



FALL 2026 CATALOG

SEPTEMBER 28–DECEMBER 4

IN-PERSON & ONLINE

☎ 202.895.4860

🌐 www.lli-dc.org

✉ olli@american.edu



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WHERE
CURIOSITY
NEVER
RETIRES

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A NEW SEASON OF CURIOSITY

Fall is coming soon, and with it another season of opportunities for learning and engagement at OLLI. We have 111 study groups planned for the fall, as you will see in the pages of this catalog. OLLI offers a great opportunity to further your interests, expand your knowledge, and pursue new topics. Lifelong learning for most of us is a pathway to remain curious, engaged, active, and aware of the world. OLLI is designed with that spirit in mind, offering a broad range of courses created especially for individuals who are embracing a rewarding chapter of life.

OLLI courses are called study groups, and those two words reflect much of what makes our program unique—the basic concept of peer learning and teaching. Through lectures, reading, reflection, and discussion, members can explore new areas and deepen long-held interests. Just as importantly, OLLI offers opportunities to connect with both new and old friends, informally and through our planned social activities. Many study groups encourage conversation and collaboration, creating opportunities not only to learn together but also to build meaningful experiences with fellow learners.

OLLI is a volunteer-led organization, and that spirit of service is one of our greatest strengths. Members serve as instructors, Board members, committee members, and volunteers who help shape nearly every aspect of the organization. Their time, talent, and dedication create the vibrant learning community that makes OLLI such a special place.

OLLI also has a highly regarded Friday lecture series that is free and open to the public and features outside experts in their fields, followed by a happy hour nearby.

OLLI will also continue to recognize the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. America 250-themed courses are identified throughout the catalog with an American flag icon in the course descriptions.

Whether you are pursuing a passion remembered from years ago, following a new interest, or simply seeking a way to stay active intellectually and physically, we invite you to join us. Welcome to OLLI!

As an affiliate of American University, all OLLI members must follow **American University's Good Neighbor Policy** and are required to park in the garage of the Spring Valley Building while attending OLLI classes and events or risk receiving a \$200 ticket from the University.

Joe Belden

Chair, Board of Directors

Tony Long

Executive Director

Mailing Address: 4400 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Organization
Phone: 202.895.4860 | **Email:** olli@american.edu | **Website:** www.olli-dc.org

MISSION

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn.

*OLLI at AU is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that **curiosity never retires**.*

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

OLLI does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, religious preference, national origin, or sexual orientation.

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PARKING

Parking is available in the Spring Valley Building garage. In accordance with DC regulations and American University's "Good Neighbor Policy," **OLLI members are required to park in an AU garage while attending OLLI.**

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 9	Lottery selections due by 10:00 AM for the fall lottery
Sept. 10	Class assignment letters emailed
Sept. 24	Fall Wine & Cheese Welcomer
Sept. 28	Fall semester begins
Oct. 9	Fall refund deadline
Nov. 25-27	Thanksgiving <i>OLLI closed & no classes</i>
Dec. 3	Holiday Party
Dec. 4	Fall semester ends
Dec. 8	SGL Luncheon

REFUNDS

The office must receive requests for refunds in a written note or an e-mail **no later than close of business on the date listed above**. A \$10 processing fee will be assessed.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

We follow American University's weather policy. If AU is closed, OLLI's online and hybrid classes will be held as scheduled (hybrid classes will be online only). In-person classes will be moved online, if possible. We will work with in-person SGLs regarding makeup sessions for any class that can't move online. *If AU has a delayed opening, all OLLI classes will still be held at their originally scheduled times.*



WHAT IS OLLI AT AU?

Drawing on the talent and experience of seniors in the Washington, DC area, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at American University offers a unique opportunity to continue learning at the university level. Members come from varied social, economic, and career backgrounds, ranging from business, academia, and homemaking to education, the arts, and government service. What they have in common is a genuine interest in continuing their learning experiences and intellectual stimulation by participation in an organization with other "seasoned learners." There are no educational prerequisites for membership in OLLI.

Learning Community

The basic concept of the program is that of peer learning and teaching designed, specifically, for people who are 50 years of age or older. Members participate fully in study groups through preparation for, and involvement in, discussions on a wide variety of subjects. There are no tests and no grades; members participate purely for the joy of learning. Members are encouraged to discuss the possibility of leading a study group with members of the Curriculum Committee.

Membership Involvement

Members become involved not only as Study Group Leaders or representatives but also as participants on an elected board and appointed committees. As a democratic membership organization, OLLI depends on the volunteer services of its members. Members are strongly encouraged to participate in one or more of the following:

The **Board of Directors** and its various **committees** develop and implement policies, procedures, and activities designed to enhance the overall program.

Study Group Leaders (SGLs) are members with special expertise or interests who wish to share these with other members by designing and leading study groups. They are entitled to free classes during the session in which they lead a group or the following comparable session.

HOW IS OLLI AT AU ORGANIZED?

OLLI at AU is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in Washington, DC, and is part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute National Network, which now includes 124 institutes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Support of OLLI at AU

Membership fees for the semester (\$330 for one semester or \$600 for both fall and spring) and membership fees for the Shorts and Minis (\$100 each) support the program. OLLI is further supported by an endowment from the Osher Foundation given to, and managed by, American University. OLLI receives a percentage of the value from the

endowment annually to assist in funding OLLI's operations. The Friends of OLLI Fund, established by the Board of Directors, is a reserve fund helping OLLI maintain affordable tuition, expand and enhance its physical facilities, and develop innovative and diverse programs.

THE ABCs OF OLLI

Accessibility

OLLI makes every effort to accommodate members with visual and hearing impairments. We provide documentation in large print format, ask our Study Group Leaders to turn on captions for all videos, and offer technical support. If you are taking an online class, live closed captions are available in Zoom. To request that they be turned on in the meeting, click "More" and then "Request Live Transcription." The host of the meeting will enable them. Closed captions are also available in recordings. To turn them on, click the "CC" icon at the bottom of the video window when viewing. Please contact the office if you need accommodations to access classes, handouts, or any OLLI materials.

Adding or Dropping Study Groups

Members may add, drop, or change study groups through the second week of a semester, the first week of the June Minis, or the Friday before the February or July Shorts.

Books

Books are available through Politics and Prose bookstore at 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, 202-364-1919 or politics-prose.com online. Books also can be ordered online (often at reduced prices) or purchased at other book stores. The following are some online suggestions for purchasing books, in alphabetical order:

AbeBooks.com, AddAll.com, Alibris.com, Amazon.com, BookOutlet.com, BookFinder.com, eBay.com, and Powells.com.

Building PIN Code

The AU building where OLLI is located is only accessible to those with an AU ID or PIN code. You will see a keypad at both the garage entrance and front doors of the building. **Registered members will be sent the PIN code before each academic session.**

Contact Information

Please log into your OLLI account to ensure your contact information, including home and cell telephone number(s), email, as well as emergency contact name and relationship, are current and accurate.

Directory of Members

We publish a member directory each semester listing members' names, addresses, phone numbers, and emails. Please fill out this section of the registration form carefully. The directory is available online to download during the second week of class. Printed copies are available upon request.

Drinks and Snacks

Coffee and tea are available in the Social Space on the 5th floor for OLLI members. There are also vending machines with water, soda, and snacks on the 4th and 6th floors.

Email and E-Newsletter

We use email as our primary means of communication. Please make sure that you check your email several times per week during the semester. **Our weekly Friday newsletter is sent via email.**

Fourth Study Group

Once class assignment letters are emailed after the lottery, members may log into their account on the website to add a fourth study group.

Gift Certificates

Give an OLLI gift certificate to a loved one for an upcoming academic session. To purchase a gift certificate, email or call the OLLI office.

Handouts

Downloadable class handouts are available each academic session on the OLLI website. You can find the handouts under either of the following tabs:

- Documents
- Classes (and then "Semesters/Minis" or "Shorts")

Handouts remain available through the end of the session. If no handouts are listed for a class, we have not received any from the Study Group Leader.

Hearing Loops

All of OLLI's classrooms are equipped with hearing loops, a state-of-the-art assistive listening technology. Most recent hearing aids are equipped with a t-coil. Your audiologist can tell you whether or not your hearing aid has a t-coil and, if it does, your audiologist can activate the t-coil.

With the t-coil turned on, a member can hear others in the room very clearly. Members who do not have hearing aids or who have hearing aids without t-coils, can use a loop receiver with a headset, to benefit from the loop. Each classroom is supplied with a number of loop receivers.

Hybrid Classes

We offer select courses each semester in a hybrid format. This means members attend live, both in-person and online. We strive to provide the best possible audio experience for online participants in our hybrid classes, but at times there can be some variation in sound quality which we always work to overcome.

Identification in Classes

For in-person and hybrid classes, please wear your OLLI name tag. Lanyards and plastic name tag holders are available on the table outside the office. For online classes, click on the Participants Panel and rename yourself with your full name so that the Study Group Leader can call on you.

Lecture Series

We offer four lecture series throughout the year. During each semester, there is a lecture on Fridays from 1:30-2:30 PM. In January and May, there are lectures held on various days and times.

EVENTS

There are four lecture series each year, featuring members of the Washington, DC community, and beyond, each speaking on a field of expertise. **Fall and spring lectures** are held on Fridays from 1:30 to 2:30 PM. **January and May lectures** are held on various days and times. Lectures are always free and open to the public.

Special events include *Serendipities!*, which are talks given by members, or their guests, as well as trips and tours. There are also regular **social events**, including happy hours, a lunch club, member appreciation week, semester wine & cheese welcomes, and a holiday party.

The **Annual Meeting** in the spring gives members an opportunity to ask questions, voice concerns, and learn more about OLLI's future plans.

View OLLI's event's calendar to see all upcoming events:
www.oli-dc.org/events

Library

Current members and SGLs have access to AU's Bender Library. The library is located on the main campus at the west end of the university quadrangle. The library requires a valid, government issued photo ID for account creation and for borrowing. The library is sent a list of members and SGLs before each academic session. Go to **www.oli-dc.org/abcs_of_oli** for more information.

Lost and Found

There is a lost and found box located outside the OLLI office. Please check there if you have misplaced something.

Lunchtime Options

Members can also brown bag lunch with OLLI friends in one of the social spaces on the 5th floor. Buy lunch to carry out or eat in at Pizzeria Paradiso, Millie's, Starbucks, Bluestone Lane, or Wagshal's Market—all within one block of 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW.

Membership Fee

The fee paid each semester (or for the full academic year) is a membership fee. The fee allows you to be assigned up to three courses in the lottery and add a fourth once class assignment letters have been emailed. The fee is NOT a fee per study group. The membership fee entitles you to all of the benefits of membership at OLLI at AU. Membership in OLLI is not transferable. Spouses or partners must have their own individual memberships.

Minis

Minis are study groups held once-a-week for four weeks during the month of June. Each class session in the four weeks is 1½ hours.

New Member Discount

Scan the QR code on the front of the catalog to register for the current

semester, and a 10% discount will be applied if you are new or have not taken classes in five or more years. You can also call or email the office to take advantage of the discount.

Parking

See page 4.

Podcast

OLLI at AU produces a podcast series, "Curiosity Never Retires." Each short episode introduces a Study Group Leader and his/her upcoming course. Listen to podcast episodes at www.oli-dc.org/podcast

Privacy Policy

OLLI at American University is highly sensitive to the privacy interests of members and believes that the protection of those interests is one of its most significant responsibilities. We publish the member directory as a courtesy to members. The directory is not to be shared with others outside of OLLI.

Recordings

Most courses are recorded. Study Group Leaders, as well as registered members for the current academic session, may view any recorded courses from that session. You do not need to register for a course if you only intend to watch its recording. Current members also have access to OLLI's permanent digital library, which contains recorded courses from previous sessions. **Please note that whether a class is recorded is subject to change based on SGL preference.**

Refunds

The office must receive requests for refunds by the deadline specified on page ii of the catalog, opposite the table of contents. A \$10 processing fee will be assessed.

Semesters

OLLI has two regular academic semesters: Spring, which runs Mar.–May, and Fall, which runs Sept.–Dec. Most semester study groups run from 7 to 10 weeks long. Each class session is 1½ hours long.

Serendipities!

OLLI members and guests are invited to give a talk or presentation to the OLLI membership as part of our *Serendipities!* program. *Serendipities!* are scheduled through the OLLI office and are held online. Go to www.oli-dc.org/serendipity_talks for more information.

Shorts

February and July Shorts meet 2-5 times over the course of one week. Each class session is 1½ hours.

Social Events

OLLI encourages a sense of belonging to this vibrant community with a full schedule of regular social events, including happy hours, a lunch club, member appreciation week, semester wine & cheese welcome, and a holiday party.

Spring Valley Building (SVB)

American University and OLLI at AU refer to 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW as the Spring Valley Building (SVB).

Study Group Representative (SGR)

A volunteer Study Group Representative is assigned to each class. SGRs are registered members of the class and play an important role in helping to ensure each study group runs smoothly. Duties vary slightly depending on the study group's format (in-person, online, or hybrid). See more information: www.oli-dc.org/for_study_group_reps

If you're interested in serving as SGR for one or more of your study groups, please check the applicable box(es) on the paper registration form or when selecting your courses online.

Transfers

Membership in OLLI is not transferable. Spouses or partners must have their own individual memberships.

Trips

OLLI offers trips and tours throughout each academic session. Specifics regarding pricing and transportation will be shared on our website for each trip. Trips and tours are arranged by OLLI's Trip Coordinator. Please contact the office if you have a suggestion for a trip or tour.

Volunteer

If you're interested in volunteering, please let us know by selecting your areas of interest on the volunteer page of the website:

www.oli-dc.org/get_involved

Waitlists

If a seat opens in a class which has a waitlist, members will be contacted by email and offered a seat in the order in which they appear on the waitlist. Please only attend classes for which you are registered.

Weather Policy for Class Cancellation

We follow American University's weather policy. If AU is closed, OLLI's online and hybrid classes will be held as scheduled (hybrid classes will be online only). In-person classes will be moved online, if possible. We will work with in-person SGLs regarding makeup sessions for any class that can't move online. *If AU has a delayed opening, all OLLI classes will still be held at their originally scheduled times.*

Website

Please visit the OLLI website at www.oli-dc.org:

- to view the events calendar
- to register for classes and pay membership dues
- to add, drop, change classes, or request a refund
- to volunteer or make a donation

Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi at OLLI is free. The network name is AUGuest-ByRCN. No password is required.

PARKING & TRANSIT

Public Transportation

Visit the **Parking & Transit** page on our website at <https://www.oli-dc.org/parking> for up-to-date information on using public transportation to attend OLLI activities.

Parking

Parking is available in the garage beneath the AU building where OLLI is located (at 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW). In accordance with DC regulations and AU's "Good Neighbor Policy," all members of the AU community — including OLLI members — are required to park in an AU parking garage when visiting the campus; this includes those with Zone 3 stickers. Parking on the street in surrounding neighborhoods to attend OLLI events/classes will likely result in a \$200 parking ticket from AU. For full parking information, visit the Parking & Transit page at <https://www.oli-dc.org/parking> on our website.

Building PIN Code

The AU building where OLLI is located is only accessible to those with an AU ID or PIN code. To accommodate OLLI members, the garage entrance will be open from 9:00-10:00 AM, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM, and 1:00-2:00 PM and no PIN code will be required. If you need to enter the garage outside of these hours, or it happens to be closed, you will need to use the keypad outside the garage to enter the PIN code. **Registered members will be sent the PIN code before each academic session.** If you have any trouble, please call the office at 202-895-4860.

Please note that when exiting the garage, you do not need to enter the PIN code. As you approach the garage doors to exit, there is a sensor that detects your car and will automatically raise the doors.

Parking Payment Options

Parking is \$2 per hour. You must pay for parking BEFORE class. In order to pay, you must know your vehicle's license plate number.

You may pay for parking:

- with credit card or cash at the kiosks located on each parking level, or
- by credit card using a smartphone and the PayByPhone app (see below), or
- with a credit card by calling PayByPhone at 888-450-7275.

How to Pay By Phone

Dial 888-450-7275. The first time, you will be prompted to:

- Enter your cell phone number
- Create a 6-digit pin number
- Enter your 16-digit credit card number
- Enter your 4-digit expiration date
- Enter the 4-digit location code for Spring Valley Garage: **4889**
- Enter your license plate number
- Enter the number of hours you want to park

AU SHUTTLE BUS

For full information on the shuttle service, go to: <http://www.american.edu/finance/transportation/shuttle.cfm> on AU's website.

The AU shuttle buses are kneeling buses and are handicapped accessible.

A free, open-to-the-public AU shuttle bus leaves regularly from the Tenley Metro station, makes stops at the Katzen Center, and then at the Spring Valley Building (4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW), where OLLI is located. To return to the Katzen Center Garage or the Metro, catch the shuttle at the bus stop on Massachusetts Ave. on the same side of the street as the Spring Valley Building.

