

# FALL 2017 STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

---

## 100 POLITICS, LAW & GOVERNMENT

---

### Hamilton and Jefferson: Patriotic Protagonists

**MARION CONNELL**

**Nine Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 26**

See description of Study Group 794.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

### Henry Stimson and the American Century

**AL KILBORNE**

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

**September 29**

See description of Study Group 799.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

### 110 Contemporary Issues in Law, Government, and Policy

**SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**RUTH DARMSTADTER, OLLI COORDINATOR**

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

**September 27**

Topics introduced by American University's School of Public Affairs will include: 2017/18 gubernatorial and congressional elections, health reform, "The Anatomy of Retention in the US Federal Government," US-Cuba relations, Guantanamo, JFK assassination documents, "Donald Trump's Challenge to the Constitutional Democracy," private prisons and immigration detention facilities, and "Organizations of the Future: Need Humans Apply?"

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ranked among the top schools of its kind, American University's School of Public Affairs offers education in the fields of political science, public administration, public policy, and justice. It was founded in 1934 with a handful of graduate students.*

### 112 Understanding Asia

**RITA HADDEN**

**Nine Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 28**

What makes Asia tick? What does China want? How have Japan, India, and their Asian neighbors changed? Join us for intelligent discussion on issues such as: How has Asian economic development impacted marriage and family patterns? How is Asia dealing with its disastrous pollution? How do Cultural Expectations differ: East v. West; What drives business in Asia? Where are key Asian flash-points? This study group will cover political, social, cultural, business, and historical topics. Each week, class members receive via email articles that will be used for class conversation. Members will choose articles to read. Reading, class participation, and email address are required.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Rita Hadden is Chinese-American, born in Hanoi, lived in Saigon, Phnom Penh, Hong Kong, Thailand, and China. She has traveled widely in Asia, and recently worked in China for a year. She was President of the Asian American Forum in Washington, DC, and has lectured on Asian topics at OLLI. Rita did management consulting for 40 years.*

### 113 Lincoln as Statesman

**STEPHEN ELKIN**

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

**September 26**

In this study group, we will consider Abraham Lincoln's statesmanship largely through a reading of his speeches. This is because a central part of statesmanship — maybe its center — is rhetoric, and Lincoln was our greatest rhetorician and plausibly our greatest statesman. The underlying aim of the study group is to consider the problem of statesmanship in a self-governing republic through our study of Lincoln. This then is not a history course but a course in political theory.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Stephen Elkin has taught a variety of political theory courses at OLLI. He has a PhD from Harvard and has taught at Smith College, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland.*

## 118 Current Issues in Policing in America

SUSAN MARTIN

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

September 27

Recent police shootings have rekindled a widespread public debate about the role and control of the police in a democratic society. This study group will encourage participants to examine police organizations and practices from both officers' and citizens' perspectives and explore the challenges facing policing today and the barriers to implementing proposed reforms. Issues for discussion include: officer selection, training, and diversity; the police culture and its effect on police work; organization and management of departments; control of the use of force; corruption; technology and police work; addressing citizen complaints; "community policing;" proposed system reforms, and their implementation.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Susan Martin is a PhD sociologist whose doctoral dissertation examined women "breaking and entering" in police work in Washington, DC, in the mid-1970s. She conducted a variety of criminal justice studies at the National Research Council and the Police Foundation before becoming a research administrator at NIH.*

## 151 Middle East Institute Scholars Seminar

MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE

VIRGINIA DEROZE, OLLI COORDINATOR

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

September 25

In one of OLLI's most popular offerings, scholars from the Middle East Institute (MEI) will present in-depth analyses on a wide-ranging set of issues, including diplomacy and religion, the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, unrest in the Middle East, and cultural affairs in the region. MEI Scholars include former ambassadors, university professors, journalists, and senior government officials who are experts in their fields.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Founded in 1946, the Middle East Institute is the oldest Washington-based institution dedicated solely to the study of the Middle East. Its founders laid out a simple mandate: "To increase knowledge of the Middle East among the citizens of the United States and to promote a better understanding between the people of these two areas."*

Register online at [www.ollidc.org](http://www.ollidc.org)

## 171 Current Events and Public Policy I

JOAN BERMAN

LOUIS NEVINS

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

September 27

Lou Nevins and Joan Berman 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, and questions will be furnished in advance, and participants will be expected to follow the news carefully. It is emphasized that this is a discussion group, not a lecture; all members are expected to take part in the discussions. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Joan Berman holds an MBA in Finance from American University. She spent almost 30 years in the field of commercial real estate, holding senior management roles in some of the largest firms in the Metropolitan DC area, and has served on numerous real estate boards.*

