

Episode 2005
Ask The Professor Transcription
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Bell chiming

>> The University Tower chimes, ring in another session of Ask the Professor, the show in which you match with University of Detroit Mercy Professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you, our panel for today. To my left, from the department of chemistry and bio-chemistry, its professor Mara Livezey.

>> Hello!

>> Hello Mara, how are you?

>> I am good. I'm ready for a weekend of grading.

>> I can't wait...

>> Party animal, you!

>> -everyone laughs-

>> Have you given an exam yet?

>> No! No, first one is next Friday.

>> Okay, so what are you grading, what am I missing?

>> Homeworks.

>> Ah..

>> I give them challenge homeworks that look like questions that they'll see on the exam. So, they're not too scared.

>> Ah, okay. I stand by this, I'm sure that I'm wrong in some way, but I just don't know how many 4000 level courses at the university are enrolled to almost 100 people. That's incredible.

>> Yeah

>> That's very, very high!

>> How many people?

>> 90, right?

>> Yeah. About 90

>> Man, that's like a small minor league ball club.

>> Yeah it is!

>> Yeah! And I have to grade each and every one of them!

>> Professor Dan Maggio is here and he has a quizzical look on his face! – laughing –

>> Fortunately, we have the president of the union here!

>> So, when you have 90 students and you're having lunch with a person who let's say has 10 students, is there extra compensation available?

>> No there's not!

>> - laughing -

>> Not to my knowledge.

>> Is there an appeal for that?

>> There is a way you can put a ceiling on how many – I mean, how about this there's definitely the size of a classroom too. You have one gigantic section and one piddly section, so.

>> Don't worry too much about me, I have plans to deal with this in the future.

>> She has minions!

>> She like straps on a ninja mask! – laughing -

>> She's gonna have her lawn cut every week!

>> I too, am looking forward to a peaceful weekend.

>> Oh okay! Which will include?

>> Not grading papers.

>> Oh yeah well that's great

>> Relaxing, probably doing some work actually.

>> Oh.

>> I have some catch up work to do.

>> Okay, It doesn't feel bad to work on the weekend, if you're catching up a little bit. That's a very American attitude. Sorry folks.

>> And a Canadian attitude too

>> Oh really!

>> Except on a Sundays

>> Oh okay, and boxed milk. Across the table from me – milk in a bag, sorry

>> Thank you!

>> That's not my name, though – laughing –

>> Across the table from me, Professor Stephanie Conant is here from the Department of Biology – all laughing –

>> Hello!

>> You, I see, are in the Jim Tubbs' position where I have to stare through the microphone cables to be able to see

>> To be called milk in a bag. I mean boxed milk.

>> So, you already heard from our ringer Canadian trivia person, Professor Dave Chow

>> Pleasure to be here, as always

>> Excellent. How goes things going in Berkley, MI?

>> So far, so good. My grass is getting taller. I haven't cut it in about a week and a half. So, I'm waiting for the goats to come by and graze or half of our students to come by and cut the lawn for extra credit.

>> Oh my gosh! What about the authorities to come by and issue you a citation for how high your grass is?

>> Yeah, well, we'll see.

>> Doesn't Berkley have a rat problem?

>> Yes, we do.

>> Yes, we do. It's not pleasant. I just saw some interesting science stuff on the internet this morning, about apparently, speaking about rat problems, New Zealand. Check it out.

>> There was some place where they were putting moth balls in the holes and then covering the holes and apparently carbon dioxide is released and it kills them. Is it New York City?

>> Yes, that makes sense.

>> They do that for groundhogs too. Grr.

>> Whistle pigs.

>> Whistle pigs, oh, right.

>> So, with our resident pest control call in show advice, it's Professor Stephen Manning

>> I know a little about a lot of things.

>> There's nothing wrong with that. They call it a renaissance man.

>> The renaissance man!

>> But, moth balls. I mean I got to be straight with you, moth balls are one of those classics, where some people actually enjoy, you know like gasoline, the smell and some people are like oh that's totally offensive, it doesn't bother me that much. So, what does that say about me?

