

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



Web: www.oli-dc.org | **Phone:** 202-895-4860 | **Email:** oli@american.edu

Location: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016

Mail: 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016

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UPDATES

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OLLI AT AU

We know that most of our members come to us thanks to recommendations by their friends. Please help us grow our community by posting the below on Facebook and your local listservs:

February and Spring Courses at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at AU

Join us at OLLI at American University, a community that embraces curiosity and lifelong learning, for our upcoming February and spring academic sessions. Members "50 and better" gather to enjoy a wide array of courses ranging from politics to poetry, including music, art, science, history, literature, philosophy, and more. Enjoy the flexibility of both online and in-person classes and recordings, as well as a weekly lecture series and social events. **Registration for both our February Shorts and our spring semester is open.** Visit oli-dc.org for more information.

STAFF WORKING REMOTELY

The OLLI staff is currently working remotely. We can still be reached by email at oli@american.edu or by phone at 202-895-4860.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

The February Shorts and spring semester registration is open! OLLI is continuing to offer classes in three formats: **in-person**, **online**, and **hybrid**. The format for each course is listed online and in the print catalog. When registering for a hybrid class, you must select 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 12 classes for the lottery. As always, the lottery will then assign you to up to three classes.

FEBRUARY SHORTS

The February Shorts will be held for two weeks: February 5-9 and 12-16. Each Short course runs for 2-5 days during one of the two weeks. You may register for up to three courses in the lottery for the \$100 fee. **Your courses do not have to be all within the same week. After the lottery, once you receive your class assignment letter, you can add additional courses—as many open courses as fit in your schedule—by logging into your OLLI account!** To take more courses, you can even stack several within the same time slot. For example, if you have a course scheduled for February 5-7 (Mon-Wed) at 11:45 AM, you can add another that meets February 8-9 (Thu-Fri), also at 11:45 AM, instead of having to choose between the two.

Make sure to register before the February Shorts lottery on Thursday, January 18.

[VIEW CLASSES AND REGISTER](#)

SPRING SEMESTER

The spring semester is March 4–May 10. Courses meet for a varying length of time (see each study group for the number of weeks). The membership fee remains \$300 and hasn't been increased since fall 2017; the fee allows you to sign up for three courses in the lottery. After the lottery, when you have received your class assignment letter, you can add a **fourth study group** by logging into your account.

Make sure to register before the spring lottery on Tuesday, February 20.

[VIEW CLASSES AND REGISTER](#)

CATALOG CHANGES

Below are changes made to classes after the catalog went to print. Class changes are also available on the [spring catalog changes](#) page of the OLLI website and are updated as they occur.

- **788 *Fateful Documents***: This study group will now meet IN-PERSON.

GIVE THE GIFT OF OLLI

This holiday season, give your friend or family member a gift certificate for an

academic session at OLLI. Contact the office at 202-895-4860 for more information.

GIFT



VOUCHER

FOR:



www.oli-dc.org | oli@american.edu | 202-895-4860

EVENTS



WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

Monday, January 29

In-Person Tour | 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Registration Required; Tickets \$30/person

Join us for a fascinating behind-the-scenes private tour of Washington National Cathedral. This is their most popular guided tour! Discover the Cathedral's hidden stories as you marvel at the building's artistry and engineering. Journey through stone stairwells and passageways to see stained glass windows up close. Step out secret doors to witness magnificent views from the heights.

Note: this tour is not for those with fear of heights or those with limited mobility. Be prepared for close quarters, stair climbing, and heights.

Registration is limited to the first 15 people that sign up. Ticket price is \$30/person for this event. This event will occur regardless of rainy weather. Tickets are non-refundable.

MORE INFO & REGISTER



MOZART CELEBRATION

January 26 | 1:30 PM

In-Person at OLLI in Room A

Join City Choir's Artistic Director Erin Freeman and singers from the 2023 Wolf Trap Opera Studio for a Mozart celebration! Erin Freeman will take you behind the scenes of the monumental C minor mass, an epic opera-meets-chorus masterpiece. You'll also be treated to a few Mozart arias performed by the

soloists for City Choir's January performance - rising stars of the opera world trained most recently at Wolf Trap Opera, and hand selected by Erin Freeman and Arianna Zukerman. There will be a Q and A after the performances, followed by a reception. **Registration is required.**

REGISTER

LECTURES

LOCATION

January lectures will be held **online via Zoom Webinar** from **10:00-11:00 AM**.

RESERVATIONS

Reservations are not required for any online lectures We will send the Zoom link the morning of each lecture to those subscribed to the newsletter.



NEXT WEEK'S LECTURES

Craig Gilbert, *A Look at America's Ultimate Swing-state: The Presidential Battleground of Wisconsin*

Monday, January 8 | 10:00-11:00 AM

Online

Craig Gilbert is a political columnist for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and a Lubar Fellow at the Marquette Law School. Gilbert served as the Journal Sentinel's Washington Bureau Chief for more than 20 years. He has covered every presidential campaign since 1988 and chronicled Wisconsin's role as the nation's most enduring electoral battleground. Gilbert has written extensively about the battle for the swing states of the industrial Midwest, the region's shifting political map, its increasingly polarized political culture, and the deepening urban-rural divide. His work has been recognized by *Editor & Publisher*, the National Press Foundation, the National Headliner Awards, the Milwaukee Press Club, and the *Columbia Journalism Review*, which called him the "most political science friendly reporter in America."

Gilbert was a Knight-Wallace fellow at the University of Michigan and a writer in residence at the University of Wisconsin. He is a past and current fellow at the Marquette Law School's Lubar Center, where he works with pollster Charles Franklin, analyzing polling and voting trends. Gilbert previously worked for the *Miami Herald*, the *Kingston (NY) Daily Freeman*, and was a

speechwriter for New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. He has a BA in history from Yale University.



Dee Davis, *Rural America and the 2024 Election*

Thursday, January 11 | 10:00-11:00 AM

Online

Dee Davis is the founder and president of the Center for Rural Strategies. Dee has helped design and lead national public information campaigns on topics as diverse as commercial television programming and federal banking policy. Dee began his media career in 1973 as a trainee at Appalshop, an arts and cultural center devoted to exploring Appalachian life and social issues in Whitesburg, Kentucky.

Dee is on the board of the Kentucky Historical Society. He is a member of the Rural Advisory Committee of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Fund for Innovative Television, and Feral Arts of Brisbane, Australia. He is also a member of the Institute for Rural Journalism's national advisory board. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Institute for Work and the Economy. Dee is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship. Dee is also the former Chair of the board of directors of Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute 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*.

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Location: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW

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Tony Long, *Executive Director*

Lesley Diaz, *Director of Academic Programming*

Lisa Olson, *Director of Operations and Projects*

Jesse Williams, *Operations Manager*

Sara Beatty, *Programs and Projects Coordinator*

Amya Bertrand, *Administrative Coordinator*

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