

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



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FEBRUARY 9, 2024

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UPDATES

NOMINATIONS FOR OLLI'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In April, OLLI members will elect four members to the OLLI Board of Directors. The Nominating and Elections Committee will prepare a slate of nominees for Board approval that will be placed on the general election ballot for the membership to consider.

The committee welcomes recommendations from the membership identifying potential nominees, including oneself. Directors are elected for one three-year term, with the opportunity to run for a second consecutive term.

When considering a recommendation, please keep in mind the expectations for OLLI Board Members. Directors are expected to make every effort to attend Board meetings and are expected to support OLLI's development efforts. Ours is a working Board of Directors; in addition to their participation at Board meetings, members are also expected to participate in other OLLI activities, e.g., SGL Luncheons, Town Halls, and the Annual Meeting. During the duration of their term, Directors must retain their OLLI membership. Board members may serve as Chairs of Committees, although this is not required. Committee membership is, however, strongly encouraged.

To submit a recommendation, please provide the name of the individual along with one or two paragraphs (not more) on the person's background, OLLI involvement, and your reasons for recommending them. Please send these written recommendations to olli@american.edu no later than **Friday, March 1**. Announcement of the nominees selected and approved by the Board will be presented in the OLLI Newsletter. To self-nominate and run as an "at-large" candidate, please submit a petition that includes the signature of a minimum of ten OLLI members by **Friday, April 5**. The OLLI offices will provide petition forms and instructions to anyone wishing to self-nominate.

REMINDERS

SHARED BUILDING SPACE

As we share our building with other AU departments, there are sometimes events and celebrations put on by other organizations. As a reminder, **if you see food or drinks outside of a classroom or in the hallway, please do not help yourself to them unless it has been specifically advertised as being for OLLI members.**

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

IMPORTANT FEBRUARY SHORTS INFORMATION

The second week of February Shorts begins on Monday, February 12. **As a reminder, please only attend the classes for which you are registered.** Below is important information on the Shorts courses.

Hearing Loops

All of the classrooms at OLLI have hearing loops installed. "Hearing loops" are state-of-the-art "Listening Assistive" technology. The system both amplifies the speaker's voice and suppresses background noise. We urge everyone who has hearing loss to take advantage of the hearing loops. The sound is remarkable. It's as if the person speaking is sitting right next to you. [View detailed information.](#)



Access Your Online Class

If you accidentally delete the daily e-mail with your class Zoom link, or cannot find it again, you can access the Zoom link for each of your classes by logging into your OLLI member account on the [website](#). The first page to come up will be your account page, which lists your classes (see image below). Under each class you will find the Zoom link for that class. Click the link to go into your class at the specified time. If you leave this page and need to get back, simply click your name (hyperlinked in blue) at the top of the page. [View a video tutorial.](#)

For tips and instructions on how to use Zoom, click [here](#).

Welcome Lesley! | [Back to Superuser](#) | [Logout](#) | Text Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

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> [Home](#) > [My Account](#)

MY ACCOUNT

- My Account
- Edit Account
- Update Volunteer Interests
- Text Messaging

Overview

Thank you for registering. You'll find a summary of your shorts courses below. If you'd like to volunteer with OLLI, please [update your volunteer interests](#).

MY FEBRUARY SHORTS 2024 SHORTS COURSES

Registration for the February Shorts 2024 ends 2/2/2024
[View All Shorts Courses](#)

You may register for up to 5 shorts courses. You have 4 choices remaining.

[Add a Shorts Course](#)

Courses	Status	I want to:
9100 : 2022-2023 Russo-Ukrainian War February 5-7 9:45 – 11:15 AM Class Format: Online Zoom URL: https://ollidc.org.zoom.us/j/99000920919?pwd=UjVocckpHcE91NVhLb3dHN2VrS2xaUT09	Registered	Drop this class

Keep Your Zoom Up to Date

Please be sure Zoom is up-to-date on your device before the start of your online class. Zoom's lifecycle policy took effect on Saturday, February 3, so if you did not update Zoom before then, you will be unable to join your class. You can update and download Zoom [here](#).