How to Use the PayByPhone App

You can download the free "PayByPhone" app from the App Store or Google Play Store to pay for parking via your smartphone.

The first time you need to:

- Enter your cell phone number
- Create a 6-digit pin number
- Enter your 16-digit credit card number
- Enter your 4-digit expiration date
- Enter the 4-digit location code for Spring Valley Garage: **4889**
- Enter your license plate number.
- Enter the number of hours you want to park.

OLLI CELEBRATES "AMERICA 250"



As OLLI heads into the latter part of 2026, we want to continue to acknowledge, and celebrate, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Drafted primarily by Jefferson, it was edited by a committee of five people, including Adams and Franklin. Not a dry or dusty document, it has inspired the independence of many other nations since 1776. It gave the Continental Congress legal standing to negotiate with France and other allies who came to our aid, and it listed specific grievances against the British Crown.

OLLI offered several courses and lectures during the spring semester that related to the America 250 theme. In June, a special day of presentations commemorated the 250th anniversary. Members explored topics spanning American history, democracy, culture, science, and civic life through short, engaging presentations led by OLLI instructors and members. Culminating the day was a keynote lecture on the first century of American painting.

Below are courses in this catalog that relate to the "America 250" theme.



- 107: Threats to American Democracy: 1776-Present
- 585: America's Great Illustrators Illustrate a Great America
- 589: American Colonial and Federal Furniture: 1650–1840
- 598: America Through Film
- 656: 250 Years of American Poetry: Voices of Resistance and Echoes of the Land
- 708: Restoring the American Story
- 709: The USA at 25: A Young Republic, the European Empires, and New Revolutions
- 719: The American Revolution: An Intellectual and Social History
- 727: Washington's Soldiers—How They Fought, Lived, and Forged American Values & Beliefs
- 733: The American Civil War and the Destruction of Slavery
- 741: Reconstruction: From 1863 to Now
- 790: Montgomery (County) Montage: A 250-Year History
- 794: Six Situations that Shaped our Nation

CLASS FORMATS: IN-PERSON, ONLINE & HYBRID

OLLI offers classes in three formats: online, in-person, and hybrid. In hybrid classes, the SGL and some members of the class are in-person while other members participate via Zoom. In the catalog, each course description lists the format and recording status. Most study groups are recorded. **Please note that whether a class is recorded is subject to change based on SGL preference.** If selecting a hybrid class, you must note whether you want to attend in-person (hybrid in-person) or online (hybrid online). List both formats if the class is a priority and you're willing to attend either format. You can prioritize up to eight classes for the lottery. The lottery will then assign you to up to three classes.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Study group selections are due by 10:00 AM on Wednesday, September 9, to be included in the fall lottery. All selections are **pending** until lottery day. Class sizes are determined by Study Group Leaders' requests, classroom capacity, and the office. If a study group is oversubscribed on lottery day, pending registrations in that class are subjected to a random, computerized lottery. Members who are not selected for said study group are put on the waitlist and will be emailed by the office if space becomes available. **Class assignment letters will be emailed on September 10.**

After the lottery, we will continue to accept registrations on a space-available basis through the second week of the semester.

OLLI reserves the right to cancel any study group. Members registered in a study group that is cancelled will be notified immediately so that they may select an available alternate.

JOIN OLLI AT AU

You may join OLLI, pay for membership, and choose your lottery selections all at once. To do so, complete the form on the following pages. Mail the form to the address on the form with a check made payable to OLLI or choose your lottery selections online at www.oli-dc.org to pay with a credit card in an encrypted, secure transaction.

You will need to create a user account. Follow these steps below to do so:

1. Go to <http://www.oli-dc.org>

Click on "**Membership**" in the menu at the top of the page.

A submenu appears. Click on "**Join OLLI**."

2. A new screen appears titled "Join OLLI." Click on "**create an account**" in the first paragraph.

3. Fill in the contact information form including entering a username and password. Write your username and password below. If you lose your username, the OLLI office can give it to you. If you forget your password, you can reset it or ask the office to do so.

Username _____

Password _____

4. Follow the instructions under Choose Your Study Groups.

CHOOSE YOUR STUDY GROUPS

1. Identify the number of study groups you are interested in taking. **You must select 1, 2, or 3.**
2. **Prioritize up to 8 study groups** based on your preference for taking the study groups.

(1 = highest priority and 8 = lowest priority).

If the class is hybrid, be sure to include your desired format, in-person or online. If you are willing to attend either in-person or online, be sure to list each format for the class. See the example on the form.

Note: Prioritize your study groups by whichever method works best for you: subject matter, time/day, location, or Study Group Leader. Even if you mark that you only want to take one study group, you may still prioritize up to 8 study groups. When the system processes your selections, it will assign you to your highest priority study groups that are available.

Note: All members have an equal chance at getting into a class. There is no restriction if a member has taken a study group or Study Group Leader previously.

3. Submit your lottery selections.
4. You will receive email confirmation of your selections. All selections are **pending** until lottery day.
5. After lottery day, you will receive by email **your class assignment letter.**

Through the second week of classes, you can change your schedule online or by emailing the office.

You may register online for a fourth course AFTER you have received your class assignment letter.

Study group leaders spend a prodigious amount of time preparing their classes. Please attend the classes for which you are registered and arrive on time to class.

OLLI AT AU REGISTRATION FORM

FALL 2026: SEPTEMBER 28–DECEMBER 4

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW • Washington, DC 20016

Phone: **202.895.4860** | Email: **olli@american.edu** | Website: **www.olli-dc.org**

**Choose your lottery selections
for the FALL SEMESTER
by 10:00 AM on Wed., Sept. 9.**

Please complete all parts of the form. You also can pay and select study groups online at www.olli-dc.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ APARTMENT NUMBER _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER -- CELL PHONE NUMBER --

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME _____ RELATIONSHIP TO EMERGENCY CONTACT _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBER --

PARKING ATTESTATION

☐ By checking this box, I attest to understanding that in accordance with DC regulations and American University's "Good Neighbor Policy" (pg. 4), **OLLI members are required to park in an AU garage while attending OLLI.**

CHOOSE YOUR LOTTERY SELECTIONS

1. SELECT whether you want 1, 2, or 3 study groups: 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐

2. List up to 8 study groups in priority order. A hybrid class has both in-person and online members. If you want a hybrid class, you must write either "Hybrid In-Person" or "Hybrid Online" as the format, depending on which you prefer. If you wish to attend the class regardless of the format, be sure to list both formats. Please see the sample below in which 148 is a hybrid class and the member wants to attend regardless of format.

Number	Format	Study Group Name
1. 148	Hybrid In-Person	James Madison: Political Theorist and Politician
2. 148	Hybrid Online	James Madison: Political Theorist and Politician
3. 156	Online	SIS Foreign Challenges for the Year Ahead
4. 617	In-Person	The Great French Songbook

Number	Format	Study Group Name
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____

VOLUNTEER TO BE STUDY GROUP REPRESENTATIVE

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You will be contacted, if chosen, as there may be multiple volunteers for each study group. See page 3 for a list of SGR duties.

Continued on other side.

PAYMENTS

Please make checks payable to **OLLI at AU**. Payment must accompany your form. You can also use a credit card online at: www.lli-dc.org. Financial assistance is available. Contact the OLLI office for information.

\$ _____ **\$330:** Fall 2026 Semester

\$ _____ **\$600:** Fall 2026 & Spring 2027 Semester

\$ _____ **\$297:** Fall 2026 Semester with AU 10% discount. **Please check one of the boxes below and explain further.**

\$ _____ **\$540:** Fall 2026 & Spring 2027 Semesters with AU 10% discount. **Please check one of the boxes below and explain further.**

(The names of members using the AU discount are shared with the AU Alumni Office for data-tracking purposes only.)

☐ Alumna/Alumnus: _____ ☐ Current/Former Staff: _____
(Graduation year/degree) (Department)

☐ Current/Emeriti Faculty or Trustee: _____ ☐ Spouse of one of these categories: _____
(Department) (Spouse's name)

10% Fall New Member Discount: To take advantage of the discount, do not use this paper registration form. Instead, scan the QR code on the front of the catalog or call (202-895-4860) or email (olli@american.edu) the OLLI office.

DIRECTORY LISTING

Please check the boxes below for any contact information you do NOT want included in our membership directory. The directory is produced during the third week of each semester and is made available to current members. It is intended for internal use only.

DO NOT include the following in the OLLI membership directory.

☐ My Name ☐ My Phone Number ☐ My Address ☐ My E-mail Address

BECOME A STUDY GROUP LEADER

☐ Check this box if you are interested in becoming a Study Group Leader at OLLI.

Topic(s) of interest for leading a study group: _____

An OLLI staff member or Curriculum Committee member will contact you shortly. Please visit the website below for more information:

https://www.lli-dc.org/become_an_instructor

VOLUNTEER

If you're interested in volunteering, please let us know by selecting your areas of interest on the volunteer page of the website:

https://www.lli-dc.org/get_involved

Contact the office by email at olli@american.edu or by phone at **202-895-4860** if you have any questions or would like more information.

RETURN COMPLETED FORM

MAIL completed form to:

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20016

SCHEDULE OF FALL STUDY GROUPS

When selecting your study groups, be sure to check the class format.

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER	START	WKS	FORMAT
MONDAY 9:45 AM					
233	Thinking About Learning	Moore	9/28	10	In-Person
240	Unleash Your Inner Comic Voice	Caporale, Whitley	9/28	7	In-Person
364	Corporate Scandals and Strategy: The Evolution of Stakeholder Emphasis in Corporate Governance	Yener	9/28	8	In-Person
535	How To Listen To Jazz (All New!)	Sherwin	9/28	7	In-Person
615	Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene	Caraher	9/28	8	Online
730	Imprisoned Without Trial: Japanese Incarceration in WWII	Kato	9/28	5	Online
741	Reconstruction: From 1863 to Now	Stewart	9/28	10	In-Person
805	Meditation Class	Reo	9/28	8	In-Person
MONDAY 11:45 AM					
254	Here There Be Dragons!	Croog	9/28	10	In-Person
585	America's Great Illustrators Illustrate a Great America	Fleps	9/28	7	In-Person
596	Comedy—Selected Origins and Highlights	Vorensky	9/28	5	Online
631	Understanding Families Through Plays	Lewis	9/28	8	In-Person
644	The Poetry of Robert Frost	Draper	9/28	10	In-Person
708	Restoring the American Story	Greenberg	9/28	8	Online
718	Morocco: A Cultural History	Harper	9/28	8	In-Person
834	Mindfulness Meditation Intermediate Level	Drobis	9/28	10	Online
MONDAY 1:45 PM					
119	The UN Charter and Peacekeeping	Gallucci	9/28	7	In-Person
160	Challenges Facing Public Schools	Blank	9/28	7	In-Person
376	Understanding Medicare—A Practical Guide	Kayrish	9/28	7	In-Person
405	Unseen Wilderness: How and Where Does Airborne Life Move?	Williams	9/28	6	Online
505	A Survey of Great Russian Composers	Flaxman	9/28	10	Hybrid
568	What's New in Architecture	Swoger	9/28	10	Online
603	Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français	Férat	9/28	10	In-Person
798	O Canada! The History and Culture of Our Northern Neighbor	Stanton	9/28	8	In-Person
TUESDAY 9:45 AM					
132	Perspectives on Congress	Sharp	9/29	8	In-Person
200	Understanding Trauma's Role In Conflict	Hull	9/29	8	In-Person
250	TED Talks	Lewis, Mindel, Swan	9/29	8	Online
611	Reading Sanskrit	Ross	9/29	10	In-Person
613	Latin for Developing Translators	Smith	9/29	10	In-Person
646	Poetry Craftshop: Neither the Clothing of Things nor the Nakedness of Things (Section A)	Pierson	9/29	10	In-Person
655	The Novels of Cormac McCarthy	Parlato	9/29	8	In-Person
744	Nuremberg: The Trial and the Legacy	Feinberg	9/29	10	In-Person
831	Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation	J Drobis, S Drobis	9/29	10	Online

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER	START	WKS	FORMAT
TUESDAY 11:45 AM					
232	Finding Your Family History	Goodman	9/29	8	Online
310	Do Only the Rich Have Trusts? Key Strategies Using Trusts in Your Estate Plan	Burton	9/29	4	Online
338	The History of Money	Bowman	9/29	10	In-Person
452	Energy and Climate Change	Cheh, Edelstein	9/29	9	Online
508	Discover and Explore the World of Classical Music	Munford	9/29	8	In-Person
589	American Colonial and Federal Furniture: 1650–1840	Fitzgerald	9/29	8	In-Person
630	Reading the <i>Iliad</i> in Translations	Coleman	9/29	9	Online
786	Remembering <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i>	Thurman	9/29	8	In-Person
TUESDAY 1:45 PM					
172	Current Events and Public Policy II	Callet, Porter	9/29	8	In-Person
180	Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens	Hansen	9/29	10	In-Person
401	The Natural History of Maryland, Virginia, and DC	Schubert	9/29	8	In-Person
492	RNA: The Versatile and Indispensable Molecule	Taran	9/29	10	Online
533	Broadcasting Underground: Rock Music and the FM Radio Revolution	Pagliasotti	9/29	7	Online
648	Star-Crossed: Doomed Romances	Croog	9/29	10	Online
657	Charles Dickens' <i>Little Dorrit</i>	Frantz	9/29	8	In-Person
733	The American Civil War and the Destruction of Slavery	Kamiat	9/29	10	Online
WEDNESDAY 9:45 AM					
105	Can't We Do Better Than This?: Thinking About Improving Government	Nadel	9/30	8	In-Person
171	Current Events and Public Policy I	Callet, Porter	9/30	8	In-Person
199	How Literature and Drama Can Illuminate Politics and Government	Verdier	9/30	10	In-Person
290	Anesthesia: A Practitioner's Perspective	Study	9/30	7	In-Person
696	The Many Ages of Wisdom	Starr	10/7	8	Online
719	The American Revolution: An Intellectual and Social History	Lamont	9/30	9	Online
829	An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Time	Hudson	9/30	10	In-Person
889	Contemporary Issues in Medical Ethics	Olick	9/30	8	In-Person
WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM					
296	How Do We Know: Evaluating Claims in a World of Data	Brock	9/30	8	In-Person
510	TV Variety Shows' Magical Musical Moments	Gondelman	9/30	10	Hybrid
562	How to Develop a Photographer's Eye	Logan	9/30	8	In-Person
601	Conversation Avancée	Spittler	9/30	10	In-Person
612	Italian: Beginner Level 1	E Evangelista, L Evangelista	9/30	7	In-Person
647	Poetry Craftshop: Neither the Clothing of Things nor the Nakedness of Things (Section B)	Pierson	9/30	10	In-Person
684	Dark Hearts: A "Deep Dive" into Francis Ford Coppola's <i>Apocalypse Now</i>	Reid	10/7	8	In-Person
707	The Rise and Fall of Napoleon Bonaparte	Coffman	9/30	10	In-Person

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER	START	WKS	FORMAT
WEDNESDAY 1:45 PM					
107	Threats to American Democracy: 1776-Present	Seasonwein	9/30	8	In-Person
191	Landmark Supreme Court Cases and the Story Behind Them: Part 2	Daney	9/30	8	In-Person
212	What is Truth?	B Hadden, R Hadden	9/30	8	In-Person
529	The Life and Music of Antonin Dvorak	Kaufman	9/30	8	Online
550	Mary Cassatt and the Rise of American Impressionism	Keel	9/30	10	In-Person
602	French Conversation Advanced	Farrell	9/30	7	Online
610	Intermediate Italian	Evangelista, Flaxman	9/30	10	In-Person
720	A Brief History of Modern India	Lamont	9/30	10	Online
THURSDAY 9:45 AM					
516	Wagner's Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg	Holman	10/1	8	In-Person
551	Jewelry Through the Ages	Caraher	10/8	9	In-Person
609	La Revolución Mexicana en el Arte, el Cine, la Literatura, y la Música	Amador, Grigera, Reilly	10/1	7	In-Person
709	The USA at 25: A Young Republic, the European Empires, and New Revolutions	Brown	10/1	8	In-Person
773	The Erie Canal: A Story of Water and Gravity	Beasom	11/5	4	Online
842	The Battle for Christ: Christianity's First 500 Years	Dalby	10/1	5	Online
THURSDAY 11:45 AM					
281	The Psychology of Happiness: Science-Backed Insights and Interventions	Sebenick	10/1	7	In-Person
402	An Enthusiasm for Metabolism	LaRossa	10/1	8	Online
606	Intermediate German: Part V	Cutts	10/1	10	In-Person
621	Enjoying <i>The New Yorker</i> Together	Foster	10/1	9	Online
650	Genre Writing Workshop	Hiller	10/1	7	In-Person
654	"Which Part Don't You Believe?"—The Child Narrator in Holocaust Film	Friedberg	10/1	8	Online
739	China's 20th-Century Revolutions	Spendelow	10/1	10	In-Person
794	Six Situations that Shaped Our Nation	Connell	10/1	8	In-Person
THURSDAY 1:45 PM					
161	Does Europe Have a Future?	Kramer	10/1	10	Online
163	Media & Public Opinion in the 2026 Election	Begleiter	10/15	5	Online
560	Learning to Look at Ballet	Lipkowitz	10/8	7	In-Person
607	Low Intermediate Spanish for Enthusiastic Learners	Aclan, Garzoli	10/1	10	In-Person
649	Children's Book Writing Workshop	Hiller	10/1	7	In-Person
740	Japan's Early History to the 1868 Meiji Restoration	Spendelow	10/1	10	In-Person
787	Exploring the History of the Amazon	Wilkinson	10/1	8	In-Person
835	Exploration of Eastern Thought	Weichel	10/1	8	Online

