Duane Campbell	Sep 4-Dec 4		
Z/R	1–2:30pm	A Wine Journey: From the Grape to the Glass (8 weeks)	Lester Bennett	Sep 4-Oct 23		
Z/NR	1–3pm	Relationships: How to Build Strong, Healthy, Loving Relationships	Nanci Kuzins Anamaria Pasquiers	Sep 4-Dec 4		
Z/R	3:30–5pm	Explore Artificial Intelligence with ChatGPT (3 weeks)	Lori Bean	Sep 11-Sep 25		
Shared Interest Groups						
D/IP/NR	10am–12pm	Intro to Walking Meditation Using a Labyrinth (1 day)	Christie Braziel	Oct 2		
Z/R	2–4pm	Promises and Threats of Artificial Intelligence (AI) (First Thursday of the Month)	Melissa Green	Sep 4-Dec 4		
Z/NR	7–8:30pm	The Economist	Wayne Luney	Sep 4-Dec 4		
IP/NR	Varies	A Cook's Tour of Sacramento and The Adventurers (Year-round days, dates, times vary)	Maryellen Burns Dan Cross Martha Mathison	Sep 4-Dec 4		

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Photo Courtesy: Laura Warren

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DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates	
	Seminars				
IP+R/WI	9–10:30am	The Art of Persuasion in the Pursuit of Justice: An Exploration of Courtroom Dramas and Social Issues (6 weeks)	Jean Iacino	Sep 5-Oct 10	
IP/NR/WI/SE	9:30–11:30am	Raymond Chandler's Works as Films	Rita Rippetoe	Sep 5-Dec 5	
D/IP/NR/SE	9:30am–12pm	Great American Trials and the US Constitution	Joel Primes	Sep 5-Dec 5	
D/H/R/WI	9:45–11:30am	Hooray for Hollywood Musicals: From Astaire to Hamilton	Mike Agron	Sep 5-Dec 5	
IP/NR/WI/SE	10–10:45am	Life-improving Skills	Richard Kowaleski	Sep 5-Dec 5	
IP/NR/SE	10–11:30am	The American Short Story (6 weeks)	Michael Storey	Oct 24-Dec 5	
IP+R/WI	10–11:30 am	Our Climate is Rapidly Changing! Here's Some Things You Can Do About It (5 weeks)	Diana Cassady	Sep 5-Oct 3	
D/NR/WI/SE	10–11:30am	The College Scholar Athlete Program	Greg Beale	Sep 5-Dec 5	
IP/NR/SE	10–11:30am	The Poetry of Robert Frost (6 weeks)	Michael Storey	Sep 5-Oct 10	
H/R/WI	10–11:30am	Topics in Revolutionary America (10 weeks)	Cathy Minicucci Kevin Collins	Sep 5-Nov 7	
D/IP+R/WI	10am–12pm	Living Well to 101 and Beyond (Monthly)	Helen Justice Lou Basinal	Sep 19-Nov 21	
IP/NR/WI/SE	11am–12pm	World Population Collapse: The Next Apocalypse? (6 weeks)	Greg Dewey	Oct 24-Dec 5	
IP/NR/SE	11am–12:30pm	Three Great Poems (3 weeks)	Catherine Civello	Sep 5-Sep 19	
H/R	12–2:30pm	Preserving Democracy	Ken Cross	Sep 5-Dec 5	
D/IP/NR/WI/SE	12–2:45pm	The Supremely Talented Mr. Sorkin–The Sequel	Alan Miller	Sep 5-Dec 5	
IP/NR/SE	12:30–2:30pm	Classical Music	Gordon Garcia Leo Eylar	Sep 5-Nov 21	
IP+R/WI	1–2pm	Rediscovering One (6 weeks)	Griffin O'Shea	Sep 5-Oct 10	
H/R/ WI	1–2:30pm	Active Retirement Investing	Nash Bailey Bill Bailey	Sep 5-Nov 21	
D/H/R/WI/SE	1–2:30pm	Becoming Human: Sex Differences, Orientation, Ears (3 weeks)	Dennis McFadden	Oct 31-Nov 14	
D/IP+R/WI	1–2:30pm	North and South Korea: A Tale of Two Nations (3 weeks)	Janet Heath	Sep 5-Sep 19	
D/IP+R/WI	1–2:30 pm	American Protest Songs	Michael Hersher	Sep 5-Dec 5	