ACCESS CLASS HANDOUTS & RECORDINGS

Most classes during the February Shorts and spring semester will be recorded. One of the benefits of taking classes during a particular session is access to all class recordings for that session. [February Shorts recordings](#), as well as [February Shorts handouts](#), are listed under "Classes," then "Shorts" on the OLLI website (see image below). [Spring recordings](#) and [handouts](#) will be listed under "Classes," then "Semesters/Minis." Each day's recordings during the Shorts are added the same day. You must first [log in to your member account](#) in order to view the recordings. Recordings are available for viewing up until two weeks past the end of each session.

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[Join Email List](#)

Types of Classes

- Shorts [View/Register February Shorts](#)
- Semesters/Minis [February Shorts 2024 Handouts](#)
[February Shorts 2024 Recordings](#)
- Catalog Archive
- Digital Library
- Become an Instructor

Register...

Shorts are two weeks:
February 5-9 & 12-16.

Choose your lottery selections before
Wednesday, January 24. They do not
have to be all within the same week.

[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, once 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.

- **619 *Le Polar: Le Genre Policier Francais***: This study group will now begin on March 15.
- **681 *What's New in the Essay***: This study group will now have *The Best American Essays 2023* by Vivian Gornick as a required reading.
- **685 *August Wilson's American Century Cycle***: This study group will now meet on Fridays at 11:45.
- **690 *Everybody's Protest Novel***: This study group has been CANCELLED.
- **788 *Fateful Documents***: This study group will now meet IN-PERSON.



TEACH A SUMMER COURSE!

If you are passionate about a topic, we invite you to share your talents by leading an OLLI at AU course (or study group, as we call them). **We are currently accepting June and July study group proposals** from within the OLLI membership, the Washington, DC community, and thanks to Zoom, from those outside of the area, as well. **With the shorter sessions, the summer is a great time to get started at OLLI and "dip your toe" in the teaching waters!**

To propose a summer study group, please click one of the links below. You will need to log in with your OLLI username/password or create an account if it's your first time.

June June 3-28 (classes meet once a week for 4 weeks)

Proposal form: <https://www.oli-dc.org/studygroupproposalform>

July Shorts: July 8-12 (classes meet 2-5 times that week)

Proposal form: <https://oli-dc.org/shortsproposalform>

Submission deadline for both sessions: Sunday, April 7.

Know someone who may like to teach? Forward him or her this information or let us know by emailing oli@american.edu.

A Few OLLI Teaching Basics

- **Class formats and lengths are flexible.** You can teach in-person or online, from two sessions to a full 10-week study group. Each class session is 90 minutes during one of three time slots (9:45 AM, 11:45 AM, or 1:45 PM).
- **OLLI is primarily a volunteer-led organization** and instructors (study group leaders) teach on a volunteer basis. SGLs can take free classes during either the session in which they teach or the following comparable session. They are also provided a parking stipend, given recognition at OLLI's study group leader luncheon, and have access to AU's Bender Library.
- **OLLI has three types of academic programming:**
 - Fall** (Sept-Dec) and **Spring** (Mar-May)—study groups meet once a week for 7-10 weeks
 - February Shorts** and **July Shorts**—study groups meet 2-5 times over the course of one week
 - June Minis**—study groups meet once a week for 4 weeks
- **A study group leader orientation** is offered to new SGLs before they teach for the first time. It's a 90-minute session offered online and led by OLLI staff and current SGLs.

Who Teaches at OLLI at AU?

Our teaching ranks include active and retired academics, doctors, lawyers, teachers, psychologists, AU professors, and more—all with an amazing range of experience and backgrounds. Our unique learning community sets our program apart for many who lead study groups. Members bring their diverse life experience to the classroom for an invigorating learning environment. It is learning for the simple joy of learning with no tests or grades.

Develop Your Own Course

Subject areas include: Politics, Law & Government; Psychology, Sociology & Culture; Economics & Personal Finance; STEM (Science, Tech, Engineering, and Math); Arts & Music; Language & Literature; History & Geography; and Philosophy & Religion.