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER	START	WKS	FORMAT
FRIDAY 9:45 AM					
350	Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income	Hurwitz	10/2	6	Online
441	Essential Tech Literacy: Staying Up to Date with Technology	Rezmovic	10/2	10	In-Person
495	Building Nuclear Warheads—Methods and Consequences	Werner	10/2	10	In-Person
656	250 Years of American Poetry: Voices of Resistance and Echoes of the Land	Faye	10/2	8	Online
727	Washington's Soldiers—How They Fought, Lived, and Forged American Values & Beliefs	Richardson	10/2	7	In-Person
764	Five Empires, Five Centuries	Shelton	10/2	10	In-Person
806	Medical Qigong	Reo	10/2	8	In-Person
861	The Bible as an Anthology of Primary Texts Chronicling the Evolution of Thought from the Bronze Age to the Axial Age	Ross	10/2	10	In-Person
FRIDAY 11:45 AM					
415	Science and Public Policy	Katz	10/2	10	In-Person
573	Art Fraud	Trubatch	10/2	7	In-Person
598	America Through Film	E King, L King	10/2	10	In-Person
600	Beginning Italian: Part 2	Flaxman	10/2	10	In-Person
608	Spanish Level 1: Part III	Meade	10/16	9	In-Person
690	Dickens's <i>Bleak House</i>	Moody	10/2	10	Online
790	Montgomery (County) Montage: A 250-Year History	Buglass	10/9	8	In-Person
862	Hellenistic Philosophy	Ross	10/2	10	In-Person

FALL 2026 LECTURES

Each semester, lectures are held on Fridays from 1:30–2:30 PM, except when the Annual Meeting is held in the spring. Lectures are free and open to the public. Registration is required for in-person lectures. Information about each lecture, including the format, is included on the OLLI website and in our e-newsletter, which is emailed to all members and inquiries every Friday morning.

FALL STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

100 POLITICS, LAW & GOVERNMENT

Science and Public Policy

ARTHUR KATZ

Ten Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

In-Person

For study group description and bio, see 415.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

105: Can't We Do Better Than This?: Thinking About Improving Government

MARK NADEL

Eight Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

Donald Trump is not the first president to launch a project to attempt government reform. These efforts have reoccurred since the Keep Commission in 1905. Trump, however, is the first whose project, DOGE, left the government in much worse shape. This study group will examine some chronic problems of government performance such as wasteful spending and inefficiency, and the consequent efforts to meet these performance challenges. We'll also confront the possibility that these issues may not originate with the bureaucracy, but that, as Pogo said, "We have met the enemy and he is us." We'll also examine innovative alternative approaches, sometimes called "tools of government," to achieving policy goals.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Mark Nadel was a political science professor at Cornell University and ended his academic career as a professor at Georgetown's public policy school. In between those two academic stints he took a 20-year detour at GAO dealing with government performance issues and then at the Social Security Administration as an Associate Commissioner. He has long been an active member of OLLI, and has led study groups on politics and public policy.

107: Threats to American Democracy: 1776-Present

ROBERT SEASONWEIN

Eight Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

American democracy has faced recurring challenges since its founding. This course examines major threats to democratic governance and the responses they provoked, from debates over federalism and slavery at the Founding, to the Civil War and Reconstruction, the Great Depression, civil rights struggles, and today's concerns about political polarization, executive power, misinformation, and the resilience of democratic institutions.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Robert Seasonwein earned his law degree from Syracuse University in 1974 and spent more than 40 years in legal and public service positions. His career included work with the Department of Justice, the US Embassy in Prague, and the Transportation Security Administration, where he focused on national security and transportation threats. He retired from federal service in 2016.

119: The UN Charter and Peacekeeping

GERARD GALLUCCI

Seven Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

The United Nations was formed after World War II to prevent further such conflicts. The key elements of the UN Charter—arising out of discussions between the US, UK, Soviet Union, and China at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference here in DC—focused on the acceptable standards for entering into conflict, armed or otherwise. Adoption of the Charter created international law governing the use of force, peaceful settlement of disputes, arms control, and other elements of maintaining international peace and security (including sanctions). In this group we will delve into the Charter, especially Chapter VII. We'll also discuss peacekeeping and its successes and failures.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Jerry Gallucci has more than 40 years of experience as a diplomat, peacekeeper, and senior manager with the US government and the United Nations. He held senior roles at the US Department of State, including Chief of Mission in Khartoum and Brasília, worked on national

security and interagency coordination, and led UN missions in Kosovo and East Timor. He holds a PhD in political theory from the University of Pittsburgh and has taught at several universities.

132: Perspectives on Congress

PHILIP SHARP

Eight Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

In-Person

Through discussion and lecture, we will focus on the work of a representative; how members of Congress get to collective decisions; how Congress can check the Administration; and how citizens can influence Congress. An opening brainstorming session will elicit participant perspectives, experiences, and questions about Congress. The agenda will be shaped in part by current events and what emerges from the initial brainstorming session. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Phil Sharp represented Indiana in Congress for 20 years after first being elected in 1974. Following his retirement from Congress, he taught at Harvard's Kennedy School, served as director of Harvard's Institute of Politics, and later became president of the think tank Resources for the Future. He has also served on nonprofit and corporate boards and taught climate change policy at Columbia and Georgetown. He holds a BS and PhD from Georgetown University.

160: Challenges Facing Public Schools

MARTIN BLANK

Seven Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Taking on tough issues is a hallmark of OLLI participation. That's what this class will do with regard to our public schools. Join us to discuss: the impact of vouchers, a majority-minority student population, the end of school desegregation, curriculum wars, book banning, school violence and safety, early care and education, testing, technology (AI, phones), community and school, the potential of career-technical education, trials of higher education and others. Our discussion of these issues will be grounded in the basics of how public education works.

New

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Martin Blank is the former president of the Institute for Educational Leadership and director of the Coalition for Community Schools. He has worked on a range of education and social policy issues. He started his career as a VISTA Volunteer in the Missouri Bootheel.

161: Does Europe Have a Future?

STEVEN KRAMER

Ten Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 01

Online

For three-quarters of a century, Europe was closely tied to the United States politically, economically, and militarily. During this time, Europe transcended age-old nation-state conflicts and created the European Union. Now, suddenly with the advent of the Trump administration, Europe faces a tragic split with the US. A seemingly unbreakable alliance has come apart. As a result, following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Europe needs to develop the means to defend itself from an aggressive Russia, possibly without American support. At the same time, it faces internal threats to democracy from a rising extreme right, ironically egged on by US leadership. Where is Europe heading?

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Steven Philip Kramer taught for 30 years at National Defense University where he co-directed the European program; he has also taught at Georgetown and SAIS. He received his BA at Brandeis and PhD at Princeton University. He has written five books and numerous articles on European history, politics, demography and culture. The most recent is *Jews, Muslims and the French Republic* (2023).

163: Media & Public Opinion in the 2026 Election

RALPH BEGLEITER

Five Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 15

Online

The nation is poised for a pivotal midterm election, a battle for control of Congress and a referendum on the current administration. The election punctuates a tumultuous era in American politics, marked by a nearly successful insurrection, dismantling of longstanding political party and congressional roles, unprecedented upheaval in American government, challenges to Constitutional precedents, and profound effects on campaigns and media, driven by the meteoric rise of artificial intelligence technology. This course offers real-time analysis of forces shaping the vote, including the roles of money, news and social media, advertising, artificial intelligence, and public opinion polling. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

During two decades as CNN's "world affairs correspondent," **Ralph Begleiter** was the network's most widely traveled reporter. He has worked in 100 countries on all seven continents. During nearly 20 years at the University of Delaware, he was founding Director of the Center for Political Communication. Since 2016, he has continued teaching adult students, focusing on media and public opinion topics.

171: Current Events and Public Policy I

DAVID CALLET

JEFFREY PORTER

Eight Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

Jeffrey Porter and David Callet will lead lively discussions and debates on current events and public policy issues, focusing largely, but not exclusively, on politics, law, economics, and foreign affairs. Discussion topics, outlines, suggested readings (if any), and questions will be furnished in advance. Participants are also expected to follow the news closely. It is emphasized that this is a discussion-based class. Thus, participants are expected to take an active role in the conversations.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

***David Callet** practices product liability and consumer product safety law. A 1973 graduate of George Washington University Law School, he served as a federal government attorney and later as a partner in two DC firms before founding Callet Law in 2015. His practice focuses on consumer product safety compliance and education.*

***Jeffrey Porter** earned BA and MA degrees from the University of Wisconsin. After moving to Washington, DC, he owned several businesses for nearly 20 years and later worked in the catering department at Whole Foods on P Street.*

172: Current Events and Public Policy II

DAVID CALLET

JEFFREY PORTER

Eight Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

Jeffrey Porter and David Callet will lead lively discussions and debates on current events and public policy issues, focusing largely, but not exclusively, on politics, law, economics, and foreign affairs. Discussion topics, outlines, suggested readings (if any), and questions will be furnished in advance. Participants are also expected to follow the news closely. It is emphasized that this is a discussion-based class. Thus, participants are expected to take an active role in the conversations.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

***David Callet** practices product liability and consumer product safety law. A 1973 graduate of George Washington University Law School, he served as a federal government attorney and later as a partner in two DC firms before founding Callet Law in 2015. His practice focuses on consumer product safety compliance and education.*

***Jeffrey Porter** earned BA and MA degrees from the University of Wisconsin. After moving to Washington, DC, he owned several businesses for nearly 20 years and later worked in the catering department at Whole Foods on P Street.*

180: Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens

PENNY HANSEN

Ten Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

This study group will explore the important decisions that have and continue to be made by the 20-year-old Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Roberts. Presentation material and discussion will focus primarily on the major constitutional issues being decided by a divided court: presidential power, elections, diversity, guns, climate change, and religion. We will focus on the historical and political background of these issues, court procedures and norms, the legal orientation of the justices, and the new doctrines emerging from an activist court in a unique period in our history.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

***Penelope Hansen** directed several major environmental programs at the Environmental Protection Agency during its first 30 years, including recycling, hazardous waste, Superfund, acid rain, and technology verification initiatives. In retirement, she has focused on studying the Supreme Court and has taught OLLI courses on this and other subjects for the past ten years. She studied at Skidmore College, Johns Hopkins University, and Harvard University's Kennedy School.*

191: Landmark Supreme Court Cases and the Story Behind Them: Part 2

WILLIAM DANAY

Eight Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

This course will present the story behind eight landmark US Supreme Court cases, famous for the legal precedent that they set and the impact they have had on our country. We will attempt to breathe life into the dry history behind some of the most important cases that the court has considered. We will view videos and other presentation

material containing history that will help us better understand the issues, the decisions of the Court, and significant dissenting opinions. Finally, we will pose questions for consideration and encourage dialogue between class participants with varying opinions.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

William Daney has a background in science and engineering and a lifelong interest in the social sciences. He has taught economics, political science, and history at OLLI at AU and Anne Arundel Community College since his retirement in 2005.

199: How Literature and Drama Can Illuminate Politics and Government

JAMES VERDIER

Ten Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

This study group explores how literature and drama can illuminate politics and government in ways that complement journalism, history, and biography. Through the works of writers such as Ward Just, Anthony Trollope, Robert Penn Warren, Edwin O'Connor, William Shakespeare, Henrik Ibsen, and Hilary Mantel, as well as selected plays and films, we will examine the character, motivations, and behavior of political figures across different times and contexts. Along the way, we will consider what aspects of political life are shaped by circumstance and what may be more enduring.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

James Verdier has taught at Harvard and Princeton, and has worked in the US House and Senate, the Congressional Budget Office, and state governments in Michigan and Indiana. He worked for 26 years for a policy research and consulting company, assisting states and the federal government in designing and implementing Medicaid and Medicare policies and programs.

200 PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, & CULTURE

200: Understanding Trauma's Role In Conflict

JEANINE HULL

Eight Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

In-Person

This study group will go beyond its previous iterations by focusing more on how "the largest undiagnosed epidemic in the US" (according to the CDC), i.e., trauma, affects our daily interactions. We will continue to learn and practice effective conflict engagement techniques as we develop a better understanding of the implications of the trauma epidemic in this country. Success in the course depends on active, supportive, and nonjudgmental participation. The goal is to experience how skillful, constructive conflict engagement can strengthen relationships and reduce harm in our lives.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Jeanine Hull, author of the book Making Peace with Conflict: Using Neuroscience to Ease Difficult Relationships, has been an attorney and mediator for the past 40 years. She has been counsel to a congressional committee, Assistant General Counsel of a Fortune 300 energy company, and partner at Cantor Fitzgerald.

212: What is Truth?

BILL HADDEN

RITA HADDEN

Eight Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

The pursuit of truth often forms the backbone of some of the most gripping narratives. This curated list of films delves into the heart of human curiosity, where characters navigate through layers of deceit, personal dilemmas, and societal issues, to uncover the truth. These stories not only entertain but also challenge us to question what we accept as reality. Class members will see eight highly acclaimed films about truth, prior to our weekly meetings. These films are on Amazon Prime, Netflix, etc. We will examine what is exposed by these films through discussion, and why they matter in shaping our views of truth. Films include: *The Insider*, *Rashomon*, *The Constant Gardener*, *Mississippi Burning*, *The Lives of Others*, *Cover-Up*, *Spotlight*, and *Erin Brockovich*.

New

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: No

Rita and Bill Hadden love leading film discussions with OLLI members. Rita has done management and culture change consulting for 35 years, and has led OLLI study groups for a dozen years. Bill is a sociologist with a career at the CDC and NIH. Both have lived and traveled widely around the world. They thrive in different cultures and speak multiple languages.

232: Finding Your Family History

SUSAN GOODMAN

Eight Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

Online

This workshop aims to help members begin the process of finding basic genealogy data using free resources from libraries, archives, and the internet, as well as from free and subscription-based genealogy programs. Members who subscribe to Ancestry.com often find it helpful to let the SGL guide them in getting started on their family tree, using information from Ancestry's extensive databases and shared trees. The workshop also welcomes those who may not be interested in creating a tree, but want to know more about preserving family stories, photos, and the many ways they can be shared.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Susan Goodman has been doing genealogy research as a hobby for 20 years. Before she retired, she worked as a journalist in print and radio, contributing features to NPR programs and news reports for WAMU.

233: Thinking About Learning

DAVID MOORE

Ten Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

In-Person

What do we mean when we say we "learn" something? How does learning occur, and what makes it more or less effective—innate ability, positive reinforcement, or social interaction? What is the difference between learning to ride a bike and learning to solve a calculus problem, or between reading a book and building a company? Do all people learn in the same way, or do differences in age, gender, and culture matter? How do different social environments promote or hinder learning? How do nonhuman agents—animals and machines—learn? What happens in the brain and body when we learn? This course explores these questions from a variety of perspectives, drawing in part on your own experience as a lifelong learner.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

David Moore earned a doctorate in learning environments from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and taught for over 30 years at NYU. His research and writing focused on how learning happens in non-school situations, especially workplaces.

240: Unleash Your Inner Comic Voice

JILL CAPORALE

ADAM WHITLEY

Seven Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

In-Person

Have you always wanted to try comedy writing, stand-up, or improv? Now is your chance to discover and develop your unique comedic voice in a welcoming, supportive environment. In this course, you will learn how to mine your life experiences for humor, transform everyday observations into comedy, and gain confidence in expressing yourself before an audience. Through stand-up exercises, storytelling, and a variety of improv techniques, you'll learn to think on your feet, embrace spontaneity, and sharpen your creativity.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Jill Caporale is a biology professor who taught for more than 30 years at Northern Virginia Community College. **Adam Whitley** has taught at Fairfax County senior centers, offering classes in dance, the art of storytelling, and grammar and composition. Jill and Adam also worked as stand-up comedians in the 1980s and 1990s. During that time, they booked a comedy club, produced a comedy and variety show, and performed on the road.