>> If you were a rat...uhhh...

>> - all laughing -

>> It depends on if you're stuck in a hole covered by moth balls or not I'm going to guess

>> It probably means you're an organic chemist and you're just used to it

>> Yeah that's also true.

>> Matt the Rat.

>> Matt the Rat!

>> Naphthalene is actually what it is. It's very pungent, it's extremely poisonous and it will get in your lungs and mess you up if you're a mammal so.

>> Oh oops!

>> That's an episode of HOUSE by the way.

>> Yeah,

>> Oh?

>> Do termites give off nepheline? I'm forgetting the right term. There's an episode where there's a termite infestation in the house, the termites gave off enough of that that it reached a critical level, it made the people sick and killed the cat.

>> Yikes!

>> On the show. I will check on my phone after the show.

>> All I'm going to say is that I grew up very luckily with all four with my GI generation grandparents and they lived and died by moth balls. All of their drawers were filled with moth balls, I mean they lived through a world where bugs were eating their clothes constantly.

>> See, you guys were lucky, you grew up with moth balls. My family, believe it or not, they used fire crackers. They'd put fire crackers in with their clothing.

>> Oh sure that makes sense.

>> You can also put that down a groundhog hole!

>> What is it in fire crackers then?

>> Oh, I mean, the breakdown product of the gun powder I'm assuming is good enough. You know black powder

>> I thought it was their way of smuggling them into America, that's all. —laughing—

>> Now, Professor Heather Hill from the department of English, you said you've done the moth ball trick before?

>> Yeah it doesn't always work.

>> But you've done it before?

>> Yeah

>> You cover up the hole and maybe you kinda gas them basically

>> Yeah you gas them. You can also throw a smoke bomb down but you have to make sure you find both ends of the holes

>> Well the smoke bomb will help you find them

>> Well yeah but essentially you asphyxiate them and—

>> ugh!

>> Don't ugh! They're evil!

>> No, I get it, I just don't think like that.

>> Now why does Berkley have such a huge rat problem? As I change the subject...

>> I don't know

>> It's not just Berkley its Royal Oak and Ferndale. Ferndale had a huge problem

>> It's the restaurants I think just because of the dumpsters

>> Well we have an issue with citizens not paying attention to the piles of things in their backyard where nests are

>> Why more than any other?

>> That is a good question, I don't know

>> Is this a correlation?

>> I heard something along the lines of it's the trash removal. They just pick them up and dump them wherever so the rats just kind of hitchhike on board and next thing you know they end up here

>> Hitchhiking rats?!

>> Yeah!

>> That's how they got to New Zealand, that's what I learned in the video. They were no small animal's native to NZ, they came over on boats.

>> Hitchhikers!

>> I'll tell you what, this is prime for transition here. This is a program where you can send us anything. It's been a while since some hard-core rat trivia thing came across my desk. If you stump our panel you win a prize, if you don't stump our panel you win a prize. You can send the questions to us in a number of ways. You can email us at atp@udmercy.edu. You can reach us on the web at udmercy.edu/atp, find us on Facebook or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play Ask the Professor at University of Detroit Mercy. Okay, we have some questions here from a student of professor Jason Roche, his name is Benjamin Bustamante, and he wrote some all over the map trivia questions. On what date did Curt Cobain take his own life?

>> Oh, it was recently...

>> 98?

>> No what date?

>> Well, I'm starting with the year, then it'll help me get there

>> January 27

>> It was not January 27

>> March 25

>> Closer but not

>> February 24

>> April 13

>> It was April 5, can you figure out what year

>> Well that's what I asked

>> 1987 or 8

>> Was it 1999

>> It was not 1999 it was earlier than 99

>> 95

>> 92

>> It was at the end of my second semester as a freshman at the university Detroit mercy, does that help?

>> was it 89

>> No it says 1994

>> Wasn't 1994 early?

