LIFE-LONG LEARNING
Co-sponsored by the Office of the President and the Professional Associates of Fort Lewis College, the Life-Long Learning Lecture series aims to enrich the intellectual life of the College and the community by offering free presentations on a wide variety of subjects. The Thursday evening programs are open to all and run from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Please call the Office of the President at Fort Lewis College at (970) 247-7401 or visit www.fortlewis.edu/professionalassociates.

LOCATION
All lectures are held in Noble Hall Rm. 130, unless noted otherwise.
January 23
Helping the World Build Sustainable Villages: Profiles of Three High-Impact Sw Colorado NGoS
Learn about the path-breaking work being done in international development by three Southwest Colorado non-profit organizations, as represented by the leaders from Fort Lewis College’s Engineers Without Borders (Don May), Durango’s Shanta Foundation (Mike Karpfen), and Ridgeway’s Dzi Foundation (Jim Nowak), who will describe the wonderful work they are doing helping communities in Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Ecuador, and Nicaragua.

January 30
The Evolution and Legacy of Rock Music and Its Effects on American Generations
Bob Griffith is a former radio broadcaster from Los Angeles with 31 years of experience in the business as a manager, performer, and speaker, and is adept in most forms and formats of radio. In this presentation, Bob will explain the origins, accomplishments, and failures of rock music, and its influence as a social force in American culture at critical times in a changing society.

February 6
Understanding the Science Behind Vaccines and Their Impact on One’s Personal Health
Do you get a flu shot every year, or do you skip your annual vaccine because you think it will make you sick? Do you vaccinate your children, or do you think children get too many vaccines at a time? Dr. David Blake, professor of biology at Fort Lewis College, will discuss how vaccines work, why they are beneficial to society, and will identify the strengths and weaknesses of various vaccines, including those used against H1N1 (the causative agents of the seasonal flu), Bordetella pertussis (the causative agent of whooping cough), and HIV (the causative agent of AIDS).

February 20
Blazing Ice: Pioneering the 21st Century’s Road to the South Pole
The Antarctic is the last, vast terrestrial frontier on Earth. Less than a century ago, no one had ever seen the South Pole. Today, odd machines and adventure skiers from many nations converge there every summer. But not until recently had anyone completed a round trip from McMurdo Station, the U.S. support hub on the continental coast. Come join mining geologist and explosives engineer John Wright and hear his personal story of the team of Americans who forged a thousand-mile transcontinental “haul route” across Antarctica in 2006 despite hazards as daunting as they were for Norway’s Roald Amundsen or England’s Robert Scott when they raced to be first to the South Pole in 1911-12.

February 27
Refuge: Living and Working with Rescued Wolves
Wolves have long suffered because of myth and misinformation, cruelty and prejudice. They are not vicious man-killers, nor are they cuddly Disney characters. Come learn the truth about these amazing animals—their physical attributes, communication skills, behavior and life cycles, and hear stories from Paula Watson, director of WolfWood, about what goes into the care-taking of the more than 60 wolves and wolf-dogs that have a permanent home at her refuge, located here in La Plata County.

March 6
The Power of Nonviolence
Are nonviolent means able to overcome injustice and social oppression? Long-time peace scholar and activist David Cortwright explores the meaning and message of Gandhi and King, the remarkable global record of nonviolent success, and the relevance of nonviolent means for addressing urgent challenges of terrorism and armed violence. Referencing experiences and lessons learned ranging from the civil rights movement to gender struggles to Iraq, he identifies a series of principles of action and how nonviolence is linked to democracy.

March 13
The Ludlow Massacre and the Evolution of Industrial Relations
Rory Mullett applies his insights from a long career in industrial and personnel/employee relations, including 16 years working for an organization arising from the wake of Ludlow, to this tale of the struggle between labor and management over union recognition which led to shooting, fire, and death in the coal fields of southern Colorado. The cast of characters includes ace union organizer Mother Jones, John D. Rockefeller, and Mackenzie King (premier of Canada for 22 years).

March 20
Uncovering the Mystery, Myths, and Power of Hypnosis
Hypnosis is an ancient modality to access the subconscious. How does it work? Why would you want to enter the subconscious? Under hypnosis, can you remember what happened? Can everyone be hypnotized? Get answers to these questions and learn about the history and current uses of hypnosis from hypnotherapist and practitioner Barb Horn, CCHT.

April 3
In Search of Reasons for Belief: Is Knowledge Even Possible?
In order for a belief to count as knowledge, we must have a reason for holding it and we must be aware that we have such a reason. But for that reason to be recognized as a good one, we must have a reason to think that it is, and that second reason in turn, will require a third, etc. Such an infinite regress of reasons would mean that we never truly know anything at all! How can we avoid such an intolerable, frustrating outcome? Do we know some things without any supporting reasons? That’s dogmatism, not knowledge. Are we entitled to assume our beliefs are justified unless challenged? That merely begs the question, refusing to face the argument. Dr. Dugald Owen, professor in the Philosophy Department at Fort Lewis College, will help us seek an answer, exploring all the main paths philosophers have taken.

April 10
The Brain: A User’s Guide to Life-long Dynamics of Structure and Function
Do common beliefs about our behavior have a basis in actual principles of brain function? Are we really shaping an infant’s brain with our silly adult antics? Does loss of hearing have a chance of decreasing our cognitive capabilities? Dr. Ben Kater, retired professor at the Medical School of the University of Utah and distinguished brain researcher, who founded the Program in Neuronal Growth and Development at Colorado State University, will guide our consideration of these questions and share information on the new battery of experimental methods with which neuroscientists have discovered how our experiences and environments impinge upon us, with profound effects on how our brains are altered throughout life.