250: TED Talks

LYNN LEWIS

CAROLINE MINDEL

DIANE SWAN

Eight Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

Online

This course features TED Talk speakers who share their cutting-edge work across diverse fields; in short, their ideas are worth spreading. This course focuses on TED Talks spanning a wide range of issues, from personal growth and aging to health and science, to society, community, and more. During our highly interactive sessions, we will view and discuss two talks weekly. Participants are welcome to preview the talks beforehand, but it isn't necessary, as they will be viewed during class. Individual volunteers will be asked to prepare brief background and discussion points for each presenter. The TED Talks are different each semester.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Lynn Lewis has a BA from the University of Michigan and an MA in journalism from Ohio State University. She has been a writer and editor for more than four decades.

Caroline Mindel has a BA and an MSW from the University of Pennsylvania. She founded Mindel Management, Inc., a property-management business in DC.

Diane Swan taught English, worked as a Defense Department analyst, and developed training courses for various federal agencies.

254: Here There Be Dragons!

ROBERT CROOG

Ten Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Dragons have long occupied the human imagination, well beyond dire warnings about uncharted regions on ancient maps. From Armenia to Japan, Iceland to Babylonia, dragons abound. They are often agents of terror and destruction, but they may also be guardians and protectors. Dragon slayers like St. George and Siegfried are familiar figures, but what do we know of Susanoo and Dobrynya? This course will cover serpentine monsters from many cultures, the humans who confront them, and why their tales are so ubiquitous and compelling.

New

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Robert Croog received a BA from Harvard and a JD from Columbia. He is a retired intellectual property lawyer and former professor of communication, writing, media law, and ethics. At OLLI he has taught courses on skepticism and truth denial, war and morality, the underworld, the Trickster, the Trojan War, and mother goddesses.

281: The Psychology of Happiness: Science-Backed Insights and Interventions

CAROLE SEBENICK

Seven Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

Have you ever wondered if the mood-boosting claims of yoga, protein-rich diets, or even winning the lottery have any scientific basis? Or if a social media detox truly enhances well-being? Through engaging lectures and discussions, this course delves into the credibility of such popular recommendations by drawing on research from the growing field of positive psychology. You will discover diverse perspectives on happiness, explore factors associated with long and fulfilling lives, and learn practical, science-backed applications to enhance personal well-being. Whether you're a

psychology enthusiast or simply curious about the happiness hype, this course offers valuable knowledge and strategies for everyday life.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Carole W. Sebenick, PhD, is a psychologist with more than 30 years of experience in private practice and in university and government settings, specializing in psychotherapy and career counseling. She has taught as an adjunct faculty member at several local universities, including a widely enrolled psychology of happiness course at the University of Maryland. An active community volunteer, she has served on nonprofit boards and taught English to adult learners.

290: Anesthesia: A Practitioner's Perspective

ROBERT STUDY

Seven Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

This course presents anesthesia from the viewpoint of an anesthesiologist with 40 years experience in both the scientific basis and clinical practice of the specialty, intended for the layperson. We will discuss the history, mechanisms, and safety of anesthesia, as well as approaches to pain management, with particular attention to narcotics, including fentanyl. The class will also discuss both typical scenarios and actual cases and how they are managed by bringing them into the operating room through the instructor's eyes. The aim is to enlighten the participant about this fascinating subject and give them perspective as past and future patients.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Robert Study earned an MD and PhD in pharmacology from Yale University and completed advanced training in neuropharmacology and anesthesiology at the National Institutes of Health, Johns Hopkins Hospital, and Harvard Medical School. He has served on the faculty at Harvard Medical School, chaired the Department of Anesthesia at Frederick Health Hospital, and currently maintains a private practice there.

296: How Do We Know: Evaluating Claims in a World of Data

CAROLYN BROCK

Eight Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

Every day, new research studies make headlines, often with claims that seem alarming or contradict previous findings. How can we tell what to take seriously and what to dismiss? In this class, we will explore how to evaluate research claims, interpret data, and identify the questions to ask when assessing new studies. Working together, we will develop tools for making sense of research in the information age.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Carolyn Brock specializes in making quantitative subjects accessible and interesting for adults of all educational backgrounds. She's held management positions in federal, state, and local government and worked as an independent consultant and trainer teaching courses and seminars in program evaluation, statistics, and decision tools for federal analysts and managers. She has master's degrees in public administration from the University of Michigan and in business administration from Georgetown.

300 ECONOMICS & PERSONAL FINANCE

310: Do Only the Rich Have Trusts? Key Strategies Using Trusts in Your Estate Plan

JOHN BURTON

Four Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

Online

Trusts are not just for the wealthy. This course provides an introduction to trusts and their role in estate planning. We will examine the differences between revocable and irrevocable trusts and explore how trusts may help avoid probate, reduce taxes, protect assets, and address long-term care concerns. The course will also discuss how trusts interact with wills, powers of attorney, real estate, investments, retirement accounts, and other assets, as well as the role of elder law in trust planning. **OLLI does not permit the solicitation, marketing, or selling of products as part of a study group, and does not endorse particular products or financial advice from SGLs.**

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

John S. Burton, Esq., CEP, TEP, practices in the areas of estate planning, asset protection, business, and elder law. He is a Certified Estate Planner (CEP) and a Trust and Estate Practitioner (TEP). John is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of VA, the US Federal Courts within the Fourth Circuit, and the US Tax Court.

338: The History of Money

DAVID BOWMAN

Ten Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

This course will trace the origins of money, from prehistory (cowrie shells, grains, and tally sticks) to the coins of the Roman Empire and later medieval credit systems and the first uses of paper currency. It will explain how goldsmiths gave rise to the modern banking system and, eventually, the first central banks. It will cover the creation of the Bank of England and the history of the US monetary system from 1778-1913 (prior to the creation of the Federal Reserve) and since, and will explain some basics about how and why monetary policy works. Given time, we will also cover recent innovations in electronic payment systems and cryptocurrencies.

New

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

David Bowman was a Senior Associate Director at the Federal Reserve Board, retiring in 2025. His responsibilities included oversight of issues related to the implementation of monetary policy and the intersection of the Federal Reserve's monetary policy framework with money markets. While at the Federal Reserve, he also oversaw the transition from LIBOR, worked on many issues related to the structure of Treasury markets, and served as the Special Advisor to then Governor Jerome Powell.

350: Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income

DAVID HURWITZ

Six Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

Online

During this study group, members will learn how to develop a retirement income strategy that aligns with their retirement goals; understand how different tax treatments can support their investment objectives; and plan for inflation, economic uncertainty, and the financial demands of a potentially long retirement. Sessions will include insights on estate planning, tax planning, long-term care, social security planning, and how to utilize various investment vehicles. The study group leader strongly encourages participants

to have their video on during class. **OLLI does not permit solicitation, marketing, or selling of financial products as part of this study group, and does not endorse particular products or financial advice from SGLs.**

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: No

David Hurwitz is a Certified Financial Planner Practitioner™ and retirement planning specialist with numerous professional certifications and honors, including recognition by Bethesda Magazine, Forbes, and Washington Post Magazine. He has led this OLLI study group since 2007.

364: Corporate Scandals and Strategy: The Evolution of Stakeholder Emphasis in Corporate Governance

DEMIR YENER

Eight Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

In-Person

This course examines current debates in corporate governance and how modern corporations address complex management and oversight challenges. We will explore how conflicts between ownership and control can increase risk and affect firm performance, and how transparency, accountability, and fairness can help reduce those risks. Topics include boards, shareholders, stakeholders, executive compensation, disclosure, ESG, and the growing role of AI in corporate governance. The course also examines greenwashing and other deceptive practices through case studies of companies such as Enron, Volkswagen, and Disney. *This study group may have a copied materials fee between \$5-20. If this is the case, the fee will be collected in class.*

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: More than 3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Demir Yener is a retired professor of finance and corporate governance and former director of the MS in Finance program at Johns Hopkins Carey Business School. He has taught at several universities, including Babson and Syracuse, and worked for two decades with the World Bank Institute and USAID on financial sector reform, corporate governance, and business education programs in emerging markets. His teaching and research focus on corporate finance, investments, international finance, and emerging markets.

376: Understanding Medicare— A Practical Guide

ANN KAYRISH

Seven Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Whether you are retired, assisting a family member, or planning to enroll into Medicare soon, this course is designed to help you understand the basics of Medicare costs, coverage, and enrollment. The class sessions will also include demonstrations and instructions on how to use online tools and resources to make more informed Medicare plan and coverage choices.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Ann Kayrish has spent more than 15 years helping people with Medicare better understand the program and make better benefit choices, first as a Medicare counselor with the State Health Insurance Assistance program and then as the Medicare subject matter expert at the National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment at the National Council on Aging.

400 STEM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

Anesthesia: A Practitioner's Perspective

ROBERT STUDY

Seven Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

For study group description and bio, see 290.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

How Do We Know: Evaluating Claims in a World of Data

CAROLYN BROCK

Eight Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

For study group description and bio, see 296.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

401: The Natural History of Maryland, Virginia, and DC

RICHARD SCHUBERT

Eight Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

What a wonderful place to live! We will explore the natural history of MD, VA, and DC, from the coastal plain to the Piedmont and the mountains. Our geologic history extends back over one billion years. The great northern and southern hardwood and pine forests meet here. Our Chesapeake Bay is a marvel of nature. The course will deal with the various regions, each with its own unique features and ecology. We'll follow our area through the seasons and spend time discussing the remarkable adaptations life has made to survive the winter. Along the way, we'll meet oak-hickory forests, springtime wild flowers, migrating and resident birds, hibernating frogs, and much more.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

*A retired physician, **Richard Schubert** has been an ardent amateur naturalist for over 50 years. His idea of a good time is to find a log in the forest, sit down, and watch. After only a few minutes, you begin to see things you didn't see at first; how plants and animals relate to each other and to the terrain. He hopes to impart some of his enthusiasm to the class participants. He is also a classical pianist (still taking lessons) and is very interested in Renaissance art and humanism.*

402: An Enthusiasm for Metabolism

ROBERT LAROSSA

Eight Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

Online

A cell is arguably the world's most accomplished organic chemist, carrying out thousands of chemical reactions within an extraordinarily small space. Yet some bacterial cells can replicate in as little as 20 minutes. This course will demystify biology by introducing the fundamental concepts underlying cellular chemistry. We will explore how cells generate and use energy, how metabolic pathways are organized and regulated, and how metabolic inhibitors are used in medicine, nutrition, and agriculture. We will also discuss inborn errors of metabolism, a cornerstone of human genetics. Understanding metabolism provides insights into human health and biotechnology.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

***Bob LaRossa** is a retired molecular biologist who spent his career using*

biochemistry and genetics to explore some of life's mysteries, developing a lasting fascination with metabolism along the way. At OLLIs in Delaware and Washington, DC, he has led a diverse array of courses, including family history narratives, immigration and naturalization, genealogy, cartooning, and personal DNA analysis. He has also been an enthusiastic OLLI participant, taking courses on Italian culture, music, cartooning, and geology.

405: Unseen Wilderness: How and Where Does Airborne Life Move?

CLAIRE WILLIAMS

Six Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

Online

This course explores the air we breathe—from outdoor and indoor environments to airplanes and wildfire smoke. Participants will examine the atmosphere's layers, airborne particles, and microbial life, and consider how these influence pandemics, air quality, allergies, national security, and everyday life. Taught from the perspective of atmospheric science rather than medicine, the course emphasizes discussion, shared learning, and practical insights for living in our changing climate. Class participation is essential. We educate one another. Each class ends with a question and optional readings for the next class.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

***Claire Williams** is a research professor in environmental sciences at American University whose career has spanned academia, government, and industry. A specialist in ecology, evolution, and genetics, she has held faculty and visiting positions at several universities, served as a science advisor at the US Department of State, and was a 2019 Fulbright Scholar in Siberia. Her work has earned numerous honors, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, and she has authored more than 100 papers and three books.*

415: Science and Public Policy

ARTHUR KATZ

Ten Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

In-Person

Precision medicine, climate change, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, the microbiome, synthetic biology, and weapons of mass destruction highlight the critical intersection of science and public policy. This course examines the science behind these issues and explores the opportunities, challenges, and policy questions they raise for society. Participants will gain a better understanding of how scientific advances shape public decisions and personal choices in an increasingly complex world. This broad overview of subjects is for those who are just beginning to explore these issues.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Arthur Katz, PhD (chemistry) and MS (meteorology), worked almost 40 years with science and public policy in the US Department of Energy and predecessor agencies, dealing with areas such as international collaboration for fusion energy and the Human Genome Project. He is also the author of the book *Life After Nuclear War* that examined the social, psychological, and economic, as well as physical damage, of nuclear attacks on the US.

441: Essential Tech Literacy: Staying Up to Date with Technology

VICTOR REZMOVIC

Ten Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

In-Person

Technology is evolving faster than ever, reshaping how we communicate, work, and manage our daily lives. Yet many people continue relying on older devices and services even when newer options offer greater convenience and significant cost savings. For example, traditional landline phones can now be replaced with Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) systems that deliver similar service at a fraction of the cost. In this course, we'll explore a wide range of modern technologies that may not be familiar but can make everyday life easier, safer, and more efficient. Topics include mesh Wi-Fi systems, new cellular solutions that can provide whole-home Internet, and cloud-based IoT devices such as smart cameras, etc.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Victor Rezmovic, PhD, was trained in quantitative methods and social science research. He was fortunate to have discovered the world of personal computers in 1983, which led him to a career as a technology consultant and educator. After retiring from consulting at the DOJ and FBI, he has dedicated himself to teaching practical uses of technology such as using the Cloud, disconnecting from cable TV, staying safe online, and practical uses of AI. He has been teaching at OLLI since 2017.

452: Energy and Climate Change

ALBERT CHEH

RON EDELSTEIN

Nine Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

Online

Why should global temperature rise stay below 1.5-2.0°C by 2100? A massive shift from fossil fuels to zero-carbon renewable energy,

substantial gains in energy efficiency and eventually, negative emissions are needed. How might industrial processes, buildings, and transportation reduce energy intensity? We will examine the status and prospects of solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, ocean, and nuclear technologies, including dependence on critical materials and energy storage. With temperature overshoot in the forecast, we will discuss how the US and China can decarbonize their economies and adapt to a warmer world, and we will simulate the future with the En-ROADS climate model. No scientific background is required.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Albert Cheh earned degrees in chemistry and biochemistry from Columbia University and the University of California, Berkeley, and retired in 2017 as Professor Emeritus in Environmental Science and Chemistry at American University. Since then, he has taught OLLI courses on environmental science, climate and energy, COVID-19, and federal support for science.

Ron Edelstein is an engineer with nearly 50 years of experience in aerospace, energy research, and consulting, and now serves as a climate ambassador for the En-ROADS climate simulation model.

492: RNA: The Versatile and Indispensable Molecule

ALBERT TARAN

Ten Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

Online

The great success of mRNA vaccines in halting the Covid-19 pandemic turned a spotlight on RNA. Our understanding of RNA has grown steadily, if slowly, over the past 50 years. In this study group, we will explore the structure and function of multiple RNAs, their critical role in maintaining and regulating cellular processes, and with its unique self-catalyzing property, the theory that RNA preceded DNA at the origin of life, RNA World. Lastly, we will explore the ongoing research into the therapeutic role of RNA in the fight against cancer and in gene editing. We will use *The Catalyst: RNA and the Quest to Unlock Life's Deepest Secrets* by Thomas R. Cech, Nobel Laureate for his work on RNA, as our guide.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Al Taran has a BA in philosophy but spent his working career in information technology. He has a lifelong interest in the sciences and mathematics. This will be the 25th study group that Al has led.

