

HELPFUL LINKS

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Newsletter



American University

4801

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

August 1, 2025

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UPDATES

OLLI CLOSURE

OLLI will be **closed the week of August 11-15**. We will resume operations and return phone calls/emails starting **Monday, August 18**. Please note that staff will still be working remotely through Labor Day.

WELL WISHES AND CONGRATULATIONS!

Please join us in wishing Amya Bertrand all the best as she embarks on an exciting new chapter in Arizona—her dedication and sense of humor will be greatly missed. At the same time, we're thrilled to congratulate Annabel McClure on her well-deserved promotion to OLLI Programs and Projects Coordinator.

STAFF WORKING REMOTELY

The OLLI staff is currently working remotely for the most part, **through Labor Day**. We are still reachable by email at olli@american.edu or by the office phone at 202-895-4860, except during the week of August 11-15 (see above).

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING



FALL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration is now OPEN on the OLLI website for the fall semester! 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.

The fall catalog is in the mail!

Look for a copy in your mailbox soon. In the meantime, check out our classes and register online.

REGISTER

NEW MEMBER 10% DISCOUNT

Are you, or someone you know, new to OLLI or thinking about coming back after taking a break? Use the button below to register for the fall semester or share it with a friend. A 10% discount will be applied for those who are new or who have not taken classes in five or more years. Click "Choose Lottery Selections" and then log in or create an account. You will see the discount when paying for the session.

FALL DISCOUNT

FALL CATALOG CHANGES

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

160 Public Education and the Future of American Democracy: This course was added after the catalog went to print. See more info/register [here](#).

350 Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income: This course was added after the catalog went to print. See more info/register [here](#).

675 Comedy, French-Style: Now meets on Thursdays at 11:45 AM, starting Oct. 2

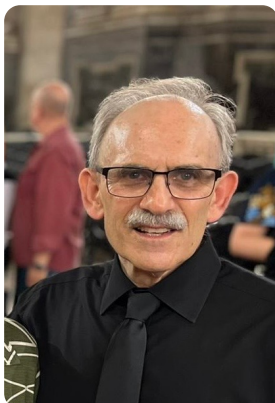
834 Mindfulness Meditation Intermediate level: This course is ONLINE

OLLI PODCAST

OLLI at AU is proud to announce *Curiosity Never Retires*, a podcast series created by Paul Vamvas, Andrew Hiller, and David Flaxman, with technical support from Jesse Williams. This series provides information about some of the wonderful courses and people at the heart of our OLLI at AU, while sparking curiosity and maybe a conversation or two. Each 13–15 minute episode features interviews with instructors about upcoming courses, offering prospective registrants insight into what the course will offer and an introduction to the instructor. Links to episodes will be included in the online course catalog. Future episodes may spotlight exciting aspects of our OLLI. At *CNR*, we believe there's never a good time to stop learning or laughing.

Production

Three individuals collaborated to produce this new OLLI at AU podcast venture. We are extremely grateful for the time, energy, and talent that this group has provided to bring this project to life.



David Flaxman is a musician and computer scientist who has been teaching classes at OLLI since 2017. His music classes have previously covered Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Schubert, Mendelssohn, and others. He is president of the City Choir of Washington and the Georgetown Chorale and is a co-founder of the Washington Douglass Chorale.

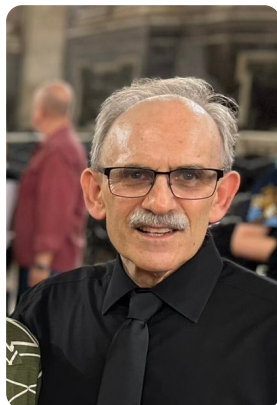


Paul Vamvas retired in 2019 after 20 years with the Federal Judicial Center where he produced educational programs for federal judges. He has a JD degree from the University of Maryland School of Law and an LLM focused on constitutional law from the Georgetown Law Center.



Andrew Hiller has worked with everyone from NPR to the World Bank and the Jim Henson gang. His science, health, and tech news magazine the *Prism*, was broadcast in fifty-three countries, and his commentaries have been selected as best of the year four times by WAMU 88.5 FM.

Podcasts



David Flaxman, [Mozart](#)

David is a musician and computer scientist who has been teaching classes at OLLI since 2017. His music classes have previously covered Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Schubert, Mendelssohn, and others. He is president of the City Choir of Washington and the Georgetown Chorale and is a co-founder of the Washington Douglass Chorale.



Howard Spendelow, [China & Japan](#)

Howard earned a BA in government (1966) from Oberlin College, and an MA in Chinese Regional Studies (1970) and PhD in history and East Asian languages (1982) from Harvard University. He taught history at Georgetown University from 1979 to 2023, and from 1980 to 2014 he also served as Contract Chair of the Advanced Area Studies Seminar on China at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute.

BE AN OLLI AMBASSADOR

Are you part of a local listserv or another community forum? All members are OLLI Ambassadors, so please help us spread the word about our program by sending a pre-written message about our upcoming fall semester. New members to OLLI at AU are eligible for a 10% discount for the fall semester! Please contact the OLLI Office at olli@american.edu for more information.

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*.

Web: www.olli-dc.org | **Phone:** 202-895-4860 | **E-mail:** olli@american.edu

Location: 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Mail: 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

Tony Long, *Executive Director*

Lesley Diaz, *Director of Academic Programming*

Lisa Olson, *Director of Operations and Projects*

Jesse Williams, *Operations Manager*

Annabel McClure, *Programs and Projects Coordinator*

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