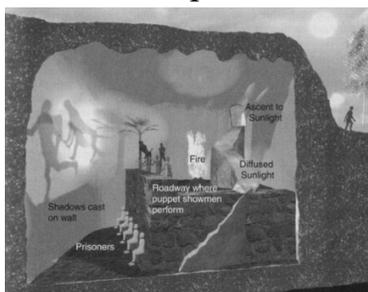


OLLI SHADOWS - CLASS 4 TOPICS

February 17, 2026

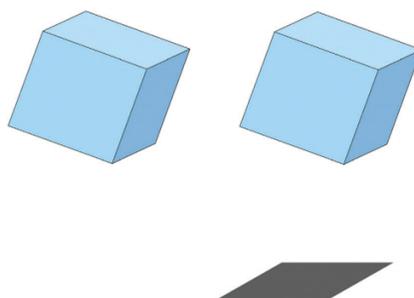
1. Intro to Class: Skipping Knowledge and Habitat. Starting with Perception.
2. Plato's Allegory of the Cave. Plato was using this story to make the point that having poor information can make people think incorrectly about the world. Although he was right, he didn't give shadows the credit they deserved given the amount of information shadows provide about the environment.



3. When shadows are eliminated by whiteout it becomes hard to see anything at all. This is an extreme case. Under normal conditions shadows provide valuable information about what is happening in the environment.



4. The many functions of shadows: Identity, contour, shape, texture, depth, location. The shadow indicates the right cube is suspended above a surface.



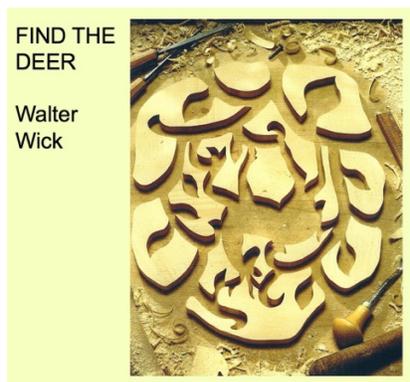
5. But shadows can be misleading about: Object identity, texture, shape, contour, details. In the picture below, shadows obscure the design on the right. Shadows can also distort our perception, as in the bas relief ambiguity.



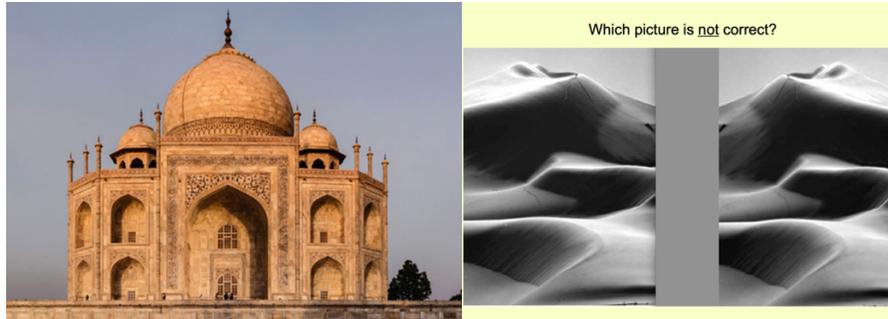
6. Shadows reveal things about how vision works. The way the “indentations” on the left turns into “bumps” when the picture is turned upside down occurs because the mind assumes that light is coming from above.



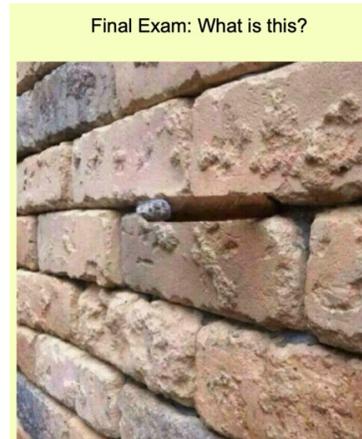
7. Find the deer . Hint: Try upside down. What does the shadow on the awl indicate about which picture is “correct,” based on the direction of the light?



8. The mind misses shadowy inconsistencies. What does the fact that the mind misses things that later are obvious mean about how the mind processes information? Hint: It has to do with what is necessary for survival.



9. Final exam: If you were in class you probably know what this is.

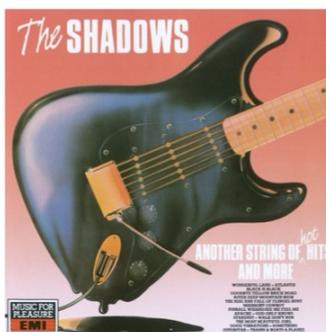


10. Bonus: Looking away from sunset or sunrise we can sometimes see the shadow of the earth.



11. Shadows and music: First consider how different musical groups create music that has different emotional effects. “The Shadows” vs. the Beach Boys.

12. Compare Good Vibrations by “The Shadows” and by “The Beach Boys”



13. Chord progressions influence the emotional response to music.
14. Music influences our response to films. Dark music enhances negative emotions. Bright music enhances positive emotions.
15. Next time: What does the emotional effects of music have to do with shadows? One answer: Shadowy music and shadowy images work together in films. Then we consider how the structure of music can be compared to the structure of shadows. Then we will move on to consider the history of shadows in painting

CLASS 4 VIDEOS

Click on the URL to access the video

Amazing Grace

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1e_ACw-ZpA&list=RDU1e_ACw-ZpA&start_radio=1

Plato's cave (Not shown in class)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69F7GhASOdM>

National Geographic Ball-bouncing video (4:21 – 6:12 shown in class)

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/xq1rfl>

Tony Bennett: Shadow of Your Smile

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWoBsUYVvkCE&list=RDkWoBsUYVvkCE&start_radio=1

The Shadows: Apache

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cjUwpXu_VUk
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7TwULx_wDiI

Beach Boys: Good Vibrations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D5qPogfhLIc>

The Shadows: Good Vibrations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXezCD3Oo7I>

Chord Progressions and Emotions

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40PGXoUvaKA>

Power of Music in Film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSkJFs7myn0>