495: Building Nuclear Warheads— Methods and Consequences

JAMES WERNER

Ten Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

In-Person

What's behind the headlines about Iran's enriched uranium? Where are US nuclear warheads produced? This course explores these questions while examining the history of nuclear weapons from the Manhattan Project to the vast Cold War complex that produced more than 125,000 US warheads. We will cover basic warhead design and production, the countries that possess nuclear weapons, and the financial, security, environmental, and human consequences of the nuclear age. The course will also touch on the relationship between nuclear weapons technology and nuclear power generation.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

***Jim Werner** is an engineer with more than 45 years of experience in nuclear weapons policy and environmental management. He served as a senior manager at the US Congressional Research Service and as Policy Director for Environmental Management at the US Department of Energy, overseeing nuclear cleanup and nonproliferation programs. He also led environmental agencies in Delaware and Missouri and holds an MS in environmental engineering from Johns Hopkins University.*

500 MUSIC & VISUAL ARTS

505: A Survey of Great Russian Composers

DAVID FLAXMAN

Ten Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

Hybrid

In the style of David's music series classes, we will take a brief tour through the works of several great Russian and Ukrainian composers. As usual, we will learn about their lives in the context of their times, listen to excerpts of their music in chronological order, conduct a little musical analysis where appropriate, and, whenever possible, enjoy high-quality video performances. The composers will include Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Shostakovich, and possibly one or two others. **Disclaimer: We strive to provide the best possible audio experience for online participants in our hybrid classes, but at times there can be some variation in sound quality which we always work to overcome. This study group has a high class size capacity.**

New

Class Format: Appreciation

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

***David Flaxman** is a regular study group leader focusing on classical music and Italian at OLLI. David is an active performer with numerous choral groups in DC. He is the board president of the City Choir of Washington and the Georgetown Chorale and is a co-founder and board member of the Washington Douglass Chorale. In an earlier career, David was a computer scientist who was responsible for bringing a number of new technologies and systems into the world.*

508: Discover and Explore the World of Classical Music

GREGORY MUNFORD

Eight Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

This course traces the evolution of classical music from Bach to Stravinsky. We will explore why it begins with Bach, how Haydn and Mozart reflected the Enlightenment, how Beethoven transformed music with unprecedented emotional power, and how the rival camps of Brahms and Wagner shaped its future. We will also examine how the expanding classical language produced a remarkable range of styles, from Debussy and Stravinsky to Schoenberg. Suitable for beginners and seasoned listeners alike, this course offers an engaging roadmap to some of the most exciting and influential music ever created. **This study group has a high class size capacity.**

New

Class Format: Appreciation

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

***Greg Munford** began his career as a studio guitarist and vocalist in 1960s Southern California, singing on the number-one hit "Incense and Peppermints." He later founded a Washington, DC advertising agency with clients including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Time-Life Books, and two US presidents. A lifelong musician, he continues to play and occasionally teaches music history and appreciation.*

510: TV Variety Shows' Magical Musical Moments

LARRY GONDELMAN

Ten Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

Hybrid

The great TV variety shows of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s captured many of the cultural milestones of their times, with musical guests playing a central role. We'll revisit memorable performances, from The Beatles' American debut on *The Ed Sullivan Show* to Buffalo Springfield's rendition of "For What It's Worth" on *The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour*. Through video clips and discussion, we'll explore iconic acts featured on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *The Carol Burnett Show*, *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*, *Saturday Night Live*,

and other classic programs. Consider this our version of gathering around the TV on a Sunday night—popcorn optional.

Disclaimer: We strive to provide the best possible audio experience for online participants in our hybrid classes, but at times there can be some variation in sound quality which we always work to overcome. *This study group has a high class size capacity.*

New

Class Format: Appreciation

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Larry Gondelman is a mostly retired attorney who has loved rock 'n' roll his whole life. He has developed and taught a wide range of study groups about rock including a history of rock 'n' roll, iconic albums, songwriters, record labels, one hit wonders, and the great guitarists of rock.

516: Wagner's Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg

JAMES HOLMAN

Eight Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 01

In-Person

The Polish pianist and patriot Ignacy Paderewski called *Die Meistersinger* "the greatest work of genius ever achieved by any artist in any field of human endeavor." H. L. Mencken described it as "the greatest single work of art ever produced by man." Toscanini wanted to lay down his baton only after conducting it, and Father Owen Lee called it "a hymn to music." Jim Holman will continue his Wagner courses at OLLI by exploring in detail *Die Meistersinger's* music, libretto, and its myriad timeless themes. *This study group has a high class size capacity.*

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Jim Holman has written and edited various books on the life and music of Richard Wagner. He has lectured throughout the country and has conducted OLLI classes on Wagner for several years.

529: The Life and Music of Antonin Dvorak

LEE KAUFMAN

Eight Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

Online

Though not American, Antonín Dvořák was among the first classical composers to create music inspired by American themes. Born into humble circumstances in Bohemia, he mastered traditional forms such as symphonies, concertos, choral works, and opera while becoming one of the leading composers of the Romantic era. Beyond

music, Dvořák was known for his wide-ranging interests, devotion to family, and warm personal relationships, making him an unusually relatable figure among great composers. *This study group has a high class size capacity.*

New

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Lee Kaufman has taught classical music courses for numerous continuing education programs, including those at Parkway School District, St. Louis Community College, Chautauqua Institute, and multiple OLLIs nationwide. He is a founder and former secretary of the Elgar Society of North America and co-producer of George Gershwin Alone, Monsieur Chopin, and Beethoven as I Knew Him. Now retired, he previously owned a floor contracting company. He holds a BA from Washington University in St. Louis and an MBA from Emory University.

533: Broadcasting Underground: Rock Music and the FM Radio Revolution

JAMES PAGLIASOTTI

Seven Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

Online

The advent of radio broadcasting in 1920 changed the relationship between traditional media and the audience. Immediate communication with the local community, a reach that soon became national, was made possible. Radio became the dominant source of news, weather, and entertainment in popular culture for 30 years. Then it nearly died. Television replaced radio as the medium of choice. What to do with all that empty air space? Hello, rock 'n' roll. This is the story of how radio recaptured its audience, shaped a generation, and ushered in the classic era of rock music. *This study group has a high class size capacity.*

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: No

James Pagliasotti became the first rock music critic for The Denver Post at age 23, writing about music and counterculture from 1968–1974. His work appeared in Rolling Stone and other publications, and he also worked as a radio DJ in Colorado. He is the author of three books and creator of the Radical Radio archive and newsletter.

535: How To Listen To Jazz (All New!)

ALAN SHERWIN

Seven Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

In-Person

Jazz performances may include lengthy solos that can challenge or baffle listeners. We can compare this to the experience of watching

a game or sport without knowing the rules. Without a handle to grab onto, it can be tedious or confusing. Our experience of jazz can be enhanced by “active listening” skills that can be learned and practiced. A key component is the concept of musical form. When we recognize the form, those lengthy solos become coherent and exciting. We will also explore the roles of the various instruments and the stories behind the artists and compositions. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

New

Class Format: Appreciation

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Alan Sherwin is a saxophonist who performs with a number of DC-area jazz ensembles. He has a strong interest in encouraging “active listening” rather than simply letting the music pass through our ears. This is a skill that can be learned and practiced, revealing hidden depths in the music. With a background in engineering, his other interests include developing software programs for musicians and other applications.

550: Mary Cassatt and the Rise of American Impressionism

ERICH KEEL

Ten Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

Born in Pennsylvania, painter and printmaker Mary Cassatt made Paris her home, where she became a close friend of Degas and the only American to exhibit with the original Impressionists from 1879 to 1886. This course examines Cassatt’s artistic achievements and her role in introducing Impressionism to American artists and collectors. We will also explore how painters in New York, Boston, and Eastern Seaboard art colonies adapted and transformed the movement. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Born and raised in Zurich, Switzerland, **Erich Keel** served as The Kreeger Museum’s Head of Education from 1999 to 2013. He graduated from Emory University with a dissertation on Maurice Merleau-Ponty’s critical theory. His current studies focus on selected themes of European and American art history including symbolism, color theory, and abstraction.

551: Jewelry Through the Ages

DEVON CARAHER

Nine Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 08

In-Person

This class examines the history of jewelry from the ancient world to present day. Jewelry styles are studied and situated within their cultural, social, and political context. Lectures examine how new materials and changing styles of dress informed and inspired the design of jewelry. For instance, students learn why the ancient Romans used chalcedony for cameos, how Baroque pearls dictated Renaissance jewelry design, and why Van Cleef & Arpels first used ruby to invisibly set jewels. Gemology, fashion, material culture theory, and popular culture are all incorporated into class discussions to enhance students’ understanding of jewelry as a form of decorative art.

New

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Devon Caraher holds degrees in history, decorative arts, and gemology, including an MA from Parsons School of Design in conjunction with the Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. She taught at Parsons for nearly a decade, founded DBC NYC, and serves on the board of the Art Deco Society of New York. She is also active in several jewelry history organizations.

560: Learning to Look at Ballet

IRIS LIPKOWITZ

Seven Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 08

In-Person

Ballet is probably the least understood art form. Few colleges offer courses on its history and appreciation for the non-dance major. This course will offer an approach for examining performance factors critical to the understanding of the art form such as technique, the concept of line, coordination of music and movement, expression of character and humor in movement, and choreographic and company style. Participants will view complete ballets and ballet segments which illustrate these factors. This course is appropriate for both balletomanes and novices.

Repeat

Class Format: Appreciation

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Iris Lipkowitz is a retired Treasury Department analyst and ballet lover whose collection of playbills and programs reside at the American University library. She studied dance for many years and has taught ballet history and appreciation courses since 2004. She holds degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of Southern California.

562: How to Develop a Photographer's Eye

BEVERLY LOGAN

Eight Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

Billions of photos are taken every day, but how many of them are compelling? In this class, you will learn the elements that make a photograph engrossing: lighting, color, composition, details, texture, and more. Every week we will study master photographers and you will have assignments which we will critique in class. Use whatever camera you like, including smartphones. The class requires you spend one to two hours a week taking pictures. This class is about taking photographs, not about enhancing images, which is the equivalent of darkroom work with analog images. To learn how to use the camera features of your iPhone, you might want to attend one of the free workshops at local Apple stores.

Repeat

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: No

***Beverly Logan** is an award-winning photographer who received her MFA in advanced photography from Bard College. Her work has appeared in numerous consumer magazines. She is currently represented by the Studio Gallery in Dupont Circle, the Maryland Federation of Art in Annapolis, and the Limner Gallery in Hudson, New York. See more about her at beverlylogan.com.*

568: What's New in Architecture

JEFFREY SWOGER

Ten Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

Online

Since the first course in this series was created, a wide array of new and exciting buildings have been built, are in the process of being built, or have been proposed. In this course, we will meet a host of global architectural firms—familiar faces and new ones. The course will explore emerging and longstanding technologies; buildings that excite, amuse, and nurture interpersonal connections; environmental issues; social engineering; energy conservation; and the influence of the global elite. Lively discussions of the architecture and the trends it presents will enrich the student experience. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

***Jeffrey Swoger** studied architecture and graphic design in St. Louis and Chicago and developed a lifelong interest in architecture and urban design. Living in Chicago during the rise of several iconic skyscrapers,*

he later worked with architects and real estate developers as a designer and created the logo for the Chicago School of Architecture Foundation.

573: Art Fraud

SHELDON TRUBATCH

Seven Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

In-Person

Art fraud and forgery have existed for centuries. This discussion group begins with an overview of traditional art forgers and their motives, then examines more recent cases and how they compare. We will explore advances in forgery detection, efforts to identify and prosecute forgers, and the growing role of AI in detecting—and creating—fake art. Numerous artworks will be used to illustrate the discussion.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

***Sheldon Trubatch** has led this study group for five years at the University of Arizona OLLI. He was a physics professor, a law school professor, and recorded several lectures on continuing legal education subjects.*

585: America's Great Illustrators Illustrate a Great America

CHRISTINA FLEPS

Seven Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

This course will explore memorable moments in American history and culture as depicted by some of the nation's greatest illustrators, such as Howard Pyle, N.C. Wyeth, Maxfield Parrish, and many others.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

***Christina Fleps** is a retired lawyer with lifelong interests in writing, singing, dancing, reading, and especially art history. Inspired in childhood, she continued studying art history through school and extensive travel, exploring museums around the world. She has served as a docent at the National Gallery of Art and as an art lecturer at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase. She enjoys sharing art history with others and learning from their insights.*

589: American Colonial and Federal Furniture:

 1650–1840

OSCAR FITZGERALD

Eight Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

Why does early American furniture look the way it does? This course traces the evolution of American furniture styles from the 17th century through the early 19th century, from Jacobean and William and Mary to Queen Anne, Chippendale, Federal, and Empire. We will place each style in its historical and cultural context, explore regional variations, and examine special topics such as Windsor chairs and the work of country cabinetmakers. The course concludes with a tour of the Kaufman furniture collection at the National Gallery of Art.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Oscar Fitzgerald, PhD, taught all the American furniture history classes of the Smithsonian and the George Washington University MA program in decorative arts. His American Furniture: 1650 to the Present is the standard textbook in the field. He lectures widely, including presentations to appraisers, collectors, museums, and colleges.

596: Comedy—Selected Origins and Highlights

ABE VORENSKY

Five Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

Online

Through the ages, what are the many things that have made us laugh? This course highlights the subject of comedy, dating back to ancient Greece and the Hebrew Bible. Topics will include theories on what makes us laugh, vaudeville, film, radio, and television, along with a class detailing stand-up comedians who learned the craft entertaining in nightclubs and hotels. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Abe Vorensky possesses a lifelong love and depth of knowledge of comedy, specifically of its diverse history. This love began when Abe worked as an MC in a Catskill Mountain hotel where he sang, told jokes, and introduced other entertainers. Through the years, Abe has remained an enthusiastic humor and comedy historian, focusing on how comedy has played a role in our personal, social, and political thought.

598: America Through Film



ELIZABETH KING

LEONARD KING

Ten Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

In-Person

The films chosen for this course highlight some of the themes, experiences, and conflicts in American history and culture. The themes are: the promise of freedom, immigration, abuse of power, racial conflict, fighting back, and identity. The films (subject to change) are: *Ragtime, Lincoln, Wall Street, Wag the Dog, Come See the Paradise, The Front, Norma Rae, Selma, My Family, and Dances with Wolves*. Members are expected to see the films before class.

This study group has a high class size capacity.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

*Betty King taught science, mathematics, and computer education for 31 years at Maret School before co-teaching with Leonard. After teaching 43 years at Maret School, **Leonard King** has taught study groups at OLLI on film history and analysis, European history and ideology, China's history, nonviolence, and moral dilemmas.*

600 LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

How Literature and Drama Can Illuminate Politics and Government

JAMES VERDIER

Ten Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

For study group description and bio, see 199.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

600: Beginning Italian: Part 2

DAVID FLAXMAN

Ten Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

In-Person

In the spring, we launched a beginning Italian class that was focused on an initial exposure to the Italian language, with a particular emphasis on the vocabulary and phrases that travelers to Italy are most likely to find helpful. We will build on that foundation using the same conversational approach, incorporating slides, videos, and opportunities for participants to answer simple questions in Italian.

There are some occasional grammar lessons. This semester, we may add some short reading assignments. Those who missed Part 1 are encouraged to review the class videos and/or presentation slides, which will be provided by the study group leader.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

David Flaxman's first career was as a computer scientist who brought many new technologies and systems into the world. He now spends his time as a musician and teacher performing with numerous choral groups around DC and teaching classes in music and Italian at OLLI.

601: Conversation Avancée

MICHELE SPITTLER

Ten Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

Ce groupe d'études est pour des étudiants qui ont un niveau d'université intermédiaire/avancé. Une participation intensive des étudiants est très importante. On continuera le livre de vocabulaire: Vocabulaire progressif du français Perfectionnement C1C2 (Claire Miquel; ISBN 978-2090384536), ainsi que des articles d'actualité et un film vu en classe. En début de session, les étudiants recevront un plan de travail. Les discussions porteront aussi sur l'actualité politique, culturelle et artistique du monde francophone.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Michèle Spittler, née à Besançon, a enseigné le français pendant plus de 50 ans, notamment à National Cathedral School, à Washington Latin Charter Public School et à l'Alliance française. Ancienne consultante pour le College Board en AP French Language and Literature, elle donne aujourd'hui des cours particuliers et s'intéresse particulièrement à l'histoire, à l'art, à la cuisine et aux questions sociales et politiques du monde francophone.

602: French Conversation Advanced

CAROLINE FARRELL

Seven Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:00 PM)

September 30

Online

This class features conversation with attention to mastering complex structures and increasing vocabulary. The class presupposes a fairly high level of French. **Members registering for this course for the first time are kindly requested to contact Caroline Farrell before the lottery at caroline67bling@gmail.com. This study group meets for an hour and 15 minutes from 1:45-3:00 PM.**

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Caroline Farrell holds an honors BA from the University of Toronto in French, German, and history and an MA (ABD) in French literature from Princeton University. She has taught French at the University of Kansas, within the Canadian government, the Department of National Defense, and at the Royal Military College, Kingston. For the past 16 years, Caroline has taught French at the Kingston Senior Center.

603: Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français

ELAINE FÉRAT

Ten Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Ce cours est conçu pour les étudiants qui possèdent un niveau de compétence orale déjà avancé. Il est composé d'éléments divers, par exemple, des discussions sur les événements de la semaine, des visites culturelles, voyages, critiques de films et de livres; opinions personnelles sur une variété de sujets; présentations individuelles (PowerPoint ou autre) sur des sujets choisis par les étudiants; des exercices de grammaire et vocabulaire; puis d'autres activités de groupe. Les devoirs hebdomadaires sont envoyés par email.

Before registering, all new participants are required to contact Elaine Férat at ecferat1@gmail.com to set up an oral interview.

Repeat

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Elaine Férat has over 30 years of experience in teaching French. She is a retired member of the language faculty at Johns Hopkins University SAIS, offers private lessons, tutors all levels, and is a freelance translator.

