



2015 Spring Schedule – Cullowhee (NCCAT) Classes  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**01/27/15 – Les Saucier, “Nature Photography”**

Les Saucier is a professional nature photographer and educator who has taught nature photography workshops all over the country for over thirty years. Les lives in the Southern Appalachian Mountains where he offers digital workflow, digital printing and creative vision workshops locally and nationally. Les is also the creator of the Flowerpod, an amazing tool for macro photographers. He guides and inspires creative seekers on their journeys. He also offers photographic tutoring for those who are camera manual-challenged.

**02/03/15 – Steve White, “Memorable Times in WCU Athletics”**

Steve White, a 1967 graduate of Western Carolina, served for over four decades in the University's athletics department before retiring in April, 2010. He officially took over as the school's sports information director in 1970, a capacity he held until 1998. White wrote millions of words publicizing WCU's student-athletes, coaches and teams, helping 35 football, basketball and baseball players to attain All-America honors; hundreds to become All-Southern Conference; and several football and baseball teams to achieve national rankings. During his storied professional career, White witnessed over 400-consecutive Catamount football games, one of the longest consecutive-games streaks in the profession. He was one of 12 recipients of the Southern Conference's Distinguished Service Award. He was also an eight-time recipient of the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA) awards for "Outstanding Press Box Service."

**02/10/15 – Tom Belt, “Origin and History of the mounds in Cherokee, North Carolina”**

Tom Belt is the Western Carolina University Cherokee Language Program Coordinator. Mr. Belt is working to create a state-of-the-art Cherokee language program at the university level. Mr. Belt teaches the first four semesters of Cherokee language and he co-teaches courses on Cherokee grammar and Cherokee language literature. Mr. Belt, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, is a fluent Cherokee speaker and he works closely with speakers from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to produce culturally-based Cherokee language learning material. Before joining the Cherokee Language Program, Mr. Belt worked as a counselor's aide in a local treatment center for native youths with chemical dependencies. He attended the Universities of Oklahoma and Colorado and taught the Cherokee language at the Cherokee elementary school in Cherokee, NC. Mr. Belt has also served as a consultant to various cultural archives and to various indigenous language programs in public schools and on the post-secondary level.

**02/17/15 – Susan Fouts and Tom Oren, “International Education: The Jamaica Program”**

Dr. Fouts and Dr. Oren will share their experience and insights into the Jamaican Educational system, the relationship with Western Carolina University and the community involvement with Jamaican educators. For over 40 years, WCU has been involved in providing education and

training programs for Jamaican teachers. This program gives teachers in Jamaica opportunity to receive their Bachelor of Science in Education (BSEd) and Master of Arts in Education (MAEd) degrees.

An Associate Professor in Special Education, Dr. Oren received his PhD at Pennsylvania State University. He travels to Jamaica multiple times each year to teach our Jamaican students. Some believe if Dr. Oren ran for a national office in Jamaica, he would win by a landslide. Dr. Oren coordinates the summer residency for the Jamaican students from the academic side.

Dr. Fouts holds a doctoral degree in adult and community college education from North Carolina State University, where her studies focused on the areas of training and development and lifelong learning. Dr. Fouts coordinates the summer residency for the students from the non-academic activities.

### **02/24/15 - Jeffrey Vickery, “World Religions”**

Since 2002 Jeffrey D. Vickery has served as co-pastor of Cullowhee Baptist Church alongside Tonya Vickery to whom he has been married for the last 25 years. Why a pastor besides a sense of divine calling? Because he believes the church still matters in the world today. In order to prevent mental decay, Jeffrey also teaches as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at WCU. Whenever he’s not preaching or teaching, he’s a proud father of two fabulous and talented teenage daughters.

### **03/03/15 – Patricia Cowen, “History of the Biltmore Estate”**

Patricia Cowen worked in the Continuing Education department and taught Elderhostel Programs for Western Carolina University between the mid 1980’s to 2000. While her field is in International Politics and Economics, Patricia was also given the opportunity to learn about the history of the Biltmore House. For nine years, she taught for Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, with their winter Elderhostel Programs. Patricia has also been able to teach with Stetson College in Deland, Florida with their winter Road Scholar Programs.