*Lou Nevins was a financial institutions and housing finance attorney and lobbyist for more than 35 years. He ran Washington operations for two financial trade associations and was a partner in one, a CEO in another, and a partner in a Wall Street law firm for ten years.*

## 172 Current Events and Public Policy II

ARTHUR LEVINE

LOUIS NEVINS

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

September 26

Lou Nevins and Art Levine 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, and questions will be furnished in advance, and participants will be expected to follow the news carefully. It is emphasized that this is a discussion group, not a lecture; all members are expected to take part in the discussions. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Art Levine is a retired attorney who practiced copyright law in DC. He also was Executive Director of a Presidential Commission on copyright and was an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown Law School. He currently is on the board of directors and a volunteer at the Friends Club, an Alzheimer's support group.*

**Lou Nevins** was a financial institutions and housing finance attorney and lobbyist for more than 35 years. He ran Washington operations for two financial trade associations and was a partner in one, a CEO in another, and was a partner in a Wall Street law firm for ten years.

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

**PENNY HANSEN**

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

**October 03**

This study group will explore the important cases and decisions that continue to be made by the Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Roberts. Presentation material and discussion will focus on the major Constitutional issues being decided by a clearly activist and divided court: election reform, health care, gun control, diversity, equality, climate change, the environment, religion, and presidential power. We will focus on the historical and political background of these issues and the legal philosophies of the justices, along with the procedural mysteries of this, the least known of our three branches of government. We will read *The Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction* by Linda Greenhouse and *The Oath: The Obama White House and the Supreme Court* by Jeffrey Toobin, along with articles on recent cases.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Penelope Hansen** directed numerous programs at the Environmental Protection Agency during its first 30 years and played a major role in implementing the country's first recycling, hazardous waste, Superfund, acid rain, and environmental technology verification programs. She was educated at Skidmore College and Johns Hopkins University.

## 181 Scholars' World Series

**JUDITH HAVEMANN, OLLI COORDINATOR**

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

**September 27**

Experts from The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars including Ambassador J. Stapleton Roy, distinguished scholar and founding director emeritus of the Kissinger Institute on China; Paulo Sotero, director of the Brazil Institute; and Duncan Wood, director of the Mexico Institute; will present non-partisan analysis of international issues. Country by country briefings will offer study

group participants opportunities to question and discuss issues of historical and contemporary foreign policy and national interest. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

Experts from **The Woodrow Wilson International Centers for Scholars** include Robert Litwak, Vice President, Director of International Security Studies and Former Director of Nuclear Nonproliferation on the National Security Council staff; Monde Muyangwa, Michael Kugelman, Gwen Young, Christian Ostermann, Eric L. Olson, and James Person.

## 184 International Human Rights: Moral or Legal?

**MARGARET FARRELL**

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

**September 26**

This study group is intended to provide a basis for understanding and evaluating current efforts to enforce human rights around the world. It will explore the history and theory of universal human rights; the creation of the UN and the Declaration of Human Rights; international treaties; current procedures for determining violations, their enforcement, and their future. It will include an examination of claims to a human right to health, to development, to protection from harm, as well as women's and children's rights. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Margaret Farrell** is a lawyer, who received a Fulbright grant to teach human rights at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at Lund University in Sweden. Professor Farrell also draws in part on her experience in post-civil war Liberia. She has led other OLLI study groups on mental disorders and health.

## 191 Understanding Why American Politics Is Polarized

**CARL WEICHEL**

**WILLIAM DANAY**

**Nine Wednesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)**

**September 27**

Our diverse American society and its political leaders are dangerously divided. Political and cultural institutions are polarized and appear dysfunctional. Will we work through this morass? This study group explores forces shaping American politics and why it has become so difficult to reach consensus. We will

explore “moral psychology” theories of Jonathan Haidt and other contemporary social psychologists. We will discuss why morality both “binds and blinds.” We will look at key issues that divide us such as progressive taxation and “big government” in hopes of better understanding those on the other side. Finally, we will review the past presidential election to anticipate our next political landscapes.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Carl Weichel has degrees in marketing and communications. He has held various positions in marketing, design, and advertising in Sydney, Cape Town, and San Francisco.*

*Bill Daney has a degree in engineering and spent his career with the federal government, retiring from NASA. He is a past president of the Peer Learning Partnership.*

