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SPEAKERS:

John D. Barrow, FRS
John D. Barrow, FRS is Professor of Mathematical Sciences at Cambridge University and Director of the Millennium Mathematics Project, an outreach program for students and the general public. He studies cosmology and the interface between particle physics and astronomy. He is well known for his work on the Anthropic Principles in cosmology as well as the study of the large-scale structure and early history of the universe, and studies of whether the constants of Nature might be changing in time. He has also written and lectured extensively on the applications of mathematics to sport and the arts. Dr. Barrow has received many awards; he is a Fellow of the Royal Society and holds five honorary doctorates. He has written more than 500 scientific papers, and 22 books translated into 28 languages. His play, Infinities, won the Premi Ubu for best play in the Italian theatre in 2002 and the 2003 Italgas Prize.

Bernie Carlson, Ph.D.
Bernie Carlson is the Joseph L. Vaughan Professor of Humanities at the University of Virginia. He is also Chair of the Department of Engineering and Society and holds a joint appointment in UVA’s History Department. As a historian of technology, Dr. Carlson has written widely on invention and entrepreneurship as well as on the role of technology in the rise and fall of civilizations. He has written numerous books, including Tesla: Inventor of the Electrical Age, which has been translated into nine languages and won several awards. Dr. Carlson has also filmed 36 lectures on Understanding the Inventions that Changed the World for The Great Courses. He directs Engineering Business Programs at UVA and teaches a course called Engineers as Entrepreneurs. For over a decade, he was a consultant on innovation to Corning Incorporated and has served on several governing boards. He recently finished a five-year term as Executive Secretary for the Society for the History of Technology.

Robert Garland, Ph.D.
Robert Garland is the Roy D. and Margaret B. Wooster Professor of the Classics at Colgate University. In addition to his 30 years teaching Classics at Colgate University, Robert Garland has taught English and Drama to secondary school students and lectured at universities throughout Britain and at the British School at Athens. Before beginning his Ph.D. he trained professionally as an actor and has directed a number of plays. His research focuses on the social, religious, political, and cultural history of both Greece and Rome. He has written 13 books and many articles in both academic and popular journals. His expertise has been featured in The History Channel’s The True Story of Troy, and he has often served as a consultant for educational film companies. Dr. Garland has taught Greece and Rome: An Integrated History of the Ancient Mediterranean, The Other Side of History, and Living History for The Great Courses. He is an avid squash player and cyclist.
SEMINARS

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• Why did the Romans Bother with the Greeks?
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• The Roman Construction Revolution: Arches, Vaulting, and Concrete
• Cities by Design: Urban Planning in the Ancient Mediterranean World
• Evolution of the Catapult: Paradigm for Ancient Technological Development

Stephen Ressler, Ph.D.

Stephen Ressler is Professor Emeritus from the United States Military Academy at West Point and a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). He served for 34 years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and retired at the rank of Brigadier General in 2013. In 2007, he deployed to Afghanistan to create a civil engineering program for the newly created National Military Academy of Afghanistan in Kabul. Dr. Ressler is passionate about communicating the joys of engineering to inquiring minds of all ages. His three video lecture series — Understanding the World’s Greatest Structures, Understanding Greek and Roman Technology, and Everyday Engineering — are among the most highly-rated offerings in The Great Courses’ catalog. Dr. Ressler has received numerous awards and his Bridge Designer software has been used by over two million students worldwide. He is also a developer and principal instructor for the ASCE Excellence in Civil Engineering Education Teaching Workshop.

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