606: Intermediate German: Part V

MARTHA CUTTS

Ten Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

As a continuation of previous semesters, this study group will focus primarily on Friedrich Dürrenmatt's *Der Besuch der alten Dame*. The citation for the Schiller Prize that Swiss author Dürrenmatt received in 1959 referred to him as the most significant playwright in Germany at that time. We will, as always, continue to work on speaking, writing, and understanding spoken German. Class members may purchase a used copy of the 1957 edition we will use, or purchase an enlarged photocopy of the play available from the OLLI office. *This study group may have a copied materials fee between \$5-20. If this is the case, the fee will be collected in class.*

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Martha Cutts majored in German at Mount Holyoke College. After teaching English in a German school for a year, she earned a Master of Arts in Teaching (German) at Yale University. She taught German for decades before becoming a full-time school administrator. She has taught German here at OLLI since September of 2022.

607: Low Intermediate Spanish for Enthusiastic Learners

CAROLINA ACLAN

SILVIA GARZOLI

Ten Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

During the course, we will read stories and articles written by native Spanish speakers to build confidence in your understanding of complex texts and improve your vocabulary. Participants should be familiar with the use of the verbs “ser/estar,” and the following tenses: “tiempo presente,” “tiempo pasado indefinido” (amé, temí, viví), “tiempo pasado imperfecto” (amaba, temía, vivía), and “tiempo futuro.” Additional tenses will be covered during the course. By the end of the course, learners will: 1) Demonstrate understanding of the main points of reading assignments; 2) Write short paragraphs; and 3) Describe experiences, events, and opinions. Active participation will be encouraged.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Carolina Aclan has a master's degree in instructional design. She loves teaching and has worked in training and development at the Inter-American Development Bank, developing and offering courses for at least 10 years.

Silvia Garzoli, a retired physical oceanographer, holds a doctoral degree in physics and has extensive experience in teaching and research at Columbia University and NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

608: Spanish Level 1: Part III

JULIA MEADE

Nine Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 16

In-Person

Building on previous semesters, this study group will further build and strengthen Spanish Level 1 grammar and vocabulary. The class will read aloud short “cultural snapshots” of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will participate in interpersonal communication by exchanging information, observations, and opinions with others. We will continue developing practical communicative skills that can be applied to everyday situations.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Julia Meade is a native Spanish speaker. She holds BA and MA degrees in philosophy and educational science from the University of Barcelona. She has more than 30 years of experience teaching and tutoring Spanish in private schools in Washington, DC. She began teaching Spanish at OLLI in the fall of 2025.

609: La Revolución Mexicana en el Arte, el Cine, la Literatura, y la Música

RAYSA AMADOR

MONICA GRIGERA

LIZ REILLY

Seven Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 01

In-Person

This course explores how the Mexican Revolution (1910–1920) sparked a cultural renaissance that reshaped Mexico's national identity by embracing its Indigenous roots, rural life, and artistic expression. We will examine these changes through Mexican Muralism, the work of writers such as Nellie Campobello, Mariano Azuela, Octavio Paz, Elena Poniatowska, Juan Rulfo, and Carlos Fuentes, and through corridos, the folk ballads that chronicled the revolution and its leaders.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Raysa Amador, a native Spanish speaker, has four decades of experience teaching at the university level.

Monica Grigera, a native Spanish speaker, has taught from kindergarten to college, from Patagonia to Pennsylvania.

Liz Reilly, a fluent Spanish speaker, spent her childhood in Latin America and worked in Madrid for five years.

610: Intermediate Italian

LOUIS EVANGELISTA

DAVID FLAXMAN

Ten Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

This is the continuation of the Intermediate Italian group that has been together for several years. In this class we will read and discuss articles from *Corriere della Sera* and chapters from a short story book. We expect to be using the Edilingua book, *Italo Calvini*. The focus is on conversational Italian, with the occasional grammar lesson.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Lou Evangelista is a native Italian with significant teaching experience.

David Flaxman's first career was as a computer scientist who brought many new technologies and systems into the world. He now spends his time as a musician and teacher performing with numerous choral groups around DC and teaching classes in music and Italian at OLLI.

611: Reading Sanskrit

DON ROSS

Ten Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

In-Person

The object of this course is to enable participants to decipher ancient Sanskrit texts with the aid of translations. The aim is not to achieve mastery of ancient Sanskrit, but to understand its structures well enough to read the original alongside a translation and recognize how the Sanskrit gives rise to the translated meaning. We will be reading the *Katha Upanisad*. It is one of the shortest Upanisads, and is definitely the most delightful.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Don Ross received his BA in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his MA from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include material on ancient philosophy, both East and West. He has many years of work in the original languages—Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit.

612: Italian: Beginner Level 1

ELISA EVANGELISTA

LOUIS EVANGELISTA

Seven Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

This course is designed for individuals who want to learn, understand, and speak Italian. It provides an immersive environment in which participants are encouraged to take risks without fear of making mistakes. Participants will be encouraged to speak out loud, formulate simple sentences, work on pronunciation, and gain a basic understanding and use of the spoken language. Grammar will be taught in association with conversations and as speakers gain confidence and proficiency in speaking.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Elisa Evangelista taught Italian at the high school level and was a teacher overseas for 23 years teaching English language acquisition in an international school.

Louis Evangelista worked overseas for over two decades in a multi-cultural and multi-lingual environment and taught in an MBA program. Both Elisa and Louis are native Italians.

613: Latin for Developing Translators

DIANA SMITH

Ten Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

In-Person

This course is intended for those who have completed *Wheelock's Latin* or the equivalent. We will read excerpts from a wide range of Latin authors—prose and poetry, classical and medieval—and will aim to develop fluency and accuracy in translating. We will continue to review all the grammar with a focus on the more complex constructions. Homework will be assigned, but all work is, of course, voluntary. **For those who have not been in the previous OLLI Latin classes, but who have had some Latin in days of yore, please contact Diana Smith at desdian@gmail.com for permission to join in the fun!**

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Diana Smith worked as a teacher and administrator for 35 years in secondary schools. Most recently, she served as the principal of Washington Latin Public Charter School since 2008. She has a BA in classics from Princeton and a PhD in English from the University of Virginia.

615: Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene

HANNE CARAHER

Eight Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

Online

Können Sie sich auf Deutsch unterhalten? Kennen Sie die Grundregeln der deutschen Grammatik? Wenn ja, dann sind Sie ein guter Kandidat fuer diese Klasse. Wir werden uns auf Deutsch unterhalten, Audios hoeren, ausgesuchte Texte uebersetzen, und auch Grammatik ueben. Dies ist eine kleine Klasse mit hoechstens zehn Teilnehmern. Hausaufgaben (jede Woche eine oder zwei Stunden) werden korrigiert. **Neue teilnehmer: Bitte senden sie vor semesteranfang eine e-mail an hcaraher@verizon.net mit ihrer telefonnummer.**

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: No

Hanne Caraher graduated from the University of Heidelberg, Germany, with the equivalent of a master's degree in conference interpreting and translation.

621: Enjoying *The New Yorker* Together

JOHN FOSTER

Nine Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

Online

Readers outside New York will enjoy *The New Yorker's* in-depth reporting, its commentary on current issues, and its articles and reviews on many other topics. The short stories, memoirs, and poems are also notable, as are the covers and, of course, the cartoons. Class sessions consist of two 40-minute sessions on items from issues of the magazine between August 1 and November 30, 2026. Each class member leads at least one session on an item of his/her choice, perhaps giving background or raising a few questions, but leaving ample time for discussion. Some OLLI members have taken the study group several times. Enjoy an open, friendly atmosphere, where conversation can flourish.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

John Foster is Professor Emeritus of English at George Mason University, where he taught modern, comparative, and world literature. Before coming to George Mason in 1983, he lived and studied in several countries, including France, Germany, Italy, and China. A longtime OLLI participant and Study Group Leader, he has taught courses on Russian literature and drama and now leads discussions exploring the many features of The New Yorker.

630: Reading the *Iliad* in Translations

LINDA COLEMAN

Nine Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

Online

This course offers a careful and detailed reading of Homer's *Iliad*, exploring both the epic itself and the challenges of translating an ancient, highly formulaic work for modern audiences. Discussion will examine story structure, characters, themes, language, and translation choices. Participants will read an English translation of their choice and compare it with a second translation. Recommended editions and guidance on selecting translations will be provided before the course begins. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: More than 3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Linda Coleman began her studies as a classics major before earning a PhD in linguistics from the University of California, Berkeley. Recently retired from the University of Maryland, she taught courses on the history and structure of English, rhetoric, discourse analysis,

and literature, as well as ancient literature and retellings of the Trojan War across the centuries.

631: Understanding Families Through Plays

KAREN GAIL LEWIS

Eight Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Participants will read four plays. We will start with Neil Simon's *Lost In Yonkers*. Then, we will read Lillian Hellman's *Little Foxes* (sequel to *Another Part of the Forest*). Our third play will be the ground-breaking *Raisin in the Sun*, by Lorraine Hansberry. We will end with a little-known play, *The Unavoidable Disappearance of Tom Durnin*, by Steven Levenson. We will discuss each play for two weeks, focusing on family-related themes, i.e., family/sibling relationship, gender roles, multi-generational patterns, and gender issues. This is an interactive class. Reading plays beforehand will enrich class participation. Order plays early.

New

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Karen Gail Lewis has been practicing family therapy for over 50 years and has authored numerous books and professional articles about marriage, gender relationships, singles, and adult siblings.

644: The Poetry of Robert Frost

JESSE DRAPER

Ten Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Robert Frost, the winner of four Pulitzer Prizes for poetry, was almost certainly the best-loved American poet of the 20th century. Poems like "Mending Wall," "The Road Not Taken," and "Stopping by Woods on a Snowing Evening" have been staples of high school English instruction for decades, loved for their apparent clarity and folksy wisdom. But Frost was more complicated than a superficial reading of his poems indicates, and the relationships that he observed between individuals and nature, and among individuals, could be complex and often dark. Reading selections will include poems from his entire career, both lyric and narrative. Throughout the course, the focus will be on reading and understanding individual poems.

New

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Jesse Draper earned a PhD in English literature from the University of Virginia, specializing in early 20th-century American literature, with a focus on William Carlos Williams. During a 44-year career as a computer scientist, he also led reading groups on English and American classics

and Shakespeare. This will be his fourth OLLI course, following previous courses on Wallace Stevens and T.S. Eliot.

646: Poetry Craftshop: Neither the Clothing of Things nor the Nakedness of Things (Section A)

JENNY PIERSON

Ten Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 12:30 PM)

September 29

In-Person

This course is for serious poets with experience in reading and writing poems. In this generative craft shop, we will read the cinematic, lengthy poems by Larry Levis, alongside the short Rumi-like poetry of Gregory Orr. Both offer distinctive views of looking at our inner and outer worlds, with a sense of the ephemeral. They will guide us in our discussions of form, craft, and voice. Each week, I will offer prompts based on our readings. Your original poems will then be read and discussed in class and returned to you with my comments. Discussion is central to our understanding. **This study group meets on Tuesdays from 9:45 AM to 12:30 PM.**

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Jenny Pierson has taught poetry workshops at OLLI for over 20 years. She writes daily and holds an MFA. She advocates for the unwanted, reads obsessively, and has been a farmer and a traveler.

647: Poetry Craftshop: Neither the Clothing of Things nor the Nakedness of Things (Section B)

JENNY PIERSON

Ten Wednesdays (12:45 PM - 3:00 PM)

September 30

In-Person

This course is for serious poets with experience in reading and writing poems. In this generative craft shop, we will read the cinematic, lengthy poems by Larry Levis, alongside the short Rumi-like poetry of Gregory Orr. Both offer distinctive views of looking at our inner and outer worlds, with a sense of the ephemeral. They will guide us in our discussions of form, craft, and voice. Each week, I will offer prompts based on our readings. Your original poems will then be read and discussed in class and returned to you with my comments. Discussion is central to our understanding. **This study group meets on Wednesdays from 12:45 to 3:00 PM.**

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Jenny Pierson has taught poetry workshops at OLLI for over 20 years. She writes daily and holds an MFA. She advocates for the unwanted, reads obsessively, and has been a farmer and a traveler.

648: Star-Crossed: Doomed Romances

ROBERT CROOG

Ten Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

Online

We find tragic romances irresistible. It's no surprise that *Romeo and Juliet* is one of Shakespeare's most frequently performed plays. This course will cover a host of stories of tragic love (beyond Shakespeare) from all sorts of different cultures. We will stop and focus on one play in particular: *The Bride of Lammermoor* by Sir Walter Scott. It's one of Scott's lesser known works, but worth reviewing. While we learn about these various tragedies, both fictional and real, we will be asking why we find these sad stories so compelling, even enjoyable.

This study group has a high class size capacity.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Robert Croog received a BA from Harvard and a JD from Columbia. He is a retired intellectual property lawyer and former professor of communication, writing, media law, and ethics. At OLLI he has taught courses on skepticism and truth denial, war and morality, the underworld, the Trickster, and mother goddesses.

649: Children's Book Writing Workshop

ANDREW HILLER

Seven Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

Have you ever told a story to your child or grandchild—one they keep asking you to repeat? Have you ever thought, maybe this could be a book? In this workshop, author Andrew Hiller will guide you through the steps to take your concept or oral story to a finished product. We will discuss rhyming versus non-rhyming books, use of language and vocabulary, page spreads, and illustrations. Most importantly, by the end of the session, you will create a book dummy. Note: You need not be an artist or illustrator to take part.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Andrew Hiller has written for public radio, the Muppets, and the New York stage. A bestselling humorist, his work has been recognized by Amazing Stories Magazine and BFF. He is also the author of the children's book Pitter Patty Finds Another Day and is known for his lively and humorous presentations.

650: Genre Writing Workshop

ANDREW HILLER

Seven Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

When writing genre fiction, how do you create a world that feels real and grounded enough to excite not only imagination, but empathy? How do you create characters who do not exist in our lives, yet whom readers can relate to? In this interactive workshop, we will focus on writing speculative fiction (science fiction, historical fiction, mystery, fantasy, and horror). Each session will be divided into three parts: 1) lecture/discussion, 2) writing, and 3) sharing/critique. Participants may work on new pieces inspired by prompts or their own ongoing projects. Particular attention will be paid to what makes opening pages compelling, characterization, and world-building.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Driven by curiosity, Andrew Hiller's stories often begin with a "huh?" or a "ha!" A longtime reporter and producer for public radio and an award-winning author, he won Escape Pod's 2022 Flash Fiction Contest and placed second in Amazing Stories' 2023 Reader Choice Awards. His novel, A Halo of Mushrooms, was selected as a 2019 Best Book by BFF. His latest book, a Jewish fantasy noir, was published in 2026.

654: "Which Part Don't You Believe?" — The Child Narrator in Holocaust Film

LESLYE FRIEDBERG

Eight Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

Online

In this course, we will to analyze the nature of semi-autobiographical films narrated by children, and the many accompanying questions which arise from this popular sub-genre of Holocaust film. We will discuss these stories in terms of how memory, distance, imagination, and fairy tales shape the childhood experience and the resulting stories (films) which are all created, of course, by adults. As most of these films are based on novels, we want to discuss the novel along with the film adaptation: beginning with Giorgio Bassani/Vittorio De Sica's *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis* and Philippe Grimbert/Claude Miller's *Un Secret*. Class members must watch films before each class meeting. **This study group has a high class**

size capacity.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Leslye Friedberg, Professor Emeritus, taught writing and humanities

courses at Community College of Philadelphia. Recently, she has been teaching courses on Holocaust films through OLLI and Gratz College.

655: The Novels of Cormac McCarthy

RONALD PARLATO

Eight Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

In-Person

This course will study the most important works of author Cormac McCarthy, a relatively unknown writer, but one of America's best and most influential. A storyteller with deep philosophical roots, he portrays the essence of human nature, its survivalism, its violence, and its ambition within an historical and socio-cultural context.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Ron Parlato has taught literature courses at OLLI for more than ten years, including classes on Shakespeare, Conrad, Lawrence, Tennessee Williams, and the Russian short story. Before retiring, he worked as an international development consultant in more than 60 countries. A graduate of Yale University with majors in English and French literature, he has also studied more than ten languages.

656: 250 Years of American Poetry: Voices of Resistance and Echoes of the Land

REBECCA FAYE

Eight Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

Online

This course explores the evolution of American poetry through the lenses of social justice and ecocriticism. Students will examine how poets—from Indigenous storytellers and enslaved writers to modern voices—have used verse to challenge oppression and engage with the American landscape. Tracing developments from pre-colonization to the 21st century, the course considers what defines American poetry and reveals a literary tradition shaped by both the pursuit of freedom and a complex relationship with the land.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Rebecca Faye has been teaching creative writing and English composition for two decades. She has served as an editor for a variety of regional and institutional literary magazines, and contributes to poetry performance events on the East Coast. She is currently researching the rise of female illustrators at the beginning of the 20th century, particularly in the realm of children's books.

657: Charles Dickens' *Little Dorrit*

LESLIE FRANTZ

Eight Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

Little Dorrit, written 1855-1857, tells the story of ordinary people who are able to maintain their integrity and kindness in the face of troubling social pressures. An inefficient and self-serving government, a cruel and vengeful religious sect, unjust official punishments, and a corrupt financial world, are just a few of the obstacles that face the hero and heroine of this story. We will look at the novel's literary and historical context, as well as its structure, themes, and unique Dickensian humor and style.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Leslie Frantz has a master's degree in English literature from Georgetown University and taught in the Continuing Education department for over 20 years. Her undergraduate degree is in both Russian and Chinese history. She has taught many courses on English literature for OLLI.