## 200 PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, & CULTURE

---

### 232 Finding Your Family History in the Digital World

**SUSAN GOODMAN**

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

**September 28**

The Internet can be a gateway to researching your family history, using both primary and secondary sources from the web as well as genealogies posted by other researchers. Members will be asked to sign up for Ancestry.com (the first two weeks are free; for those who wish to continue, a monthly membership is around \$20). Study group members should be comfortable using the Internet and email. No paper handouts; all material will be sent as email attachments. This study group will be held at 4801 Massachusetts Avenue. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Susan Goodman has been doing genealogy research for the past 20 years. She has a working knowledge of digital resources as well as experience with research at national and regional archives. Before retirement, Goodman worked as a reporter/newscaster/editor for WAMU-88.5 FM, the NPR-affiliate for local news in Washington, DC.*

### 235 Animals and American Culture

**EDWARD INGEBRETSEN**

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

**September 29**

This study group will provide an overview of the complex interchange between humans and animals. We have a hundred encounters a day with animals though likely we don't realize that: we eat them, we wear them, our products are tested on them. They perform for us and satisfy our need for novelty. Are they ours for our use? What do we owe them? Western culture and (largely) Christian theology position animals in a subservient relationship to humans, their superiors. This study group will explore the practical consequences of this history, and how it plays out in American politics around animals (the closing of Ringling Bros. Circus, for example) and consumer society.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Edward Ingebretsen has a PhD in American theology and Literature from Duke and was a professor at Georgetown from 1986 to 2013. He still teaches one class a semester, Introduction to Philosophy and World Religions. He has written two books on American popular culture and contributed to numerous refereed journals on American theology and popular culture.*

### 240 Golden Age of New York City Baseball: 1947-1957

**STEPHEN KLATSKY**

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

**September 25**

The years 1947-57 are considered the Golden Age of New York City baseball. The Giants, Dodgers, and Yankees dominated the game. It was an era when baseball was the national pastime and New York City was the center of baseball attention. The study group will examine the three teams including the seasons, the ballparks, the players, the announcers, and the ten World Series (out of eleven) in which one or more NYC teams played in the Fall Classic. Highlights include: 1947 when Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier, the Shot Heard Round the World, the Dodgers are BUMS no more, Mickey Mantle's Triple Crown, Don Larsen's Perfect Game. We will discuss Willie, Mickey, and Duke, Campy v. Berra, Pee Wee v. Scooter. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Steve Klatsky is a retired labor and employment law attorney, mediator of workplace disputes and designer of conflict resolution*

systems. Born in the Bronx near Yankee Stadium, he was a vendor at Shea Stadium and a ticket seller for the Class A Potomac Cannons (now Potomac Nationals). He has been a Nationals season ticket holder since Day 1, and attended the first-ever Nationals spring game. Play Ball!

## 249 Signs, Symbols and Archetypes — What Lies Beneath

**DANIEL SACHS**

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

**September 26**

We're all fluent in English — and perhaps other spoken languages as well. There's another language that we come to know, too — we start learning it in infancy. It's the non-verbal language of signs and symbols — the language of "what lies beneath." We'll learn — or refresh our understanding — of how vast this non-spoken vocabulary is. It's the language of common shapes — dots, lines, squares, and circles — the symbol-vocabulary of our religious faiths, of architecture, and the visual and literary arts, of men's and women's fashions, of gestures and body language. You'll be amazed at how much you already knew, but weren't aware of, and how much there is still to be learned.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Daniel Sachs, born in Madrid, Spain, is a graduate of Cornell University and the George Washington University Law School. His interests in retirement lie in literature and Jungian psychology.*

## 250 TED Talks

**CAROLINE MINDEL**

**LYNN LEWIS**

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

**September 26**

TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) Talks feature a range of speakers who present "Ideas Worth Spreading." TED Talks, established in 1984, have been available on the Internet since 2007. This study group will focus on 24 of the most viewed TED Talks. Highly interactive, the class will view and discuss excerpts from three TED Talks each week. Participants are encouraged to preview the talks in advance. Class members will prepare brief background and discussion points for their presentation.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

