Welcome to Alumni College. Providing meaningful educational experiences for alumni and friends is one of the key priorities of Alumni Weekend. With this goal in mind, the Alumni Association showcases some of Miami’s most talented faculty members who will present a wide variety of Alumni College Classes without Quizzes and Backstage Passes and Tours.

We encourage you to be an engaged learner — dive into conversations, ask questions, and share your opinions. Enjoy two days of learning, at no extra cost, with no homework assignments, tests, or term papers. It doesn’t get much better than this.

Your “class schedule” is up to you to create and maintain. You won’t need a hall pass, and you won’t receive demerits for skipping class, but you may miss out on some extraordinary learning opportunities.

Enjoy yourself!
Alumni College Opening Lecture
Friday, 10 a.m.

“Recollections and Reflections” featuring Ambassador John E. Dolibois ’42
Open to all Alumni Weekend Participants
Room: Shideler 115
Sponsored by the Class of 1958

It is our great pleasure to, once again, kick off Alumni College with “Recollections and Reflections,” featuring long-time crowd favorite Ambassador John E. Dolibois ’42.

John Dolibois has a long and storied connection to Miami University – first as a student, then as a professional. He became Miami’s first full-time Alumni Secretary in 1947 and served on Miami’s administrative staff for 34 years, launching the university’s alumni relations and development programs among other accomplishments.

Following his graduation from Miami in 1942, the native of Luxembourg served the military as an officer. During WWII and in the year after, Dolibois was a Captain in Military Intelligence and interrogated Nazi war criminals at the International War Crimes Trial in Nuremberg. He fully details these and other experiences in his book, Pattern of Circles.

After his retirement from Miami in 1981, Dolibois was appointed by President Reagan as U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg – becoming the first naturalized U.S. citizen to be named ambassador to his native country.

Ambassador Dolibois is the recipient of numerous awards, including Miami’s Benjamin Harrison Medal, and an annual award presented by the Miami University Alumni Association bears his name.

In “Recollections and Reflections,” Ambassador John E. Dolibois shares humorous and inspiring anecdotes about events that shaped his life, and the life of Miami University.

Tours & Backstage Passes
Friday, 3 – 4:15 p.m.

3 - 4:15 p.m.
“The Trees of Miami Walking Tour”

It was Robert Frost who said that Miami’s campus was the prettiest campus that ever was. We tend to agree. Learn about the many different varieties of trees that beautify the campus with Miami’s popular botanist Jack Keegan. Trees varying from the American Beech to the Yellowwoods will be viewed and discussed as participants enjoy an informative walking tour of the historic central part of campus.

(Tour Group meets at the Upham Arch at 3 p.m. Please wear comfortable walking shoes)
“McGuffey Museum Tour”
Take a personal guided tour of the renovated McGuffey Museum — home of William Holmes McGuffey. The circa 1833 house has been a registered National Historic Landmark since 1966, honoring the significant contributions of William Holmes McGuffey and the McGuffey Eclectic Readers. Artifacts, books and print materials associated with McGuffey, along with Marston Hodgin’s *The Three Erodelphians* are on display.
(Meet at McGuffey Museum—corner of Oak & Spring Streets)

“Ecology Research at Miami and the Ecology Research Center”
The Ecology Research Center (ERC) is a focal point for ecological field research at Miami and provides educational opportunities for middle, high school, and university students. This 69-hectare field station enables students and faculty to conduct field experiments in aquatic and terrestrial habitats. This tour will highlight examples of on-going research projects and explains the Miami approach to understanding and solving environmental problems.
(Shuttle bus leaves from the front of Shriver Center. Bus departs at 3 p.m.)

“From Dough to Delicious: Making Your Very Own Toasted Roll”
Have you ever wondered how Tuffy made those delicious Toasted Rolls? Experience the delicious chore of making your very own Toasted Roll without the shopping, the mess, or the dreaded clean up. Within the bakery at the Culinary Support Center, participants will discover the secret Toasted Roll recipe and put it to the test. Bring your thirst for learning and a hungry appetite.
(Shuttle Bus leaves from the front of Shriver Center. Bus departs at 3 p.m. Limit 25 participants.)

