

# Community Lecture Series

Explore new ideas with us during an engaging one-hour lecture at the Cornish Library, presented by researchers from the University of Winnipeg. Lectures touch on anything from science to history to the arts.

All events are held at the Cornish Library, 20 West Gate. All lectures are free. Drop-in, no registration needed.

**Fall 2025 Season**



**Melissa Funke** | Classics

## Invoking the Classical Past in the Gilded Age: The Greek Myth of Penelope and Women's Craft

**October 16th** | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

In the 1800s, neoclassical themes were popular in art and design. Penelope, the idealized faithful wife of Greek myth, appeared across a variety of media, from painting to upholstery fabric. Building from a discussion of an 1886 tapestry depicting Penelope by Dora Wheeler Keith, this talk examines the use of women's craft and the invocation of the classical past in supporting colonial enterprise in late 1800s America.

**Yongshan He** | Religion & Culture

## Learn Chinese in an Hour!

**November 13th** | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

This lecture will provide an introduction to Mandarin for people with no prior knowledge of the language. Participants will learn some useful words, read related Chinese characters, and grasp a few foundational grammatical rules to form sentences themselves. This interactive lecture aims to provide a clear and structured understanding of how the language works in a fun way, so that you can express meaningful ideas.

**Daniel Perlman** | Psychology

## Loneliness: What is it? What causes it, and combatting it!

**October 29th** | 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Daniel Perlman discusses the nature of loneliness and the different types of loneliness. What factors lead to it on the individual, interpersonal, and societal levels? What are the consequences of loneliness for our well-being and health? Most importantly, we will discuss what can and is being done to combat it.

**Jane Barter** | Religion & Culture

## Politics and the Era of the Witness: Survivor Testimony and the Witnessing of Suffering

**November 26th** | 12:00-1:00 p.m.

This presentation focuses on the practice of witnessing in the aftermath of political atrocity. Dr. Jane Barter will explore the relationship between theological forms of witnessing within Jewish and Christian traditions, and public forms of witnessing in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This presentation draws on her recent book, *Theopolitics and the Era of the Witness*.



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