### **03/10/15 – Dan Pierce, “Insiders vs. Outsiders in Western North Carolina: A Historical Perspective”**

An author, a professor of History, and Department Chair, Dan Pierce resides in Asheville, North Carolina where he works at UNC Asheville. Dan received his Ph.D in History at the University of Tennessee. At UNCA, he teaches classes in Appalachian and Southern History, the Civil War, Writing and History, and Environmental History. His research focuses on the Great Smoky Mountains, Southern Appalachian history, the history of Moonshining, and NASCAR history.

### **03/17/15 – Ila Hatter, “Incredible Edibles and Traditional Medicinals”**

Ila, known as *The Lady of the Forest* is an interpretive naturalist, artist, wildcrafter, and gourmet cook with more than 25 years experience teaching the cultural heritage of native plants. Ila Hatter’s mission is to tune people in to the many ways they can make Mother Nature’s pantry and medicine cabinet their own. Hatter does not forage the woods in the hope of making a profit. “In my case, I’m not gathering things to sell but instead am using them for education – teaching people what these plants are, how to identify them, what the traditional uses are, what the potential market might be for them. I combine my knowledge of the flora with folklore, telling interesting stories that go with the botany of what I do.”

**03/24/15 – Jack Sholders and Various Students, Controlled Chaos Film Festival, “Creating a Film: The process and final product”**

WCU established the Film and TV Production Program in 2006 and launched the festival in 2009 as a way to celebrate student work throughout the year. The event was named “controlled chaos” – the phrase Jack Sholder, director of the program, uses to describe the process of filmmaking. Students in WCU’s School of Stage and Screen write, direct, perform, film, edit and produce the films and incorporate musical compositions created by students in the Commercial and Electronic Music Program and title sequences developed in the School of Art and Design.

**03/31/15 – George Frizzell, “Building of the Dams”**

George Frizzell, head of special collections at Western Carolina University’s Hunter Library, is the 2013 recipient of the Thornton W. Mitchell Service Award for outstanding service to the archival profession in North Carolina. Mr. Frizzell has an M.A. in history from WCU and a M.L.S. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He is a recognized expert in the fields of Cherokee and Appalachian history. Frizzell said from an early age he felt at home in libraries and worked as a volunteer shelving books in the library at his elementary school. His professional career has been devoted to Hunter Library’s special collections. He joined the staff in 1982 as a research assistant and was named head of the department in 1989.

**04/07/15 – Herb Bailey, “Making Charitable Giving Count for you and your Charity”**

Herb Bailey, CFRE is an experienced development professional with 35 years of fundraising experience directing foundation work, developing major and gift planning programs within diverse sectors of the nonprofit industry throughout the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the U.S., including medical, health, social services, human services, religious, public and private higher education organizations. Herb was declared a Certified Fundraising Executive in 1995 by the CFRE International Board. He is a Past President of both the North Carolina Planned Giving Council (2000) and the Virginia Gift Planning Council (1996), a 2001 elected Delegate to the National Planned Giving Committee Assembly of Delegates (now PPP), was twice a Partnership for Philanthropic Planning National Board Nominee (2008 & 2010), and has been invited to present at AFP International, Regional and Statewide NCPGC and VGPC Conferences as well as at CASE National Webinars. He is an expert in philanthropic planning, incorporating charitable gift planning into financial and estate planning strategies enabling most folks to either: make the same gift as intended while keeping more hard earned dollars in the donor’s own pocket or help them make a larger/more gifts than they thought possible.

**04/14/15\* – John Boyle, “Life of a Reporter: Memorable Encounters”**

John Boyle known as “The Answer Man” at the Asheville Citizen Times, has been invited to speak at our joint meeting on Western Carolina University’s main campus. There will be a luncheon to follow.

\*Please note that the luncheon will take place on the Concourse level of the Ramsey Center. Guests are welcome but must pre-register to attend.