“Not Your Father’s Library”
Today’s Miami library system is an amazing hub of resources, ranging from the traditional stacks of books familiar from past days, to cutting-edge technology such as multi-media labs, podcasting rooms, electronic resources, and more. If you think libraries are becoming obsolete, think again … they are more critical than ever before. Join Dean and University Librarian Judith Sessions in discovering all that Miami’s libraries offer and how libraries are changing in your own community.
(Meet in the lobby of King Library)

“Pulp to Paper…Paper Really Does Grow on Trees”
Participants in this unique program will visit the department of Paper and Chemical Engineering facilities to see how Miami’s pilot paper machine provides students with real world applications for their coursework. As a bonus, you will also take pulp and make your very own paper via handsheets (handmade paper that is created one sheet at a time).
(Meet at the Engineering Building—Room 64)
Classes Without Quizzes/Session Block 1
Friday, 4:30 – 5:20 p.m.

“Getting Around Before the Automobile”
Presenter: John Hoxland White, Jr., Adjunct Professor, History & Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Room: Benton 100
The definition of “mass transit” has certainly taken on different meanings over the years. This class features an illustrated lecture that flashes back to the days of horse drawn carriages from Colonial times to the advent of the motor car. Back then, a variety of carriage types were developed to suit every taste and pocket book. Some were splendid and costly, but most were plain and practical. The greatest problem with the carriages was their “motor”—the horse. Come learn about the role carriages played in the evolution of transportation.

“A Matter of Writing Quality”
Presenter: Tom Romano, Professor, Teacher Education
Room: Benton 114
How would emotions or qualities think and act if they were characters? Jealousy? Procrastination? Nostalgia? Peace? Tom Romano will show how his teacher education students have enhanced their understanding of abstract qualities by personifying them on the page, producing memorable, and oftentimes humorous writing.

“Bear Stearns and the American Bailout Dilemma”
Presenter: James Brock, Bill R. Moeckel Professor, Economics
Room: Benton 204
Utilizing the overpowering wit and wisdom of economics, Professor Brock will coerce students into examining the political-economic dilemma that collapsing corporate giants pose in private-enterprise democracy. This searing experience is sure to leave no life unaffected.

“With Sentiments of Respect and Affection: Letters of Old Miami, 1809-1873”
Presenter: Betsy Butler, Special Collections Librarian
Room: King Library 320
In July 1851, Miami student Theophilus Hibbett started his diary by describing the long journey he made to Oxford from his Tennessee home, only to arrive a month before school started. If you’re a Miami history buff, you’ll want to join Betsy Butler, Special Collections Librarian, to discover more about Hibbett’s diary and other documents of Old Miami housed in the Walter Havighurst Special Collections. This program complements the first book in a new series of library and university publications highlighting the correspondence of those who shaped Miami.
“We are Migrants Too: U.S. Retirees in Mexico”
Presenter: Sheila Croucher, Rejai Professor of Political Science
Room: Benton 115

Amidst the heightened focus on Mexican migration to the U.S., a reverse flow of U.S. citizens moving south to Mexico has been almost overlooked. Yet, the same scholarly frameworks used to understand Mexican migration — push/pull factors, the role of communications technology, the possibilities of transnational belonging — apply to the movement of Americans southward. This session reverses the familiar immigration lens to illuminate a trend of migrants leaving the U.S. to settle in Mexico and explores the political, cultural and economic implications of this understudied migration flow.

“The On-Going Significance of Significant Dreams”
Presenter: Roger Knudson, Associate Professor, Psychology
Room: Benton 207

Carl Jung once said there are little dreams and there are big dreams. Big dreams are the ones remembered for a lifetime that may have a profound influence on one’s life. But do such dreams still come, even in places like Oxford? Come and learn more about the on-going significance of significant dreams.