>> That was right after they dropped their 2nd album it sticks out in my mind

>> Look at you with the lingo. Right after they dropped their 2nd album

>> Wow!

>> All I remember is that it smells like teen spirit came out my senior year in high school

>> Oh by the way, Matt, did you see that video I sent Jim Tubs a few weeks ago?

>> About?

>> the ukulele orchestra in Great Britain. They did shack but they also did nirvana smells like teen spirit too. On ukuleles! It was wonderful!

>> Check out our fb feed you'll see what you need to see

>> I'll have to post it!

>> Okay! Two people, in the series so far 8, soon to be 9, Star Wars movie's, have played a character who's first name was Ben. Who was the first?

>> Alec Guinness

>> Alec Guinness

>> Alec Guinness. Now who plays Ben in the more recent trilogy?

>> Ewan McGregor

>> No, its Ben...

>> The terrible bad guy

>> Not Liam Neison!

>> He's a terrible character. He's not a good actor

>> Hopefully he didn't write these questions!

>> - all laughing -

>> I know who you're talking about! Uhm...

>> His initials are AD instead of AG.

>> Adam Driver

>> Adam Driver

>> Oh...No, he does not play Ben Kenobi.

>> He's named after Ben

>> I'm sorry, Ben Solo. 2 people named Ben in the series. So, Ben Kenobi and Ben Solo aka Kylo Ren

>> Oh! He's not a very convincing evil character

>> Matt the Radar technician was what I was actually going for...so..

>> I like him a lot but mostly because I saw him in a show before I saw him in Star Wars

>> He does have a really funny, well not him, but the twitter feed, what is it, emo kylo ren

>> - all laughing –

>> Wait a minute... so technically isn't there 3 Ben's then?

>> Yeah I suppose, except for Ewan McGregor was older Kanobi and was never called Ben

>> Yes Dave we'll give you credit

>> My Star Wars geekiness is showing I'm sorry

>> On what date did World War 1 begin? Month, day, year.

>> Oh...It was the killing of Prince Ferdinand, right?

>> Yes. 1914 was the year

>> November?

>> It wasn't November

>> April.... April something

>> It was summer time, in the northern hemisphere

>> July?

>> It was July

>> July 14

>> July 24

>> July 28

>> I was close!

>> Throw as many darts as we can to the dart board, I love it.

>> Might say 14 x 2

>> You were getting to it

>> You were getting there. In the tv series 'The Office, what does the company Dundun Mifflin sell?

>> Paper!

>> Paper! I love how..

>> Who doesn't know that?

>> In what date did WW1 begin? Hmmm

>> I know exactly!

>> Sometimes that's just the way it goes

>> Were professors but not that kind of professor.

>> That's right. Who wrote the novel, Cry the Beloved Country?

>> Alan Paten

>> Alan Paten was the writer of that book. That's exactly correct. You didn't even think about that, Seven, that's awesome.

>> Where's the English person here?

>> Somebody talked over me

>> What's going on here

>> Well, if Beth were here she would be able to tell us, who was the drummer in the Beatles was before Ringo Star

>> Pete Best

>> Pete Best was his name. These are really all over the joint. In what year did Wikipedia start? I know we've had this before, but it's tricky. This is a tricky question.

>> 2002

>> I feel like giving it to ya, based on my error bars... its 2001

>> What was the question again I'm sorry

>> Wikipedia begin in what year?

>> Wikipedia, I thought you said PBS I was like what?

>> I was having a conversation about this generation, nobody knows what funk and wagnall's is.

>> As in the dictionary?

>> No the encyclopedia.

>> The orange encyclopedia

>> How many know what funk and wagnall are?

>> Well my mother still has ours in her phone case

>> I'm sure!

>> They're back from the seighties?

>> Late 70s, early 80s, seighties

>> You're talking about the orange encyclopedia, we have those

>> That's actually a running joke in the Mio family, because we only had 1 of the volumes, and it was DAMN through Eckhart. So, whenever we'd have to look something up, we'd say, DAMN ECKHART. And it's a long story, and that's the end of it.

