

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW

Those magnificent wo/men in their flying machines

COURSE #:

22F-SOR

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Michael Miller
Robert Cohen

DATE & TIME:

Wed - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

When we all feel safe to travel again, we will flock to the airports. Airflight is taken for granted, but it is a recent creation. How did it evolve? Who was responsible? We will explore these questions.

DESCRIPTION:

Humans have dreamt of flight for eons; case in point is the story of Daedalus and Icarus. But it was only from the turn of the century that heavier-than-air machine flight was achieved. Then, it was less than 70 years until people stood on the moon. Miraculous.

In the beginning, planes were used for sport and as a hobby. Then, they were used for entertainment, stunts, and delivery of parcels. Inevitably, airplanes were used by the military, in wars, and for passenger travel. Finally, spacecraft were used to explore extraterrestrial bodies—the moon, planets, and even the sun. Science fiction has become science fact and achievement.

In this seminar, we will discuss the people and agencies that innovated and guided us through this miracle. We will discuss the courageous, the successful, and the foolhardy.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will give the class a presentation and lead a discussion on the contribution of an individual or group to the evolution of flight. Examples include Otto Lilienthal, Amelia Earhart, the Tuskegee Airmen, Chuck Yeager, Christy McAuliffe, and Roscosmos.

RESOURCES:

Class members will be asked to find resources that are relevant and informative. This seminar lends itself well to the on-line environment. PowerPoints with still images or videos will be shared on the Zoom platform.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Michael Miller and Bob Cohen are excited about the subject, though truth be told, they have flown only in the passenger compartments of airplanes or helicopters.