Saturday, June 14 – Alumni College

7:30 – 9:15 a.m.
“Breakfast with the Hodges” for participants attending Alumni College
Location: Benton 102
Coordinated by the Miami University Alumni Association

Start your Alumni College experience by enjoying a continental breakfast hosted by President David C. Hodge and Mrs. Valerie Hodge. Continental breakfast will be available at 7:30 a.m., with the program beginning at 8 a.m. The Hodges will bring you up-to-date on their second year in Oxford and share insights on new additions at Miami. Following their remarks, you will have the opportunity to ask your own questions of Miami’s First Couple.
Classes Without Quizzes/Session Block II
Saturday, 9:30 – 10:20 a.m.

Presenter: Jennifer Yamashiro, Visiting Assistant Professor, Art
Room: Benton 100

Constantine recognized Christianity as a lawful religion and ended the persecution of Christians, clearing the way for Christianity to become the official religion of the Roman Empire. Despite imperial repression, classical and other religions continued. By looking at some works from this dynamic period, we can identify specific religious beliefs, see creative uses of symbolism and appreciate the tension between Christianity and the classical world.

“Miami Students Yesterday & Today: Commonalities & Differences”
Presenter: Susan Mosley-Howard, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs & Andrew Beckett, Assistant Dean, Student Affairs
Room: Benton 114

In what ways are today’s students similar and/or different from previous generations? In this session we use research and student survey data to discuss student culture at Miami and around the nation. Special attention will be paid to national trends in student and parent expectations, and how the “Millennial Generation, Generation Y, or Generation Next” is changing college campuses across the country.

“Stem Cell Research…Past, Present and Future”
Presenter: Joyce Fernandes, Associate Professor, Zoology
Room: Benton 115

Did it really start with Louise Brown, the first test-tube baby? In light of recent advances, will the debate on embryonic stem cell research become obsolete? What is the future of regenerative medicine in light of the restrictions on federal funding of this research? These questions, and many others, will be explored during this look into stem cell research.

“Sub-Prime, Bear Stearns & the Credit Crunch”
Presenter: Mark Griffiths, Jack Anderson Professor, Finance
Room: Benton 204

What exactly is the sub-prime crisis? Where did Bear Stearns go wrong? What do these two events have to do with the availability of bank credit, corporate prosperity and everyday life? Find out all the facts about today’s economic hot topics.
“Picturing Old Miami: Discovering Campus Life”
Presenter: Robert Wicks, Director of the Art Museum
Room: Benton 102
Robert Wicks, director of the Miami University Art Museum, presents this lecture and shares his discoveries about campus life over the decades from an extensive search of pictures, archives, libraries and private collections for materials to include in an upcoming book celebrating Miami’s Bicentennial.

“Will You Still Need Me, Will You Still Feed Me, When I’m 84?”
Presenter: Robert Applebaum, Professor, Sociology and Gerontology
Room: Benton 206
The unprecedented growth in the size of the population reaching old age is a marker of progress being made in U.S. society. These increases are accompanied by an ever-increasing number of older Americans that require long-term care. This class will discuss the major individual and societal challenges faced in the long-term care arena and ways you can better prepare for your future needs.

“Behavioral Finance—You Gotta Know When to Hold ‘Em and Know When to Fold ‘Em”
Presenter: David Shrider, Assistant Professor, Finance
Room: Benton 207
In this session, we will examine some of the common behavioral biases that effect investor decision making. Specifically, we will investigate how investors make bad decisions because of overconfidence, self-deception and home-bias. We will also discuss how investors’ purchase and sell decisions are affected by past performance.

Classes Without Quizzes/Session Block III
Saturday, 10:35 – 11:25 a.m.

“The U.S. Supreme Court and its Impact on Public Schools”
Presenter: Nelda Cambron-McCabe, Professor, Educational Leadership
Room: Benton 100
United States Supreme Court decisions have affected almost every aspect of public schooling. Dr. Cambron-McCabe provides an overview of the most significant decisions of the past 20 years and discusses the impact those rulings have had on the lives of students and teachers in schools.
“An Economic Outlook for the Next 5-10 Years”
Presenter: Mark Griffiths, Jack Anderson Professor, Finance
Room: Benton 204
The U.S. Government is spending approximately $12 million per hour in Iraq and Afghanistan and NONE of that is in the current budget. We will examine what is and is not in the government budget and how the implications of such issues affect the future standard of living for the average American. Among the issues covered in this lecture are Medicare, prescription benefits, Social Security, and national defense.