684: Dark Hearts: A "Deep Dive" into Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*

DAVID REID

Eight Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 07

In-Person

For millennia, the tragedy of human struggle and conflict have generated powerful art. This discussion-based course will take a detailed look at the 1979 film masterpiece that is Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*. As this film approaches its 50th anniversary, its message has renewed relevance to us as Americans. We will watch the 2001 "Redux" version of the film in class, consider the details, and supplement the discussion with readings: Joseph Conrad's classic *1902 Heart of Darkness* (upon which the film was loosely based) and Colum McCann's 2025 novel *Twist*—another sort of "deep dive," which brings Conrad's (and Coppola's) themes jarringly into the present.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

David Reid is a recently retired English professor who taught writing and literature at Xavier University for 28 years. He holds a PhD in linguistics from the University of South Carolina, has taught ESL in Japan, and has a special interest in literature and films about the Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan wars. He is excited to participate in OLLI for the first time.

690: Dickens's *Bleak House*

ELLEN MOODY

Ten Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

Online

We'll read Dickens' masterpiece in the context of his life and career as a reformist author and editor of the influential magazines *Household Words* and *All the Year Round*. We will also read two Gothic ghost stories, "The Signalman" and "The Haunted Man." The course will explore the development of mystery and detective fiction, Dickens' relationship with Wilkie Collins, the novel's original serial publication, and the role of Phiz's illustrations. Participants will be encouraged to watch two BBC adaptations that enrich the reading experience.

New

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Ellen Moody taught in senior colleges from 1972-2011 and for over 12 years at two OLLIs. She is a published scholar with specialties in British literature, film, and women's studies. Her most recent publications and talks have been about Anthony Trollope and Jane Austen.

696: The Many Ages of Wisdom

PETER STARR

Eight Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 07

Online

Do we accrue wisdom with age and experience or is "older but wiser"—as one commentator has put it—"a pat, self-flattering phrase in the psychological thesaurus of aging narcissists"? And how does our answer to this question depend on what we consider to be wisdom in the first place? After an introduction to the extensive philosophical, psychological, and neuroscientific literature on the association of wisdom with life experience, we will examine how that association is treated in three outstanding literary works—Lin-Manuel Miranda's *Hamilton*, Ian McEwan's *Atonement*, and Louise Erdrich's *The Night Watchman*.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Peter Starr is Professor of Literature Emeritus at American University, where he served as Provost and as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Prior to joining AU in 2009, he taught for 24 years at the University of Southern California, serving two years there as dean. The author of several book-length studies, he currently blogs on wisdom and culture at Wiscult.com.

700 HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

The Battle for Christ: Christianity's First 500 Years

JACK DALBY

Five Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 01

Online

For study group description and bio, see 842.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

707: The Rise and Fall of Napoleon Bonaparte

DAVID COFFMAN

Ten Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 30

In-Person

This course covers the life of Napoleon Bonaparte, who prior to his defeat and exile, rose from modest circumstances in Corsica to rule France from 1799 to 1815 and build a European empire spanning from Spain to Poland. Particular emphasis is placed on the question of whether Napoleon bore primary responsibility for the ruinous wars that marked his reign or whether those wars were the fault of European monarchs who had continually fought the French republic before he became ruler. The course covers his formative influences, military campaigns, administrative reforms, impact on Europe, and the decisions that led to his downfall.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

David Coffman is a retired federal administrative law judge with a lifelong interest in European history. Judge Coffman is a graduate of Southern Methodist University, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, and of Harvard Law School. He served in the US Army, where he attained the rank of first lieutenant and received a Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious service as commander of a detachment of Army correspondents in Vietnam.

708: Restoring the American Story



ROBERT GREENBERG

Eight Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

Online

The class will trace how the principles of America's founding were shaped by the influence of the Hebrew Bible, viewed as a political document, and fused with ideas from the Enlightenment. We will

follow this history from the role of the "Black Robed Regiment"—networks of Protestant clergy who used the story of the Exodus as a rallying cry for independence—through the abolitionist movement and the Civil Rights Movement. Along the way, we will examine how these ideas helped shape notions of civic virtue and how those ideals eroded over time. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***
New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Robert (Bob) Greenberg is the founder and CEO of G&H International Services, Inc. For more than 30 years, he has advised federal, state, and local governments on community resilience and national security initiatives, including projects developed after 9/11. He has also been active in efforts supporting women's sports and at-risk youth and is currently co-authoring Covenant and Constitution as part of an initiative to "Restore the American Story."

709: The USA at 25: A Young Republic, the European Empires, and New Revolutions



GORDON BROWN

Eight Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 01

In-Person

The greatest foreign policy challenge facing the newly formed United States after 1790 was managing relations with the European powers, who, as a result of the French Revolution, had embarked on a decades-long and world-wide struggle for supremacy. When the revolutionary tide reached the European colonies in the Western Hemisphere, our untried and militarily weak leaders struggled to protect American interests and our neutrality, while still providing some support to the revolutionaries. The class will explore the strategic, political, and commercial issues facing our leaders as they dealt with the European powers and revolutionary leaders from Haiti, Mexico, and South America from 1790 to 1825.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Gordon S. Brown is a retired diplomat who, since his retirement, has authored half a dozen books, most of them on early United States history. During a 35-plus year Foreign Service career focused on the Middle East, he served in a variety of senior management positions and was Ambassador to Mauritania.

718: Morocco: A Cultural History

LISA HARPER

Eight Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

The aim of this course is to provide a comprehensive introduction to Morocco—its history, geography, current politics, religious life, languages, plastic arts, crafts, music, cuisine, and tourist attractions. Morocco is a fascinating kingdom where two continents, ancient civilizations, and modern political issues converge, yet it remains little known in the US. The course is geared to past and future travelers. The approach will be relaxed, and discussion will be encouraged. The course material will be presented through slides and video clips.

This study group has a high class size capacity.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Prior to teaching at OLLI, Lisa Harper spent 45 years working for the Central Intelligence Agency as an operations officer and later as a senior manager. Although she never served in Morocco, she has been visiting the country for 60 years and has owned a house in Tangier for 20 years. She has lectured previously at OLLI on Morocco in French, and she is repeating this course with revisions in English.

719: The American Revolution:



An Intellectual and Social History

TOMMY LAMONT

Nine Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

Online

This course approaches the American Revolution from a modern, less traditional perspective. Rather than centering on the period's familiar military history, we will look at how people in Britain's North American colonies absorbed and shaped new ideas about liberty, equality, and identity. These ideas, and the social, economic, and cultural shifts they fueled, may have been even more transformative than the establishment of a new government in the late 18th century.

Repeat

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Tommy Lamont taught US and Eurasian history for nearly 40 years at leading independent boarding schools in North America. She holds a master's degree from the University of Oxford, where she studied colonial North America and the American Revolution in the context of the British Empire and Atlantic world. Drawing on years of teaching and living in New England, she hopes this course will deepen participants' understanding of this pivotal period in history.

720: A Brief History of Modern India

TOMMY LAMONT

Ten Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 30

Online

This course will examine the history of India since roughly 1500, with particular attention paid to the slow and tragic decline of Indian society during the 18th and 19th centuries, and then its painful but successful re-emergence in the 20th and 21st centuries. Several popular Hindi films will be our entry point to learning this fascinating and important history and will, hopefully, also help students better understand India, the world's most populous democracy, an emerging economic power, and the cradle of so many of the world's most important religious and spiritual traditions. A subscription to Netflix or Amazon Prime streaming services is highly recommended, though not required.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Tommy Lamont has taught history for nearly 40 years at leading US independent boarding schools. Since teaching in India during a sabbatical in 2008, she has developed and taught courses on modern Indian history, along with subjects including US, European, Chinese, and world history. She continues to travel regularly to India to deepen her understanding of the country's history and culture.

727: Washington's Soldiers—How They Fought, Lived, and Forged American Values & Beliefs



ROBERT RICHARDSON

Seven Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

In-Person

This course tells the stories of who the soldiers were and how they lived and fought during the Revolution. It provides insight into the origins of what we now call American values and beliefs. Many of these stories come from the soldiers' own journals and accounts, while others were recorded by postwar officials, ministers, and medical personnel who marched—and sometimes fought—alongside them. The emphasis is not on dates and battlefield strategy but on how Americans thought, what influenced them, how they fought, and how they survived. We will also consider how their experiences and ideals continue to influence American values and beliefs today.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Rob Richardson is a retired educator and education consultant who has led student tours of Washington, DC focused on American history and values. He served for six years as a docent at the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati and previously managed K–12 STEM education programs for the Intel Foundation. He holds degrees from Tufts University and the Harvard Graduate School of Education and has taught as an adjunct professor at Worcester State University.

730: Imprisoned Without Trial: Japanese Incarceration in WWII

DENNY KATO

Five Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

Online

Imagine that the laws and executive orders affecting Japanese Americans during World War II found their way into current events. From the perspective of a third-generation Japanese American (Sansei) whose family had 17 members incarcerated in three different camps, participants will learn how anti-Japanese prejudice led to the imprisonment of more than 120,000 people—two-thirds of them US citizens—for nearly four years. From the courage of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team to the Coram Nobis cases, we will examine life in the camps and explore what these sites are like today.

This study group has a high class size capacity.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Denny Kato has spent more than a decade researching the history of Japanese American incarceration camps during World War II, including visits to all ten major camp sites. He has presented lectures for OLLI programs nationwide and at institutions, including the Harriet Beecher Stowe House and the Japan America Society.

733: The American Civil War and the Destruction of Slavery

WALTER KAMIAT

Ten Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 29

Online

The American Civil War transformed American society, most dramatically by destroying slavery, the deeply entrenched and brutal institution that had been one of the nation's most powerful political and economic forces since its founding. Although the class will include some review of the war's military history—by far its most studied aspect—it will focus primarily on the events, forces, and developments that transformed the conflict from a war to preserve the Union into a struggle that ultimately led to the abolition of slavery. Readings and lectures will draw on a variety of primary and

secondary sources, offering multiple perspectives on this pivotal period in American history. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: More than 3 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Walter Kamiat is a retired labor-union attorney whose work included labor and constitutional litigation. He was a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and served as a visiting professor at Georgetown University Law School. He has previously offered an OLLI class entitled “The Coming of the Civil War.”

739: China's 20th-Century Revolutions

HOWARD SPENDELOW

Ten Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

This course starts with a review of China's two-millennium imperial legacy, then reviews the 1911–1912 “revolution” that established the Republic of China. It next focuses on Chiang Kai-shek's attempts to consolidate power after 1928, the challenges posed by the Communists in Yan'an, Japan's 1937 invasion/occupation, the Civil War (1945–1949), and the tumult of the post-1949 Communist period. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Howard Spendelow earned a BA in government from Oberlin College and an MA in Chinese regional studies and PhD in history and east Asian languages from Harvard University. He taught history at Georgetown University and served as Chair of the Advanced Area Studies Seminar on China at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute.

740: Japan's Early History to the 1868 Meiji Restoration

HOWARD SPENDELOW

Ten Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

This course covers the formation of Japan's social, political, and intellectual culture, including the formation of Japan's distinctive identity and the tensions between centrifugal and centripetal forces. We will also examine changes in Japan's relationship to East Asia, and by the 16th century, the rest of the world. The course ends with the collapse of the last of the shogunal/military governments in the 1860s and the restoration of imperial rule, paving the way for Japan's “modernization” in the 19th and 20th centuries. ***This study group***

has a high class size capacity.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Howard Spendelow earned a BA in government from Oberlin College and an MA in Chinese regional studies and PhD in history and east Asian languages from Harvard University. He taught history at Georgetown University and served as Chair of the Advanced Area Studies Seminar on China at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute.

741: Reconstruction: From 1863 to Now



KAREN STEWART

Ten Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

In-Person

Recent Supreme Court decisions and stories on election results indicate that we need to revisit this important time from the Civil War. This course will include efforts from newly freed men, republic radicals, and ordinary citizens to help understand the reasons the Civil War was fought.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Karen Stewart has been teaching courses on African American history at OLLI for close to a decade. She developed an interest in this topic in the Peace Corps and followed it in depth in retirement. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Public Health. She was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi and Congo.

744: Nuremberg: The Trial and the Legacy

EDWARD FEINBERG

Ten Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

In-Person

The Nuremberg Trials sought to bring Nazi leaders to justice for mass murder and other crimes. This study group examines the trials, their outcomes, and their lasting impact. Topics include the creation of the tribunal, the role of Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson in leading the American prosecution, the defense of "just following orders," the Nuremberg Code, and new principles of international law. We will also explore obedience to authority, the role of bystanders, moral disengagement, and the relevance of Nuremberg to contemporary conflicts, with ample opportunity for discussion and reflection.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Ed Feinberg, PhD, is a retired psychologist who previously led the OLLI study group "Survivors and Descendants of the Holocaust." He provided clinical services to children and families, taught as adjunct faculty at several area colleges and universities, and has been an active OLLI member for eight years. This course was developed with assistance from Jacob Phillips of a Washington, DC-based human rights organization.

764: Five Empires, Five Centuries

ELIZABETH SHELTON

Ten Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

In-Person

What do Sultan Mehmet II, Catherine the Great, Prince Metternich, Napoleon, and Martin Luther have in common? Their lives intersected with the complex relationships among five great European empires—Ottoman, Habsburg, French, Russian, and British. This course surveys 500 years of diplomacy, conflict, and cultural exchange from 1400–1900, exploring the roots of the "Eastern Question" and the forces that shaped relations among these empires. By examining key figures and events, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the historical foundations of today's East–West relations.

This study group has a high class size capacity.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Elizabeth W. Shelton retired from the State Department after a career of nearly 30 years as a Foreign Service Officer. She served in Thailand, Malaysia, Nigeria, Turkey (both in Istanbul and Adana in the southeast), Azerbaijan, the UN, and Albania. She earned a doctorate of liberal studies at Georgetown University.

773: The Erie Canal: A Story of Water and Gravity

BUCK BEASOM

Four Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:45 AM)

November 05

Online

This course traces the story of the canal that connected the Atlantic coast to the Great Lakes and transformed the young United States. Built at a time when there were no professional civil engineers in America and western New York was still considered "the frontier," the canal became the 19th-century equivalent of a superhighway. From its ambitious beginnings to its completion in 1825 and beyond, the course explores how the canal reshaped trade, migration, and American society, influencing movements such as Abolitionism, Women's Suffrage, and religious revivalism. The America that emerged in its wake was profoundly shaped by its impact.

This course meets for two hours from 9:45-11:45 AM.

This study group has a high class size capacity.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Buck Beasom teaches courses for OLLI chapters nationwide. His career included four decades in data management and applications development, along with teaching business, accounting, economics, and history. He holds a BS in management science, history, and economics, as well as an MBA in accounting.

786: Remembering *It's a Wonderful Life*

CANDACE THURMAN

Eight Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 29

In-Person

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the release of an American classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*. One of America's favorite holiday movies, it is ranked among the top 20 movies by The American Film Institute. This study group will focus on the inspiration, creation, and remembrance of the film. It will highlight the heroic efforts of some of the key players, such as Frank Capra and Jimmy Stewart who were coming off war service before the making of the film. It will also cover upcoming activities in "the real Bedford Falls," an annual commemoration held in Seneca Falls, NY each December. We will end with an optional field trip to see the biopic, *Jimmy*, due to be released in November, 2026.

New

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Candace Thurman earned degrees from American University and Georgetown University and taught high school social studies in Montgomery County Public Schools for 35 years. She has also coached field hockey since 1980. This is her ninth time leading an OLLI study group and her first on this topic.

787: Exploring the History of the Amazon

XENIA WILKINSON

Eight Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

Conservation of the vast Amazonian rainforests and river system is vital to the future of the planet. The actions of human societies in the Amazon produced dramatic transformations that challenge the viability of the tropical eco-system. This study group will explore man in the Amazon, starting from European contact and the conquest of indigenous people. Turning to the post-colonial era, we will examine the Amazon rubber boom, and recently, the aggressive development of the rainforests. We will analyze the impact of environmental

devastation and struggles to conserve the ecosystem. We will base our discussions primarily on readings from *Tree of Rivers: The Story of the Amazon*, by John Hemming.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Xenia Wilkinson is a retired Foreign Service Officer who served as Environment and Science Counselor at the US Embassy in Brazil, where she developed her interest in the Amazon. After retiring, she earned a PhD in Latin American history from Georgetown University, focusing on the Amazon rubber boom during World War II. She has also led OLLI study groups on Mexican history and US Manifest Destiny.

