LIFE (Fall, 2026) Curriculum Schedule (8/19/26)

*CF: Cape Florida Ballroom, SU 3rd Floor

Date	Time	Room	Lecture Title	Speaker
9/8/2026	9:00 AM	CF	A Nation in the Making: Celebrating 250 Years of the 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		In Vino Veritas: Wine in Antiquity	Jennifer Hostetter Foodservice and Lodging Management Rosen College of Hospitality Management, UCF
9/22/2026	9:00 AM	CF	GPII's Conflict Transformation Program	David Dumke Executive Director, UCF Global Perspectives and International Initiatives
	10:30 AM		Space Medicine	Emmanuel Urquieta Associate Professor of 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		Bringing Democracy to Life: How You Can Help	Karen Castor Dentel Orange County Supervisor of Elections
10/6/2026	9:00 AM	CF	From Gift to Legacy: The Power of Organ and Tissue Donation	Dee Woolford Public Relations Specialist
	10:30 AM		Blockchains	Cuneyt Akcora Associate Professor Department of Finance, UCF
10/13/2026	9:00 AM	CF	UCF Student Research Week	Tyler Campbell 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
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	Carolina Cruz-Neira Executive Director, Pegasus Research Institute Interim Director, Institute for Simulation & Training
	10:30 AM		LIFE at UCF Gerontology Research Grant Recipients	Samantha Gmitro Graduate Researcher and Data Science Specialist Rui Xie Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Computational and Applied Sciences Xueqiang Wang 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		Communication, Media, and the Mind: Understanding What We See and Hear Online	Gabrielle Jarmoszko Nicholson School of Communication and Media
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	No Lecture		No Lecture	University is closed for Thanksgiving break
12/1/2026	9:00 AM	CF	Political Psychology and the Dynamics of Democratic Citizenship	Steven Smallpage Associate Professor School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs

	10:30 AM		Supporting 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 renovations in the Pegasus Ballroom, LIFE at UCF will be in Cape Florida for Fall, 2026				