

HELPFUL LINKS

[ABCs of OLLI](#) | [Parking](#) | [Registration](#) | [Events Calendar](#) | [Past Newsletters](#)



Newsletter



American University

4801

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September 12, 2025

Table of Contents

REMINDERS

- Fall Semester Information

ACADEMIC

PROGRAMMING

- Registration is Still Open!
- New Member 10% Discount

- Fall Catalog Changes

- Fall Book List
- Fall SGR Meeting

MEDIA

- OLLI Podcast

OLLI EVENTS

- Fall Wine and Cheese Welcomer

- September 22 Serendipity
- US Capital Grounds Tour
- Alliance for New-Music Theatre

REMINDERS

FALL SEMESTER INFORMATION

For all fall semester registrants, please note the following:

- Classroom assignments will be included in the September 26 newsletter and on signage on the 1st, 5th, and parking garage floors when you arrive for the first day of classes.
- The Spring Valley Building is only accessible via PIN code. To accommodate OLLI members, the front door and 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. *Please refer to your class assignment letter for the code if you need to enter the building outside of these times.*

- You can find **class handouts** and **class recordings** on the OLLI website under "Classes" and then "Semesters/Minis." You must be signed into your account to access both. We will be **recording** nearly every study group regardless of format. The recordings will be posted to the OLLI website **the following business day**.
- Skip the lines at the parking kiosk in the garage and download the **parking app** ahead of time: Look for the "Pay by Phone" app in your phone's App Store or Google Play Store. [More information.](#)

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING



REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN!

There is still time to register for the fall semester or add another class! You can see the status of each (open or closed) on the OLLI website. The membership fee (\$330 for the semester) allows you to sign up for three courses before the lottery. Now that the lottery has passed, you can add a fourth study group by logging into your account.

The deadline to add/drop classes or request a refund is October 10.

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.

145 *Haven From 2025 Upheavals*: CANCELLED

160 *Public Education and the Future of American Democracy*: CANCELLED

233 *Thinking About Community*: CANCELLED

244 *Survivors and Descendants of the Holocaust: A Search for Meaning*: CANCELLED

253 *Dreams—Their Link to Meditating, Mindfulness, and AI*: CANCELLED

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

519 *The Great French Songbook*: CANCELLED

648 *Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing Workshop*: Now starts Oct. 7

649 *Children's Book Workshop*: Now Starts Oct. 7

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

815 *Qur'an and Modern Society*: Now starts Oct. 9.

834 *Mindfulness Meditation Intermediate level*: This course is ONLINE

FALL BOOK LIST

Most fall semester books are available through Politics and Prose bookstore at 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008. Politics and Prose offers OLLI members a 10% discount on books for courses. Below is a list of fall semester books that are not available at Politics and Prose, or available, but without discount.

Not Available

589 *American Colonial and Federal Furniture: 1650–1840*

601 *Vocabulaire Progressif du Français*

608 *Encuentros 1*

644 *The Complete Poems and Plays 1909-1950*

739 *The Open Empire: A History of China to 1800*

740 *Premodern Japan: A Historical Survey*

788 *Berlin Airlift: The Effort and the Aircraft*

806 *The Healing Art of Qigong: Ancient Wisdom from a Modern Master*

861 *Plato: Complete Works*

No Discount

144 *The China Model: Political Meritocracy and the Limits of Democracy*

715 *A Short History of the Jewish People*

729 *The Centennial: A Journey Through America's National Park System*

No Discount and Not Returnable

200 *5 Types of People Who Can Ruin Your Life*

516 *Wagner's Ring: A Listener's Companion and Concordance*

788 *Daring Young Men: The Heroism and Triumph of the Berlin Airlift and To Save a City: The Berlin Airlift 1948-1949*

FALL SGR MEETING

OLLI will be having a meeting for fall SGRs on **Thursday, September 25, at 10:00 AM**, online via Zoom. This meeting will explain the SGR duties in detail and be an opportunity to ask questions.

A meeting reminder and Zoom link will be sent to SGRs once they're identified for the fall semester. Please plan to attend if you have not previously served as an SGR. If you have questions, please email the office at olli@american.edu.

MEDIA

OLLI PODCAST

Listen to episodes from OLLI at AU's podcast, [*Curiosity Never Retires*](#). 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. At *CNR*, we believe there's never a good time to stop learning or laughing.

OLLI EVENTS



FALL WINE AND CHEESE

WELCOMER

Thursday, September 25 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Spring Valley Café, 6th Floor

\$15/person | Registration

Required | No Refunds

OLLI Facilities Tour at 3:15 PM

Join us for an in-person fall semester wine and cheese welcome event!

Various wines and hors d'oeuvres will be served. New to OLLI? A tour of the OLLI facilities will also be given at 3:15 PM on the fifth floor by the elevators.

Attendance is limited to the first 120 members that register.

REGISTER

SERENDIPITY TALK

Dan Sherman, *A Gentle Introduction to Richard Wagner*

Monday, September 22 | 3:30-5:00 PM

Online via Zoom

Richard Wagner was one of the most influential composers of all time, giving us operas of staggering power and greatly influencing concert music (and later film music) to this day. Although some find his operas long, loud, and boring, his music is often quite approachable and can be readily enjoyed. This talk will provide an informative and entertaining introduction to Wagner's fascinating life and career, highlighting his music with numerous performance excerpts from his operas. The talk will provide information about Wagner and his place in music, suitable for both those who know little about this essential composer and also those already interested in Wagner and his work.

Dan Sherman has presented many talks on concert music, film and film music, opera, and musical theatre to many groups in the Washington area, including OLLI at AU. He has long loved opera, especially the operas of Wagner, and has given talks on Wagner in performance to several Wagner societies,

including the Wagner Society of Washington, of which he is a current board member.

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed to all those subscribed to the OLLI newsletter the morning of the talk. If you do not receive the newsletter and would like to attend, please join the email list at

https://www.oli-dc.org/join_email_list.



ALLIANCE FOR NEW-MUSIC THEATRE

Live and About Fall 2025 Season

Alliance for New Music-Theatre has put together another eclectic "**Live & About**" series for the 2025 fall season with outings to four different productions in the DC area.

Participants will enjoy the experience of attending performances as a group, expanding their appetites and critical appreciation for new forms, and supporting a variety of large and smaller music-theatre companies in our nation's capital. After each show, they will have the opportunity to deepen their experience by engaging with other group members in an informal gathering and discussion to understand the deeper intentions of the show's creators.

MORE INFO/REGISTER



US CAPITOL GROUNDS TOUR

Sunday, October 19

1:00-3:00 PM

**68 First Street SE | Registration
Required**

Tickets \$25/person | No Refunds

Originally a wooded river terrace, the [US Capitol Grounds](#) now provide a park-like setting for the nation's [Capitol Building](#), offering a picturesque counterpoint to the building's formal architecture. Join us on a unique and beautiful walk with **Steve Livengood**, Chief Guide and Public Historian of the United States Capitol Historical Society, for a private tour of the US Capitol grounds, originally landscaped by Frederick Law Olmsted in 1874. It was named an accredited arboretum in 2017. Steve is also on the board of The Olmsted Network, the national umbrella organization for the Olmsted legacy.

MORE INFO/REGISTER

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

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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*

Annabel McClure, *Programs and Projects Coordinator*

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