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

## 251 Exploring Aging Through Literature

**CAROL HAUSMAN**

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

**September 28**

In this study group we will look at short novels, short stories, articles, and poetry on many topics of aging — relationships with children, love, caregiving, dementia, institutionalization and relocation, illness and death, and the search for meaning. We hope to deepen our awareness of some of the challenges and opportunities faced by elderly people and their caregivers, and perhaps gain some insight into our own fears of, and resistance to, looking at issues of aging. The class is asked to read *Carry Me Across the Water* by Ethan Canin before the first session.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Carol Hausman, PhD, is a clinical psychologist and gerontologist and has been in practice over thirty five years. She has been on the faculties of the Georgetown University School of Medicine, the Washington School of Psychiatry, and other institutions. She has taught this course several times in various venues.*

## 253 Introduction to the Cloud

**LISA FRIEDMAN**

**VICTOR REZMOVIC**

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

**September 29**

We use it every day, but we're not really sure what it means. The Cloud has slowly become part of our lives and touches much of the technology we use today. You can't understand the world of your children and grandchildren unless you spend some time dwelling in this Cloud. During this nine-session study group we will use lectures and demonstrations to examine the terminology that explains the mechanics of how the Cloud functions. We will review the major players that dominate the Cloud such as Google, Apple, and Microsoft. We will review the primary applications that are being used such as storage, music, video streaming, and how to stay safe while using the Cloud. This study group is designed for advanced beginner and intermediate computer users. It includes

some discussions of technical issues that may be difficult for beginning computer users to understand.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Lisa Friedman* has taught computer skills to older adults for over a dozen years. Now retired, she was an Associate General Counsel at EPA.

*Victor Rezmovic, PhD*, is a technology educator who has spent the last 30 years in academic, corporate, and governmental settings. He currently teaches at the ITI at Montgomery College.

## 254 How Real is Reality? — Truth-Denial from the Pre-Socratics to Breitbart

**ROBERT CROOG**

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

**September 25**

This study group will examine the historical, philosophical, and sociological bases of truth-denial, including theories questioning the existence of truth and contemporary trends affecting how reality is perceived. Among the thinkers to be discussed are Pyrrho of Elis, Montaigne, and Nietzsche. We will review studies on the reliability of evidence-gathering techniques, sociological trends such as anti-intellectualism, and the role of media shifts in producing the phenomena of fake news and manufactured reality. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Robert Croog*, a graduate of Harvard College and Columbia Law School, is a retired lawyer and former professor of Communication Law and Ethics at Rochester Institute of Technology. Since moving to DC, he has taught Writing and Communication courses at Trinity University.

## 265 Women in Baseball: A Work in Progress

**BENJAMIN BOLEY**

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

**September 27**

This study group will review the history of women's involvement in numerous aspects of the national pastime. Among other things, we'll consider and discuss the early Bloomer Girl teams and other pioneers in the 19th and early 20th centuries; the short, happy, life of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League; Marge Schott, and other female owners of major league franchises; the impact of Title IX; women who have become professional umpires; and today's speculation as to when a woman will take the field for a major league ball club.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ben Boley* has led four study groups at OLLI, all looking at baseball from varying perspectives. He grew up within walking distance of Ebbets Field, which explains his interest in the game. When not leading an OLLI group, he practices a little law.

## 291 Living Healthier and Happier in Retirement

**BRAD BICKFORD**

**Nine Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 27**

Do you want to experience life to its fullest? Do you want to laugh more and be more creative? Do you want to feel more energized and live longer? Then join the study group that will enhance and develop your new identity in retirement. Participants will focus on the importance of balance in one's life through lecture, small group discussion, guest lectures, and creative exercises. Topics around the mind/body connection will include such things as how to: sleep better, enhance family relationships, make new friends, and enhance brain processes. We will consider how what we put in or on our bodies affects our health. We will also cover the importance of structure and how getting healthy is different for women and men.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Brad Bickford* is a semi-retired clinical therapist and grandpa, who has studied improv, stand up comedy, painting, and the hammer dulcimer. He has taught classes in healthy living, sex education, grief processing, and fly fishing. Brad enjoys organic gardening, archery, and carpentry. He volunteers with the Widowed Persons Organization and Sierra Club.

## 292 Writing and Sharing Your Life Story

**ROBERTA BENOR**

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

**September 25**

What are the stories of your family history? You can add substance to the limbs of your family tree by recording and preserving your unique history. This study group will cover the five Ws of recording your life story and then will show you how to create a lasting document. You can share vignettes of your histories in class, and you will learn ways to bond with your grandchildren, and plan a family reunion. During part of each class, you will have

the opportunity to write parts of your life story by answering questions that deal with your chronology and philosophy.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Roberta Benor** records life stories through “Let Us Remember.” She lectures widely on parenting, senior housing, and intergenerational activities.