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DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE					Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Leader Name	Dates		
	Seminars (contd.)					
D/IP/NR/SE	1–2:45pm	Appreciating Our Elder Years (6 weeks)	Karen Gierlach	Oct 24-Dec 5		
IP/NR/WI/SE	1–2:45pm	The Beatles: Like You've Never Heard Them Before	David Abelson	Sep 5-Dec 5		
IP/NR/WI/SE	1–2:45pm	Critical Thinking	Richard Kowaleski	Sep 5-Dec 5		
D/H/R/WI	1–2:45pm	Hidden Treasures of Folsom (6 weeks)	Alan Wong	Oct 24-Dec 5		
IP+R	1–2:45pm	More <i>Real</i> Rock	Bob Lang	Sep 5-Dec 5		
D/H/R/WI	1–2:45pm	3T's: Technology's Challenges to Truth and Trust! (6 weeks)	Dale Good	Sep 5-Oct 10		
Shared Interest Groups						
IP/NR/WI/SE	9:30–11:30am	Knitting with Friends	Barbara Kletzman	Sep 5-Dec 5		
IP/NR/SE	10–11:30am	Exploring Spanish (Year-round weekly)	Sandy Britton	Sep 5-Dec 5		
D/IP/NR/SE	10–11:30am	Travel and Adventure	Frederick Chapman Cindi Matsumoto	Sep 5-Dec 5		
D/IP/NR/SE	11am–12:30pm	Hot Topics (Year-round weekly)	Erika Wasser Laura Middleton	Sep 5-Dec 5		
IP/NR/WI/SE	12–12:45pm	Social Dancing	Richard Kowaleski	Sep 5-Dec 5		
D/IP/NR/SE	12–2:30pm	Watercolor Studio	Judy Hawkins Kathleen Ellertson	Sep 5-Dec 5		
D/IP/NR/WI/SE	12:30–2pm	Do You See What I see Artists’ Salon – Self-Portraits by Renaissance Society Artists (1 day)	Julia Stagg Linda Stagg-Brown	Nov 7		
IP/NR/WI/SE	12:55–2pm	English Country Dance (Year-round weekly)	Ruth Scodel	Sep 5-Dec 5		
IP/NR/SE	1–2:30 pm	Take your best shot: Digital Photography 101 (6 weeks)	Sandy Britton	Sep 5-Oct 10		

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DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates	
	One-Time Presentations - Friday AFTERNOON Series [Contd.]				
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Session 2: Interrupting Ignorance: The CPR Protocol	Kyle Williams	Oct 17	
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Session 3: From Conversation to Action	Kyle Williams	Oct 24	
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Power of Presence: Being. Belonging. Becoming	Maureen White	Oct 31	
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Living and Learning with Dyslexia: A Family Journey	Jess Arce	Nov 7	
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Many Journeys, Unequal Paths: Rethinking Immigration in America	Jeff Ferreira-Pro	Nov 14	
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Acoustics, Audition, and the JFK Assassination	Dennis McFadden	Nov 21	
D/H/R/WI	1–2:30pm	Out Here Film Screening and Discussion Panel	Leslie Silver	Dec 5	

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DELIVERY FORMATS	FRIDAY PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE				Page No.
	Time	Program Title	Speaker Name	Dates	
	FORUMS				
H/R/WI	3–4pm	The State of Our City	Kevin McCarty	Sep 5	
H/R/WI	3–4pm	California’s Focus on Wildfire Preparedness	Daniel Berlant	Sep 12	
D/H/R/WI	3–4pm	Ear Hustle: Telling Stories from Prison	Nigel Poor	Sep 19	
H/R/WI	3–4pm	The Journey of the Sacramento Philharmonic and Opera: An Orchestra and Opera Company for the 21st Century	Giuliano Kornberg	Sep 26	
D/H/R/WI	3–4pm	Public Policy Institute of California	Tani Cantil Sakauye	Oct 3	
D/H/R/WI	3–4pm	Painting Around the World	Jerald Silva	Oct 10	
D/H/R/WI	3–4pm	The Poet and the Silk Girl: A Memoir of Love, Imprisonment, and Protest	Satsuki Ina	Oct 17	
D/H/R/WI	3–4pm	Research Across the Globe in French and English	Elaine Russell	Oct 24	
H/R WI	3–4pm	What Goes Down the Drain Counts – The Role of SacSewer	Chiho Murray	Oct 31	
H/R WI	3–4pm	Regional Wellness	Jonathan Porteus	Nov 7	
D/H/R/WI	3–4pm	Chronicling Sacramento for 46 Years	Steve Martarano	Nov 14	
H/R WI	3–4pm	The Giving Laws	Scott Syphax	Nov 21	
H/R WI	3–4pm	Fall Semester Retrospective with Deanna Hanson	Deanna Hanson	Dec 5	

California State University, Sacramento
RENAISSANCE SOCIETY
6000 J Street, MS 6074
Sacramento, CA 95819-6074
80700128

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Parking on Campus – Now Virtual!

Sac State no longer issues parking stickers. To find information about the new License Plate Recognition system type: **www.csus.edu/rensoc** into your browser to access the Renaissance Society Home Page and click *Virtual Parking Permits*.

Do You Need a Paper Schedule? Pick Up One (or More) in the Office

Use this document to look for programs and then find in-depth program descriptions and leader/speaker bios in the catalog on our website. Take one or more to share with your friends. The PDF Catalog version allows you to print selected pages.

How to Contact Us

Renaissance Society Office:

350 University Ave., Suite 108, Sacramento, CA 95825 916-758-5133 renaissa@csus.edu

Renaissance Society Website: **www.csus.edu/rensoc** **Office Hours: M-F 10-1**