>> -inaudible chatter-

>> How many dice are used in the Yahtzee game?

>> 5

>> 5, again everyone knows right off the top of their head! I don't think if I've every played Yahtzee before.

>> Yahtzee!

>> Its fun!

>> Which actor plays captain America in the marvel cinematic movies?

>> Chris Evans

>> Chris Evans, I don't know if I can say what I want to say from the movie this summer, on the air

>> Oh you wanna talk about the tv movie too?

>> what tv movie

>> There's a tv movie in the late 70s Red Steward played him

>> I'm sorry that's right. And his mighty shield that's right I forgot about that

>> And remember he had the clear shield, that was god awful

>> We're going to go back in our 70s archives while we take a break!

>> - music plays -

>> And we're back. The only bad news is we're not starting a road trip, exactly right now with the doobies pumping in the background!

>> Perfect!

>> I just got off a dubie brothers kick, so I'm happy. That's all I need for the rest of the month. Okay. What actor played James Bond in the more recent Casino Royal

>> Daniel Craig

>> Daniel Craig. Yes. I think he has one more coming, he just announced it

>> One more coming, filming in Jamaica. Yes, he wears a khaki suit.

>> Yes

>> That's a lot of random details!

>> That's his understudy apparently

>> Yes. Khaki suit with suspenders, no belt. suspenders

>> Apparently Steven is a Daniel Craig groupie

>> Hey! My wife would throw me to the curb for him, so I mean...

>> I actually really liked him as James Bond, I thought he did a really great job

>> Me too

>> I agree

>> This will probably be his last one

>> Yeah this will be it, though

>> So I wonder if you know anything about the story line because last couple of them sort of tied together they culminated in the last one

>> Yeah, he's no longer an agent

>> I do know that Phoebe Waller Bridge is helping to write it

>> Oh

>> Phoebe Waller Bridge who did Killing Eve and Fleabag, she's helping to write it.

>> Cool!

>> Great questions Benjamin

>> Thanks Benjamin!

>> Send more!

>> Thanks for sending them in, good luck in your classes this semester, hope you learn something slightly different!

>> Give Jason lots of trouble!

>> Give Jason trouble, what can I say? Dear professors, here's a list of questions. All 20 are within a topic of architecture. Have fun, sincerely Kione Tuzan from Troy, Michigan. I'm sorry for the mispronunciation, it's likely. Let's see what we can do with these. Where or what is the largest unreinforced concrete dome in the world?

>> Dome?

>> A concrete dome.

>> Toronto?

>> It's not

>> Rome

>> I mean, ish - It is in Rome. But what is? What is the building name?

>> The Vatican?

>> Basilica

>> Coliseum?

>> I would've said it was that too, but it's actually from the ancient world.

>> Coliseum?

>> Nope. No roof

>> Dome...

>> It says here it's the Pantheon. It lasted all these thousands of years. Very interesting. Oh, and much appreciated again keone for all of the citations, we want to make absolute sure that our crack

team of researchers get back and find where all the things we got wrong are. What are the 3 classical orders of architecture from ancient Greece? Often seen in the pillars –

>> Corinthian, Doric, and ionic

>> Ionic

>> Phew. I was going to say Moe, Larry and Curly but I knew that wasn't it!

>> Did you say Ihop?

>> - everyone laughing -

>> Corinthian, leather, ihop, rutey tutey fresh and fruity, and dora the explorer, partial credit, okay!

>> That works!

>> For what purpose apparently were the pyramids of giza built?

>> Burial.

>> Tombs

>> Tombs. Yeah absolutely. Tombs for the countries pharaohs and their consorts. That's a really big building for kinda needing a space about this big to put their sarcophagus

>> Well they bring all their possessions with them...

>> Its kinda like a u-haul!

>> For the after-life right?

>> That is exactly right. Absolutely. What style of architecture is represented by St. Peters Basilica in the Vatican city?