## 300 ECONOMICS

---

### 345 The Rise of the Robots — Can We Adjust?

**LEWIS COHEN**

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

**September 26**

The gap between increasing productivity and stagnant real incomes has been widening for a generation, bringing America’s Goldilocks era (1950–1980) to an end. Where does the US economy go from here as information-driven technological change accelerates? Can we adapt economically, socially, and politically in an era of innovation that is rapidly pushing us toward a less labor-intensive economy? Those are among the key questions we will address using the arguments and insights in Martin Ford’s *The Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future* and Alec Ross’ *The Industries of the Future*.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Lewis Cohen** earned degrees from Columbia College, Johns Hopkins University (SAIS), and Harvard University (Kennedy School). He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Tunisia, a Foreign Service Officer and Trade Negotiator with the Office of the US Trade Representative, and a consultant on international trade for a major DC law firm.

### 350 Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income

**DAVID HURWITZ**

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

**September 28**

During this eight-week study group, members will learn how to set up a retirement income stream consistent with their retirement goals, understand tax treatments with their investment objectives, and plan for inflation, economic challenges, and a potentially long retirement. Sessions will include insights on estate planning, tax planning and long-term care, social security planning, and

how to utilize various investment vehicles. **OLLI does not endorse particular products or financial advice from Study Group Leaders.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**David Hurwitz** is a Certified Financial Planner™ practitioner as well as a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor®, Chartered Retirement Plan Specialist®, and Retirement Income Certified Professional®. David was named the “Best Financial Advisor” by the readers of Bethesda Magazine and a Five Star wealth manager by Five Star Professional.

### 372 How the World Became Modern: 1500–1920

**RAY SQUITIERI**

**Nine Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 29**

Over just a few hundred years, a series of interrelated changes fundamentally transformed life in the West. Trade expanded, and soon linked together most of the world. The pace of innovation sped up, and news of discoveries and innovations traveled further and faster than ever before. The First Industrial Revolution brought about the greatest productivity increase in human history. The Second Industrial Revolution produced a series of inventions (telephone, electricity, automobile, chemicals) that had an even greater effect on daily life. This study group will trace these changes, focusing on Europe and European outposts like the U.S., with some attention to China and the Near East.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Ray Squitieri** is an economist, recently retired. He earned a BA in history from Harvard, an MS in Operations Research, and a PhD in economics, both from Stanford. In the last six years, he has led eight different OLLI courses on music, the arts, European and Chinese history.

### 375 Naked Economics

**VAN OOMS**

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

**September 25**

What does it mean to “think like an economist”? This study group will provide an introduction to “economic thinking” through examples of (often mistaken or counterproductive) “real world” policies, actions, and arguments by governments, businesses, and individuals. Illustrations will be taken from Charles Wheelan’s

*Naked Economics* and materials distributed by the study group leader. Internet and email access is required of all participants. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Van Doorn Ooms**, PhD, Yale, taught economics at Yale and Swarthmore, held senior economics staff positions in the House, Senate, and Office of Management and Budget, and directed the research program at the Committee for Economic Development.

## 377 Understanding Trade Issues

**P. LANCE GRAEF**

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

**September 29**

Trade issues continue to appear prominently in the news: Brexit, Border Adjustment taxes, Trade Deficits, NAFTA renegotiation, China, Anti-Dumping, Steel and National Security, Currency Manipulation, Bilateral versus Multilateral Agreements, FTAs in Asia including the Trans Pacific Partnership from which we have withdrawn. What is the new Administration proposing and how do the proposals fit within current agreements including the World Trade Organization? Are NAFTA and TPP the “worst” agreements ever negotiated? These and other issues will be presented and discussed.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Lance Graef** was part of the USTR negotiations team at the Tokyo and Uruguay rounds of multilateral trade negotiations. He has consulted on international trade issues, trade agreements, trade policy analysis and negotiations, regional trade agreements, and trade negotiations training in 25 countries.

## 389 Market Theory: Past and Present

**WILLIAM METLER**

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

**September 29**

In this study group, members will review classical to modern technical theories/practices for characterizing Bull and Bear market profiles in order to be timely about investments. Members will explore practical market indicators for Bull and Bear markets with nominal access to a charting service website to apply indicators to time their favorite stocks. **OLLI does not endorse particular products or financial advice from Study Group Leaders.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

With a PhD in Systems Engineering, **Bill Metler** spent 40 years in Research and Development for AT&T Bell Laboratories and the Pentagon, specializing in computer modeling for new methods in problem solving, from deep sea to deep space. During this time, he became fascinated with theories for stock market modeling.

