

LIFE (Fall, 2026) Curriculum Schedule (4/10/26)

*CF: Cape Florida Ballroom, SU 3rd Floor

| Date | Time | Room | Lecture Title | Speaker |
|------------|----------|------|--|---|
| 9/8/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | 250th Declaration of Independence | David Head, Ph.D. Department of History Lecturer, UCF |
| | 10:30 AM | | Solo Violin: History and Today | Ilana Zaks-Nederlander Distinguished Concert Violinist; Faculty Boston University Tanglewood Institute |
| 9/15/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Optics and Photonics | Stephen Eikenberry Professor, Ph.D. Optics & Photonics Physics, UCF |
| | 10:30 AM | | Wine- Rosen College of Hospitality Management | Jennifer Hostetter Foodservice and Lodging Management Rosen College of Hospitality Management, UCF |
| 9/22/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Bringing Democracy to Life: How You Can Help | Karen Castor Dentel Orange County Supervisor of Elections |
| | 10:30 AM | | Space Medicine | Emmanuel Urquieta Associate Professor Medicine UCF Department of Medicine |
| 9/29/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Bow. Stay. Go. Surrender, presence, and movement: A journey through life | Brandon Watson Certified Recovery Peer Support |
| | 10:30 AM | | Behind the Scenes: Secrets of a Chocolate Artist | Paul Joachim Chocolate Genius |
| 10/6/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Our legacy | Dee Woolford Dee Public Relations Specialist |
| | 10:30 AM | | Blockchains | Cuneyt Akcora Associate Professsor Department of Finance, UCF |
| 10/13/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | UCF Student Research Week | Tyler Fisher Director Academic Program Graduate Studies, UCF |
| | 10:30 AM | | Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean | Dr. Ken Hanson Coordinator & Abe and Tess Wise Endowed Professor of Judaic Studies |

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| 10/20/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | UCF Athletics | Brodrick Johnson Assistant Athletics Director, Knights Leadership Academy |
| | 10:30 AM | | Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Symptoms, Treatments, and Hope | Jennifer Seminerio Director of Inflammatory Bowel Disease Associate Professor of Medicine AdventHealth Orlando |
| 10/27/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | UCF Institute for Simulation and Training | Caroline Cruz-Neira Executive Director, Pegasus Research Institute Interim Director, Institute for Simulation & Training |
| | 10:30 AM | | LIFE at UCF Gerontology Research Grant Recipients | <u>Samantha Gmitro</u> Graduate Researcher and Data Science Specialist <u>Rui Xie</u> Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Computational and Applied Sciences <u>Xueqiang Wang</u> Associate Professor of Engineering and Applied Research |
| 11/3/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Gems of Historical Architecture: The Carpenter Gothic Episcopal Churches of Florida | Jonathan Rich, Author |
| | 10:30 AM | | Russian Informational Warfare in The MENA Region: Implications and Effectiveness | Dr. Autumn Perkey Assistant Professor in the School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs UCF |
| 11/10/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Dietary Supplements: Myths, Mechanisms, and Red Flags in an Age of Misinformation. | Kworweinski Lafontant Kinesiology PhD, UCF |
| | 10:30 AM | | The Undemocratic Framework in U.S. Territories in light of the Declaration of Independence | Adi Martinez-Roman Co-founder and Co-Director of Right to Democracy |
| 11/17/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Rubens and Rembrandt | Jan Clanton Historian |
| | 10:30 AM | | The Most Famous Man You've Never Heard of: Jakob Fugger | Dr. Silvia Hodges Silverstein Strategic Historian, Storyteller, HBS Case Author |
| 11/24/2026 | 9:00 AM | CF | Political Psychology and the Dynamics of Democratic Citizenship | Steven Smallpage Associate Professor School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs |

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| | 10:30 AM | | Supportintg K-16 educators in the field of civics and government teaching | Stephen S. Masyada, Ph.D. COS Faculty Fellow for Assessment Director Florida Joint Center for Citizenship, Director- The Lou Frey Institute |
| * Due to rennovations in the Pegasus Ballroom, LIFE at UCF will be in Cape Florida for Fall, 2026 | | | | |