I have an endless wish-list of **academic classes I’d like to take**, but they’re so explicit & obscure & specific that it would be difficult to find scholars with the same precise interests who have the luxury of being funded to explore & present them.

For instance, high on my list would be:

- “Comparative Hospitality Norms of the Armenians, the Jews & the Kurds during the last century of the Ottoman Empire”
- “The tolerance of & inter-action between the Cultural Minorities of Aleppo, Salonika, Izmir & Aintab in the O.E."
- “Why didn’t Hummus co-opt the Jews to break bread with the Palestinians? Why did the Jews co-opt Hummus instead?”
- “The history of the Black Sea & the inter-action of its’ surrounding countries”
- “The history & control of Lake Van & its’ peoples”
- “The Pepper Trade of Marash, Aintab & Urfa in southern Turkey”
- “The history, social structure & secret teachings of the Druze in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine”
- “The Coptic lives in the Alexandria Quartet”
- “Female Orientalists of the 17th & 18th centuries & their biases”
- “The impact of continuing blood feuds in the village life of Spain stemming from the Spanish Civil War”
- “The secret Crypto-Jews of New Mexico”
- “The roots of Black Islam in the U.S. & its’ integration with the immigrant native believers”
- “What the African UBUNTU community structure, where no one is ever alone, has to teach the individualistic culture of the U.S.”
- “Building Authoritative Communities---a way out of our moral dilemma?”
- “The immigration & integration of ex-Nazi’s & Sudeten Germans in Paraguay & Uruguay”
- “The precepts, significant figures & current influence of Liberation Theology”
- “The union of the Pagan & the Church in Latin America”
- “Bowler hats & dress codes in Bolivia & Ecuador”
- “The Tortilla: comparative life stories by class & by culture”
- “The Jesus People then & now---a study over time”
- “The Farmer’s Market & CSA revolutions & their role in the future of food in our lives”
- “Should, & how should, the Constitution be re-written---who does it represent?”
- “Community development at the grass roots neighborhood level”

Meanwhile independent study with the help of Amazon & the internet will have to suffice. But I sure miss the added engaging experience of the presentation of a good professor with face to face classroom dialogue every M-W-F at 11:00. Then off to lunch with fellow students to discuss its’ impact on us and the effect of the themes. Those were the days... Not the trend toward remote & impersonal power-point on-line courses. It doesn't hurt to dream...