“Coaching and Corrective Action: How to Avoid Being Frog-Boiled”
Presenter: Thomas Mobley, Management and Personnel Coordinator
Room: Benton 115
Confronting “people problems” in an appropriate and timely manner is one of the most daunting tasks that leaders/managers face in an organization/setting. This seminar provides the tools and confidence needed to address these issues while they are merely simmering and before things get too hot!

“Global Carbon Cycle”
Presenter: William Renwick, Professor and Chair, Geography
Room: Benton 114
The accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is at the heart of global warming. While human emissions of carbon dioxide from fossil fuel combustion are the biggest factor in rising atmospheric CO2, the carbon cycle has many other components of great importance. A growing trade in “carbon credits” has even emerged, giving the cycle economic importance. This discussion will review the major sources and sinks of carbon in the global carbon cycle, what we know about them and, more importantly, what we don’t know.

“Armstrong to Zora: African American Spirit and Soul in Contemporary Children’s Literature”
Presenter: Frances Yates, Instructional Materials Librarian
Room: King Library—Ground Floor—Instructional Materials Center
Fly with Bessie Coleman and Mae Jemison, ride with the Watsons to Birmingham, walk with Ruby Bridges, and sing with Marian Anderson as we journey together on an exploration of a variety of children’s books featuring African American culture and themes.
“Supply Chain Management and the History of the World in Motion: A Micro Perspective”
Presenter: Bryan Ashenbaum, Assistant Professor, Management
Room: Benton 206
Supply Chain Management is a fairly modern term for the emergence in the corporate world of an integrated and strategic focus on purchasing, operations and logistics. As this integrated approach is only about thirty years old, there is a tendency to teach the various supply chain topics as if they were recently created. In reality, the problems of supply management, efficient operational transformation and distribution have been with human society since ancient times. This talk focuses on some of the earliest appearances of supply chain management approaches and techniques throughout history, and considers their relevance to the modern day.

“McGuffey, Miami University and the Nation: Literacy and Legacies”
Presenter: Stephen Gordon, Curator, McGuffey Museum
Room: Benton 207
Of the 5,000 faculty who have taught at Miami, William Holmes McGuffey is arguably the University’s most famous professor. His contributions to Miami and the nation continue to be significant nearly 175 years after he served as Miami’s first University Librarian and compiled the famous McGuffey Readers, the most widely read secular books in American history. Still in print today, the time-tested lessons in the Readers remain relevant to many modern educators and help us understand how as a nation we became Americans.

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(Meet in the lobby of King Library)

Classes Without Quizzes/Session Block IV
Saturday, 3:30 – 4:20 p.m.

“Navigating with GPS”

Presenter: Jade Morton, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Room: Benton 100

Many of us have come to rely on GPS for traveling directions, but GPS applications have far more advanced consequences than the simple functions of finding position and location. This presentation provides a brief explanation of how GPS works, its wide range of applications, and exciting new advancements in research and development.

“Social Entrepreneurship: Do You Want to Change the World?”

Presenter: Brett Smith, Assistant Professor, Marketing
Room: Benton 114

Do you want to change the world? This session highlights Miami University’s internationally recognized program in which students use their imagination, creativity and innovation to address some of the world’s most persistent social problems, including a partnership with Bono’s company to develop Edun LIVE on Campus.

“A Walk into the Future of Weight Control”

Presenter: Ronald Cox, Associate Professor, Kinesiology and Health
Room: Benton 115

Could you lose 50 lbs. a year just by going to work? It might be possible. Current attempts to combat the growing pandemic of obesity are failing miserably, and a “sea change” in the way we structure our working environment is necessary. See what the future work place may look like – it has already begun at Miami University.