790: Montgomery (County) Montage: A 250-Year History

RALPH BUGLASS

Eight Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 09

In-Person

This year marks not only the nation's semi-quincentennial, but also the 250th birthday of neighboring Montgomery County in Maryland, home to many OLLI members. Although the locality is a diverse, progressive spot today, historically it was a very different place in all sorts of ways. Topics to be covered include archeological sites in the county, its pre-Civil War southern orientation, post-Civil War Black communities, transformative post-World War II boom, and national connections and landmarks, with a concluding, lighter session on movies and music. Lectures will feature an array of historical photographs, maps, and other images. Several sessions will feature guest speakers.

New

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Ralph Buglass is a frequent speaker for Montgomery History and recently delivered a keynote address on Montgomery County's 250-year history. A retired communications professional and longtime study group leader, he holds degrees from Cornell University and American University and has taught at the OLLI at Johns Hopkins University, Montgomery College, and Oasis.

794: Six Situations that Shaped Our Nation

MARION CONNELL

Eight Thursdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 01

In-Person

In the aftermath of the American Revolution, a number of key incidents helped to shape the development of our national

government and sought to reconcile differences among the states. Bonds forged between the founders often determined policy outcomes, many of which remain in effect today.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Marion Connell graduated from Mount Holyoke College with an AB in political science and philosophy. She has a master's in public administration plus over 30 years experience in local, state, and federal government. Marion has lectured in the School of Public Affairs at American University.

798: 0 Canada! The History and Culture of Our Northern Neighbor

ELLEN STANTON

Eight Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

September 28

In-Person

Interested in learning more about Canada? If so, please join our class for a wide-ranging overview of Canada's provinces, territories, government, history, and culture. We will explore Canada's diverse regions, their distinctive characteristics, and the historic events that helped shape them. The class will explore Canada's natural resources, stunning landscapes, favorite sports, and notable people. Leading the week seven class for a discussion of current events, French-Canadian retired Army Colonel Bob Chaloux will share his experiences and insights.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Ellen Stanton served as an educator at the US Capitol Visitor Center and as lead historical interpreter at George Washington's Mount Vernon. For several years, she was chair of the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission. For more than ten years, she has facilitated classes at the OLLI programs at the University of Denver and American University. Ellen is a graduate of Manhattanville College and received an MSW from the University at Albany, SUNY.

800 PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

805: Meditation Class

JOSEPH REO

Eight Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 28

In-Person

This course provides a weekly opportunity to develop a regular meditation practice in a supportive group setting. Whether you are new to meditation or have years of experience, all are welcome. Each class will include guided meditation using a variety of styles, followed by discussion and reflection on the experience. Members who wish to lead a session later in the course will be encouraged to do so, but participation is entirely optional.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Joseph Reo holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and was an adjunct instructor at George Washington's School of Exercise Science where he taught meditation, massage, and sports massage for more than 10 years. He currently teaches meditation and massage with various adult-education companies and is a licensed massage therapist with an active practice in Northwest DC.

806: Medical Qigong

JOSEPH REO

Eight Fridays (9:45 AM - 10:45 AM)

October 02

In-Person

This class will introduce the practice and medical benefits of Chinese Qigong, or Chi Kung, the centuries-old method of "healing movement." We will exercise together, blending action, breathing, and imagination, to physically energize the body and promote overall well-being. Through rhythmic movement, relaxed breathing, and mental focus, we'll practice simple forms together as a group, to stimulate and heal specific organs and organ-systems in the body. The easy-to-perform, simple "mudras" will gently release tight muscles, soften ligaments, and coax the lengthening of tendons, which can diminish joint pain and improve balance. Exercise modifications will be shown, when requested.

Note: before participating in any exercise program, participants should check with their doctors to ensure that there are no contraindications, special considerations, or limitations from a medical standpoint. This study group meets for one hour, from 9:45 to 10:45 AM.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: No

Joseph Reo holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and was an adjunct instructor at George Washington's School of Exercise Science where he taught meditation, massage, and sports massage for more than 10 years. He currently teaches meditation and massage with various adult-education companies and is a licensed massage therapist with an active practice in Northwest DC.

829: An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Time

CHRISTOPHER HUDSON

Ten Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

This seminar offers an in-depth exploration of the phenomenology and metaphysics of time. It reviews leading theories of time from philosophy, Eastern and Western spiritual traditions, physics, cosmology, psychology, neuroscience, sociology, and public policy. Drawing on the group leader's recent book, *Navigating Time: Toward an Interdisciplinary Theory*, the seminar examines time as a trifecta of consciousness, change, and the timeless, while exploring strategies for developing both personal and societal time competence. The course takes a multi-perspective approach, combining participant discussion, brief lectures, audiovisual materials, and other seminar activities.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Christopher G. Hudson is Professor Emeritus of Social Work at Salem State University. A former clinical social worker and psychotherapist, he taught in MSW programs for more than 30 years, with teaching and research focused on mental health policy, homelessness, and complex systems. He has held academic appointments in the US and abroad, including as a Fulbright Fellow, and is the author of several books and numerous journal articles.

831: Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation

JEFFREY DROBIS

SUSAN DROBIS

Ten Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 29

Online

In this study group, you will learn practical skills to rewire your brain, fostering greater happiness and compassion. Mindfulness enhances our capacity for managing anxiety, stress, intense emotions, and uncertainty, and it increases our capacity to experience deep fulfillment. We will practice techniques that we have learned from Shinzen Young to use both in sitting meditation and everyday life.

Sessions will include instruction, guided meditations, and group discussion. No reading is required, but class members should plan to practice meditation on their own for at least 10 minutes most days. This study group is appropriate for both beginners and experienced meditators and those who have taken this class before.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Susan Drobis, a retired psychotherapist, and **Jeffrey Drobis**, a retired MD, have practiced meditation for 30 years. Their teacher, Shinzen Young, draws on traditional Asian practices but is consciously secular and contemporary. Susan has been teaching mindfulness for 25 years, and Jeffrey has led meditation study groups at OLLI since 2015.

834: Mindfulness Meditation Intermediate Level

JEFFREY DROBIS

Ten Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

September 28

Online

This study group is similar to another offering, "Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation." It is intended for persons who have taken that course or other study groups with me. **If you have not worked with me, but have significant experience with meditation and are interested in this offering, please contact me at jeffdrobis@gmail.com.** Classes will include instruction, extensive guided meditations, and discussions. Assignments will include guided meditations from the Waking Up App and other sources which will be available to class members free of charge.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Jeffrey Drobis, a retired MD, has practiced meditation for 30 years. He has trained as a facilitator with his teacher, Shinzen Young, and leads regular group meditations on the telephone. He has taught at OLLI since 2015. The mindfulness techniques that he teaches draw on traditional Asian practices but are consciously secular and contemporary.

835: Exploration of Eastern Thought

CARL WEICHEL

Eight Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)

October 01

Online

Eastern philosophies and religions embody many virtues that we in the West find alluring: introspection, gentleness, sensitivity, fortitude, and connection with mind and body. Sikhism in India, Jainism in India, Taoism in China, and Buddhism in India, Tibet, and Southeast Asia hold these virtues, but each is quite different in its

ideas, practices, and histories. Using historical references from the Axial Age (800–200 BCE), we will explore the ethics, cosmology, and theology that comprise unusual religious philosophies. We will delve into the sacred texts, symbols, images, and practices/rituals, plus the culture, politics, and sociology of each through current times. There will be ample time for class discussion.

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Recorded: Yes

Carl Weichel has worked in marketing, design, and advertising in Australia, South Africa, Canada, and the United States. Since 2015, he and his wife, Kimberly Weichel, have lectured and led study groups for OLLIs and other lifelong learning programs in the US and abroad. His OLLI courses have explored topics including political polarization, the 1960s, culture, and contemporary thought.

842: The Battle for Christ: Christianity's First 500 Years

JACK DALBY

Five Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 01

Online

Christianity's rise in the Roman world was far from preordained. This class examines how, over its first 500 years, Christianity grew from a small Jewish sect into the official religion of the Roman Empire. Topics include the historical Jesus, Paul of Tarsus, the inclusion of gentiles, the separation from Judaism, Roman attitudes toward Christianity, persecution, early worship practices, the cult of Mary, Constantine's conversion, and the Council of Nicaea. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

Repeat with revisions

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Recorded: Yes

Jack Dalby is a retired business owner. For the past 15 years, he has lectured on the topics of Christian origins and the historical Jesus with the Osher Lifelong Learning programs at George Mason University, the College of William and Mary, Carnegie Mellon University, Drake University, and American University.

861: The Bible as an Anthology of Primary Texts Chronicling the Evolution of Thought from the Bronze Age to the Axial Age

DON ROSS

Ten Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

October 02

In-Person

This course will examine the values and patterns of thought reflected in the earliest portions of the Hebrew Bible—the so-called J and E sources, which date to the tenth century BCE. It will then trace how these ideas were challenged and reshaped by major thinkers of the Babylonian Exile, including Second Isaiah (Isaiah 40–55) and Ezekiel, before concluding with an exploration of the new worldview presented in the Book of Jonah.

New

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Don Ross received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his master's from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include articles on ancient and medieval philosophy. He has also done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.

862: Hellenistic Philosophy

DON ROSS

Ten Fridays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

October 02

In-Person

The purpose of this course is to explore the philosophical schools of the Hellenistic period. These include the Epicurean, Stoic, and Skeptic schools.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Recorded: Yes

Don Ross received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his master's from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include articles on ancient and medieval philosophy. He has also done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.

889: Contemporary Issues in Medical Ethics

ROBERT OLICK

Eight Wednesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

September 30

In-Person

This introduction to medical ethics provides an interdisciplinary framework for examining questions about informed consent, confidentiality, end-of-life decisions, medical aid in dying, allocation of scarce medical resources, organ donation, and the use of human tissues in research. Classes will emphasize interactive, case-based discussion. Readings average 20 pages or less per week and will generally be distributed by email.

Repeat

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Recorded: No

Robert S. Olick, JD, PhD (philosophy and bioethics) has taught medical ethics for more than two decades as a member of the faculties of SUNY Upstate Medical University and the University of Iowa Colleges of Medicine and Law. His approach to bioethics is interdisciplinary, drawing on training and experience in law, bioethics, and public policy.

FALL ASSIGNED BOOKS

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
107	Threats to American Democracy: 1776-Present	<i>Democracy in America</i>	Alexis de Tocqueville	978-0226805368	University of Chicago Press	Recommended
180	Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens	<i>The U.S. Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction</i>	Linda Greenhouse	978-0197689462	Oxford University Press	Recommended
200	Understanding Trauma's Role In Conflict	<i>Making Peace with Conflict: Using Neuroscience to Ease Difficult Relationships</i>	Jeanine Hull	978-1649701909	IngrahamSpark	Required
		<i>Nonviolent Communication</i>	Marshall B. Rosenberg and Deepak Chopra	978-1892005281	PuddleDancer Press	Recommended
		<i>Fight Right: How Successful Couples Turn Conflict Into Connection</i>	Julie Schwartz Gottman and John Gottman	978-0593579657	Harmony	Recommended
		<i>The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma</i>	Bessel van der Kolk	978-0143127741	Penguin Books	Recommended
492	RNA: The Versatile and Indispensable Molecule	<i>The Catalyst: RNA and the Quest to Unlock Life's Deepest Secrets</i>	Thomas R. Cech	978-1324110873	W. W. Norton	Recommended
550	Mary Cassatt and the Rise of American Impressionism	<i>Mary Cassatt: A Life</i>	Nancy Mowll Mathews	978-0300077544	Yale University Press	Recommended
589	American Colonial and Federal Furniture: 1650–1840	<i>American Furniture: 1650 to the Present</i>	Oscar P. Fitzgerald	978-1442270381	Rowman & Littlefield Publishers	Recommended
600	Beginning Italian: Part 2	<i>Complete Italian Grammar (Practice Makes Perfect) (Italian Edition)</i>	Marcel Danesi	978-0071603676	McGraw-Hill	Required
601	Conversation Avancée	<i>Vocabulaire progressif du français. Niveau perfectionnement C1C2</i>	Claire Miquel	978-2090384536	CLE INTERNAT	Required
606	Intermediate German: Part V	<i>Der Besuch der alten Dame</i>	Friedrich Dürrenmatt	978-3257230451	Houghton Mifflin Company	Required
608	Spanish Level 1: Part III	<i>Encuentros 1 Comunicación Y Cultura</i>	José A. Blanco	978-1543334920	Vista Higher Learning, Inc.	Required
610	Intermediate Italian	<i>Italo Calvino</i>	Edilingua	978-9606930713	Nuans	Required
611	Reading Sanskrit	<i>Sanskrit Manual: A Quick Reference Guide to the Phonology and Grammar of Classical Sanskrit</i>	Roderick S. Bucknell	978-9359038001	Motilal, Banarsidass Publishers	Required
644	The Poetry of Robert Frost	<i>Robert Frost: Poems, Prose, and Plays</i>	Robert Frost, Poirier and Richardson (Editors)	978-1883011062	Library of America	Recommended

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
646 & 647	Poetry Craftshop: Neither the Clothing of Things nor the Nakedness of Things (Section A & B)	<i>The Darkening Trapeze: Last Poems</i>	Larry Lewis	978-155977276	Graywolf Press	Required
655	The Novels of Cormac McCarthy	<i>The Caged Owl: New & Selected Poems</i>	Gregory Orr	978-1556591778	Copper Canyon Press	Required
		<i>All The Pretty Horses</i>	Cormac McCarthy	978-0679744399	Vintage	Required
		<i>Blood Meridian</i>	Cormac McCarthy	978-0679728757	Vintage	Required
		<i>Children of God</i>	Cormac McCarthy	978-0679728740	Vintage	Required
		<i>Cities of the Plain</i>	Cormac McCarthy	978-0679747192	Vintage International	Required
		<i>The Crossing</i>	Cormac McCarthy	978-0679760849	Vintage	Required
		<i>The Road</i>	Cormac McCarthy	978-0307387899	Vintage	Required
657	Charles Dickens' <i>Little Dorrit</i>	<i>Little Dorrit</i>	Charles Dickens	978-0141439969	Penguin Classics	Required
684	Dark Hearts: A "Deep Dive" into Francis Ford Coppola's <i>Apocalypse Now</i>	<i>Heart of Darkness and Selections from the Congo Diary</i>	Conrad, Joseph	978-0375753770	Modern Library	Required
		<i>Twist: A Novel</i>	Colum McCann	978-0593241752	Random House Trade Paperbacks	Required
690	Dickens's <i>Bleak House</i>	<i>Bleak House</i>	Charles Dickens	978-0199536313	Oxford World Classics	Required
696	The Many Ages of Wisdom	<i>Atonement</i>	Ian McEwan	978-0385721790	Anchor Books	Required
		<i>The Night Watchman</i>	Louise Erdrich	978-0062671196	Harper Perennial	Required
707	The Rise and Fall of Napoleon Bonaparte	<i>Napoleon: A Life</i>	Andrew Roberts	978-0143127857	Penguin Books	Recommended
733	The American Civil War and the Destruction of Slavery	<i>Freedom National: The Destruction of American Slavery in the United States, 1861–1865</i>	James Oakes	978-0393347753	W. W. Norton & Company	Required
		<i>Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era</i>	James M. McPherson	978-0195168952	Oxford University Press	Recommended
		<i>The Fall of the House of Dixie: The Civil War and the Social Revolution that Transformed the South</i>	Bruce Levine	978-0812978728	Random House	Recommended
739	China's 20th-Century Revolutions	<i>Revolution and Its Past: Identities and Change in Modern Chinese History</i>	R. Keith Schoppa	978-0205726912	Routledge	Recommended
740	Japan's Early History to the 1868 Meiji Restoration	<i>Premodern Japan: A Historical Survey</i>	Mikiso Hane and Louis G. Perez	978-0813349657	Routledge	Recommended
787	Exploring the History of the Amazon	<i>Tree of Rivers: The Story of the Amazon</i>	John Hemming	978-0500514016	Thames and Hudson	Required

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
794	Six Situations that Shaped Our Nation	<i>Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation</i>	Joseph J. Ellis	978-0375705243	Vintage Books	Required
806	Medical Qigong	<i>The Healing Art of Qi Gong: Ancient Wisdom from a Modern Master</i>	Master Hong Liu and Paul Perry	978-0446673471	Grand Central Publishing	Recommended
829	An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Time	<i>Navigating Time: Toward an Interdisciplinary Theory</i>	Christopher G. Hudson	978-1035367061	Edward Elgar	Recommended
861	The Bible as an Anthology of Primary Texts Chronicling the Evolution of Thought from the Bronze Age to the Axial Age	<i>The Hidden Book in the Bible</i>	R. E. Friedman	978-0061952753	HarperCollins	Required
862	Hellenistic Philosophy	<i>The Bible with Sources Revealed</i> <i>Essential Epicurus</i> <i>On the Nature of the Universe</i>	R. E. Friedman Epicurus Lucretius and Ronald Melville	978-0061951299 978-0879758103 978-0199555147	HarperCollins Prometheus Oxford	Required Required Required

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