Poetry Reading
Neil Carpathios  M.F.A., Associate Professor, English and Creative Writing

Professor Carpathios will read from his recent award-winning collection, The Function of Sadness, as well as from his other works.

Remedial Appalachia
Deborah Davis  M.Ed.; Instructor, English & Humanities

How can remedial courses in English become an opportunity for advancement and success? Davis outlines the history of remediation education in Appalachia and discusses tools for success in those courses.

Modernization and the Cultural Landscape of Kulusuk Island, East Greenland
Tony Dzik  Ph.D.; Professor, Geography

The cultural landscape of Kulusuk Island in East Greenland reflects the integration of the traditional and the modern on an island isolated from the rest of Greenland and the outside world until the late 19th Century. The island had never been a significant hunting area for the region's Inuit and exhibited little trace of permanent habitation until 1909 when the Danes established a religious mission on the island and a village arose around it. Dr. Dzik explains how a number of external modernizing forces have brought new technologies and new material culture, transforming the cultural landscape on the island.

Partying Moms, Vengeful Dads, and Forgotten Children: News Media Portrayals of Offenders and Victims of Family Violence
Amy Grau  Ph.D.; Senior Instructor, Sociology

Dr. Grau examines hundreds of stories covered by the national print news media of homicides of children by one or both of their parents over a ten year period and draws fascinating conclusions about the portrayals of the offenders.

Orange = the New Black = Camp
Thomas Piontek  Ph.D.; Associate Professor, English and Women's Studies

This presentation considers the successful Netflix series as an example of camp at its finest. Dr. Piontek shows that in Orange Is the New Black camp is not just a source of humor but rather characterizes the way the inmates remake themselves behind bars and the political stance these marginalized subjects take in response to their incarceration.

Finding the Universe’s Missing Gas with the Hubble Space Telescope
Tim Hamilton  Ph.D.; Associate Professor, Physics

Dr. Hamilton explains that most of the universe’s mass is hydrogen gas, and from this we form stars, which produce everything else we see. However, as he points out, very little is known about how much is out there to be used. Since this gas is not glowing, we have to look for its absorption spectrum in the light of distant quasars. Hamilton shares results of his Hubble Telescope search for these gas clouds with pictures of the galaxies they live in.

Creating Original Vocal Compositions
Shirley Crothers-Marley  M.F.A., Instructor, Fine, Digital, & Performing Arts

Crothers-Marley will perform two original vocal numbers utilizing local writers’ original poetry she has set to music. The poems appeared in the collection of Appalachian poetry and prose Every River on Earth edited by Neil Carpathios and were performed as part of her collaboration with artists in that book. She will offer a brief explanation of how she sets poetry to music.

Riemann’s Foundations for Functions of a Complex Variable
Phil Blau  Ph.D.; Professor, Mathematical Sciences

Despite a brief life of forty years, Bernhard Riemann had a profound impact on mathematics. His inaugural dissertation, published in 1851, is a classic among classic mathematical papers. Dr. Blau provides an overview of this seminal work and the man behind it.