>> Classy

>> - laughing – classy...I gotta give you partial credit for that, oh my gosh.

>> Classical? What is it?

>> Well, the Vatican is in a certain country, that's Vatican City and that country is in...

>> Roman...

>> Rome

>> Italy

>> So, it is Italian renaissance

>> Italian Renaissance

>> I think Greco Roman is close enough

>> You think that's close enough? –laughing- you're giving me heck today

>> Yes, I am

>> What style of architecture was represented by rivals Bramante and Borromini. Your hint is their first letter is the same first letter as the style of architecture.

>> Broke

>> I like to say if it ain't broke don't fix it. Very nice. What is the difference between a gothic arch and a non-gothic arch?

>> Flying vultures

>> - laughing –

>> One of those perched gargoyles

>> Makes sense to me! So, it says here a gothic arch has something that a regular arch does not

>> A keystone

>> A point?

>> Yeah it is a point! Yeah! Gargoyle – laughing-

>> So is that a corner point or would that be a less than point?

>> Like on the maple leaf?!

>> I might get slapped by the end of this show! I don't know!

>> Who designed the Guggenheim of New York city?

>> Gary...

>> I'm surprised!

>> The Guggenheim?

>> Oh uhm...

>> It's not Frank Lloyd Wright?

>> Yeah! It was Frank Lloyd Wright!

>> I figured everybody else was going to say it...

>> Yeah Frank Lloyd Wright, very interesting. The empire state building is an example of what kind of architecture?

>> Neoclassic?

>> That's not what it says here

>> Art Deco

>> Art Deco is what it says. Everyone knows Detroit, Michigan is one of the art deco Mecca's

>> Mhmm.

>> It is?!

>> Yes!

>> What is currently in 2019 the tallest building in the United States?

>> The Willis Tower?

>> No. That would've been my guess too

>> Not Sears tower...

>> In the United States. This was done on purpose. Does that help? To be the tallest building in the US

>> Freedom Tower?

>> I mean they don't call it the freedom tower anymore... it's called?

>> I don't know what it's called

>> Oh Okay. One World Trade Center

>> Oh!

>> What innovation did the Chicago School promote in technology and building construction?

>> Cables

>> You're not too far off. The Chicago School trained a lot of architects

>> What like with Steel cables?

>> Yeah! Steel cables! Steel frame construction. I was really shocked the other day after having dinner with the family I have a 16-year-old, 12-year-old and 7-year-old and their complete lack of knowledge of 9/11 it was shocking to me! I mean I don't know I don't expect it to be taught in school like a regular subject, but I was like do you know this, do you know this, and they were like no, no, no. Like they had no idea. I was like do you know what happened on that day, and they're like something bad. I'm like that's true, a little more in depth. Who designed Lafayette Park in Detroit, Michigan?

>> Martin...

>> Not Cahn?

>> You're almost there.

>> Vanderau

>> Vanderau! There you go! Nice

>> Who designs the buildings though? Meese

>> Meese is his first name

>> But he designs the apartment buildings near the park as well. On Lafayette!

>> That's right. In the vain of continuing with positive questions. Which neighborhood in Detroit was completely torn down to generate Lafayette park? In conjunction with 375 if I remember correctly

>> Black bottom?

>> Black bottom was what it was called, yes. The highest concentration at that time of African Americans in the city. Proving once again that institutions can do great damage when given lots of money and resources.

>> Soon to say goodbye to Del Ray

>> Mhmm, unbelievable. In what city is Haggia Sophia?

>> Istanbul

>> Yes! I'm calling ignorance on this one, I've not heard of this before, even though I know it's in the city, what is the La Sagrata Familia. In what city?

>> Barcelona.

>> But what is it?

>> Oh it's that beautiful church!

>> It's a church, okay

>> You'd recognize it probably by photos it has lots of spires coming out of it.

>> Okay. Let's see what else do we have here... In what city is the space needle?

>> Seattle!

