

Dear ICL Members,

Wes Robinson, a founding member of ICL, has made a special and most generous gift to all ICL members by purchasing five new Great Courses for our individual use as well as showing some of the DVDs in class.

I have volunteered to be responsible for signing them out when members borrow them for their own use. Contact me at ICL or email me if you would like to have one of the Great Courses to watch at home.

There are five different courses, each with a guide book and a list of the lecture titles. (Some guide books actually repeat the scholar's lectures to reinforce the material.)

Here are the formidable five:

1. **Wonders of the National Parks: A Geology of North America**, awe-inspiring natural landscapes and geological history of our national parks. Thirty-six 30-minute lectures by National Geographic Director of Programming, Ford Cochran. You will discover parks you've never heard of-- like the Kenai Fjords or the Canadian Shield. Stunning!
2. Another series from National Geographic, **Archaeology: An Introduction to the World's Greatest Sites**. In twenty-four 30-minute lectures Dr. Eric Cline, Professor of Classics and Anthropology, shares his enthusiasm for famous places and many that will be new to you, "Excavating Armageddon," for example. He answers questions like "How do archaeologists know where to dig? or How are artifacts dated and preserved?"

3. **Our Night Sky**, is led by Dr. Edward Murphy who teaches astronomy at the University of Virginia. In twelve lectures of 30 minutes each you will be astonished how much you can learn about the night sky. A special bonus of this series is a large 2-sided Planisphere, an aid to locating particular stars.
4. **The World's 36 Greatest Geological Wonders** are truly breathtaking. With time measured in millennia and ever-changing weather, sites like the African Rift Valley and the Bay of Fundy's inexorable tides astonish us with their beauty and mystery. Professor Michael Wyession of Washington University will lead this tour of the world in 36 lectures, each one featuring a spectacular site.
5. Dr. David Meyer, Professor of Physics and Astronomy at Northwestern University will take you on a **Visual Guide to (no less than) the Universe**. Much of his research has involved the Hubble Space Telescope. In 18 lectures, travel with him to the Andromeda Galaxy, the Center of the Milky Way, and on the search for other earths.

I hope you are tempted!

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