Explore [past courses and catalogs](#) for ideas. Talk with a Curriculum

Committee member in charge of your area of interest. Try a short course.

Test your idea.

For more information about teaching at OLLI, or to connect with a Curriculum Committee member, please visit [Become an Instructor](#) on the OLLI website or contact the office at olli@american.edu or 202-895-4860.

VOLUNTEER

SGR COORDINATOR

Are you interested in volunteering with OLLI from the comfort of your own home? Become an SGR Coordinator for the spring semester! SGR Coordinators recruit Study Group Representatives (SGRs) for each class in a given academic session to ensure the classes run smoothly. Some Study Group Leaders select their own SGRs, but for the rest, SGR Coordinators are provided a list of members who have expressed interest in being SGR for each study group, or the attendance list if there

are no volunteers. Coordinators then call members before classes start in order to find an SGR for each study group. For the upcoming academic sessions, SGR Coordinators will begin making calls after the lottery. This role operates on a continuous basis, so if you are unavailable for spring, but are interested in summer or fall, please let us know! Sign up online https://www.oli-dc.org/get_involved (you must be logged into your account) or contact the office at oli@american.edu with any further questions.

EVENTS



JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER TOUR

In-Person Tour

Saturday, March 2 | 11:30 AM-12:45 PM

Registration Required

Meeting Point: Tour Desk located on Level A at 11:15 AM

OLLI is pleased to offer a group tour at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC. Don't miss this intriguing tour of the original Edward Durell Stone building, featuring exclusive access to performance venues, private reception lounges, and special artworks. Our tour ends at the new performance exhibition Arts and Ideals: President John F. Kennedy, which explores how the arts infused and informed the Kennedy presidency through video, photos, artifacts, and the latest in digital technology.

REGISTER

OLLI HAPPENINGS

FINAL CALL FOR ACTORS!

A small coterie of OLLI playwrights is putting on a reading of their four short plays this spring. They are looking for actors (we are especially short some males) of all skill levels and backgrounds. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, send emails to Joe Oppenheimer (joeaoppenheimer@gmail.com) and Chuck Jones (cjones1860@gmail.com). **Auditions will be held on Tuesday, February 13 from 1:00 to 4:00 at 4801 Mass. Ave. in Room 4.** You would be committing to a few rehearsal times and a performance date in mid-March to mid-April. Rehearsals may be arranged with your schedules in mind. Contact Joe or Chuck for more info. (plot summaries, roles, etc.)

AU EVENTS

AU ARTS

Infinite Geometries: Exploring the Arts of the Medieval Islamic World

Dr. Joanne Allen, Art History professor at American University

Reception: February 16 | 5:30-7:00 PM (Remarks at 6:00 PM)

On view in the Katzen Arts Center Rotunda from January 22-March 1

This exhibition comprises drawings, oil and watercolor paintings, intaglio and relief prints, and fabrics based on the art history of the medieval Islamic world, in particular the Great Mosque of Córdoba, the most complex, decorative, and awe-inspiring building in early medieval Western Europe. [Learn more.](#)

AU CENTER FOR ISRAEL STUDIES

Trauma and Recovery: From Fiction to Life

2024 Israeli Writers Series: Conversation with Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

Monday, February 19 | 7:00-8:30 PM

American University: Abramson Family Founders Room, School of International Service Building

[RSVP](#)

Please join American University's Meltzer Schwartzberg Center for Israel Studies for an exciting evening in conversation with award-winning Israeli author Ayelet Gundar-Goshen and AU Professor Lauren Strauss. Her new novel, *The Wolf Hunt*, is an exploration of the fault lines in a community, a school, and a family, as an Israeli mother in the Silicon Valley begins to suspect her teenage son of committing a terrible hate crime as a revenge for a terror attack on a local synagogue. Please join us for the conversation, followed by dessert reception with book sale/signing! Co-sponsored by Jewish Studies Program and Department of Literature.

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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Jesse Williams, *Operations Manager*

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