>> Yay! Seattle, Washington! We're taking a tour of architecture here. In what city is falling water in?

>> Outside of Pittsburg

>> Its outside of Pittsburg but do you know what the name of it is?

>> It's uhm....

>> It's kinda north east of Pittsburg

>> It says Mill Run.

>> Sure!

>> I think with your flexibility, we should've gotten credit here.

>> Oh geez!

>> Don't you think, Heather?

>> The time has come for our discussion of atp favorites, we had talked about this before the show. And I think we settled on countries to visit or countries you want to visit. Was that what it was going to be? I was trying to remember

>> Mhm

>> Sure!

>> So, countries of some kind. Who wants to start us off? Maybe a place you want to go to and a place you have been to?

>> I'll start, places I have been to that I want to go back, Scotland for sure. Places I haven't been to but I want to go to, Italy, Sicily in particular.

>> To see the family?

>> Well anybody that would recognize me, sure

>> Hey! That's Dan Maggio from Ask the Professor!

>> - laughing -

>> I can go. Places that I've been that I would love to go back to, you said, Scotland, I agree, but I'll also say Macedonia because I lived there for a year and it's just gorgeous. And I've always wanted to go to New Zealand because Lord of the Rings was filmed there –

>> and the rats

>> And the rats! I love rats! And the mountains and the views... and the rats!

>> The rats!

>> -laughing-

>> Oh my gosh!

>> Okay Ill follow up. I wanna go back to Canmore, Alberta. Trust me, it's gorgeous. And the place I want to go to is New Zealand, because I was supposed to be there for my 30th birthday to go snowboarding and I never did. So, I wanna go back

>> what got in the way

>> my brother decided to get married.

>> Ohhhh...

>> I was literally talking to the travel agent booking my snowboard trip, and he's like hey we're getting engaged! We're getting married. I guess I better hang up this phone call...so. New Zealand for my 30th I planned to be on top of Mount Cook snowboarding down for my 30th and that never happened, so...

>> Maybe you can do it for your 40th

>> Sure! I'll still go! I'll go to NZ in a heartbeat! Anybody else?

>> Stephen, Heather, Stephanie?

>> I haven't been many places. I mean like I've been to like Mexico, Toronto, but I don't know if I need to go back there. I'll go anywhere new. I was supposed to go to Ireland and Scotland right after I graduated college. But that didn't happen. I went to grad school instead.

>> Ohh

>> I still would like to go back there.

>> Well, I would go back to Portugal in a minute. I just went over the summer. There are so many other places I would love to go to. I think I would love to go to Greece. I've been to Italy. Yeah, I'll say Greece. Mediterranean. Maybe some Slavic countries. There are some gorgeous beaches that are under vacationed.

>> Un-vacationed?

>> Under vacationed. I just made up a word.

>> We're running a little low on time, so Stephen, if you would like to chime in

>> Place to go back to? Maybe Tanzania. I would go to different parts of it. Zanzibar especially. Which I didn't get to this time

>> Stephen climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro this summer

>> Really!

>> I wouldn't do that again! That was a once in a lifetime, death defying...

>> That's amazing I think

>> Very cool!

>> ...scary thing to do

>> You can't drop that and not explain! Because I have a thousand questions now!

>> Well I'm afraid it's going to have to wait for another show because the time has come for us to say goodbye. Heather

>> Adios

>> Stephen

>> Have a good weekend

>> Dave

>> See ya

>> Stephanie

>> Bye

>> Dan

>> Bye
>> Mara

>> See ya

>> And now these words...

>> You can email Ask the Professor at atp@udmercy.edu, tweet to us on twitter @asktheprofessor, or using #asktheprofessorudm or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page.

>> Ask the professor was transcribed at the facilities of the Briggs building at the Department of Communication Studies in the college of liberal's arts and education at university of Detroit Mercy's McNichols campus. Ask the professor is produced and directed today by Michael Jayson and our executive produce is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week, I'm your host, Matt Mio.

>> – music-