## 400 BIOLOGY, PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY & MATH

---

### 415 Science and Public Policy

**ARTHUR KATZ**

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

**September 27**

Personalized medicine; nanotechnology; climate change; artificial intelligence/machine learning; synthetic biology; neuroscience; cybersecurity; and the proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons are topics that epitomize the intersection of science and public policy. They are emblematic of the critical role science plays in almost every aspect of our world and the opportunities and challenges it poses for society. The study group will examine these topics, providing a balance between an understanding of the underlying science and the challenges posed at a personal and public policy level. The focus is on how advances in science create new policy issues.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

**Arthur Katz**, PhD (chemistry) and MS (meteorology), worked almost 40 years in the US Department of Energy and predecessor agencies dealing with advanced nuclear reactors, planning/international collaboration in fusion energy, and biological research including the Human Genome Project. He is also the author of the book *Life After Nuclear War*.

### 435 Astrophysics

**ERIC KEARSLEY**

**Ten Thursdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 28**

Carl Sagan famously said that, “We are made of star-stuff.” This study group will illustrate the physics behind that famous phrase by describing what we know about stars, galaxies, and ultimately, the universe. At the end of the study group you will know all about red giants, brown dwarfs, neutron stars, and other exotic objects



in the cosmos. You will also learn about dark energy, dark matter, and the big questions confronting scientists who are trying to understand the origins and future of the universe.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Eric Kearsley has a PhD in Radiation Physics from the University of Wisconsin. He is a retired US Navy Radiation Health Officer and a retired physics teacher from the Montgomery County Public Schools. He is currently working on the history of x-ray tube technology at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.*

## 444 Energy

**JACQUES READ**

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

**September 29**

Energy only acquired dimensions in the 17th century, but it has grown in importance over the centuries. It controls our diets, runs the weather systems of the planet, runs all of our gadgetry, and, in the form of nuclear weapons, poses the possibility of the end of civilization. This study group will ponder the various aspects of energy: its history, its sources, and what people have done with it over the years.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Jacques Read has a doctorate in both physics and chemistry, and has taught at Fairleigh Dickinson and the University of California, performed research at Oak Ridge and Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, and been employed by the Atomic Energy Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Energy.*

## 446 Using Medications Safely and Effectively

**NORMAN MARKS**

**Nine Fridays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 29**

All patients, especially seniors who take multiple medications, may recognize the challenges of using those medications in 2017, with the pressures on doctors, pharmacists, and hospitals to be efficient and productive, even while those medications become more powerful and more risky. The study group will describe the current system for development, approval, and monitoring of your medications and provide detailed techniques for finding accurate, current information to begin the two-way conversations with your doctors and pharmacists that will achieve safer and more

effective personal health. Readings will be provided from current web-based materials and there will be guest speakers from the “real-world” of healthcare.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Norman Marks, MD, a urological surgeon, worked for the Food and Drug Administration from 1998 until retirement in 2015. He led MedWatch, the Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program, creating outreach/educational programs for physicians and consumers on the safety of medications used by the nation's patients.*

## 479 Making Choices: Understanding Environmental Issues

**KENNETH HINGA**

**Eleven Tuesdays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)**

**September 26**

We are faced with the need to make choices on environmental issues. These may include which positions on environmental and health policies to support, what personal actions to take or avoid, and even what to buy in the supermarket. This study group will provide an introduction to the basic physical processes central to understanding issues of the human environment. No scientific background is required. Topics to be covered may include: climate change, GMO foods, nuclear radiation and wastes, marine dead zones, biofuels, oil spills, pesticides, food additives, residues of veterinary drugs, and “what is safe?” No readings are required, but resources will be provided for further study of environmental issues. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Kenneth Hinga, PhD, is recently retired from ten years at USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, and US FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. He was a science advisor for both agencies. Prior to federal service, he was a research scientist and assistant dean of the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography.*

## 480 The Ups and Downs of Weather

**PAUL BROWN**

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

**September 29**

Everyone talks about the weather, but very few people understand how and why it occurs. Paul Brown will lead a wide-ranging discussion of the principles that underlie the weather — heat, wind, and water — and then show how these elements interact to produce the major types of “bad” weather such as

thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. As an optional outside-class activity, forecasting instruction and practice exercises will be available for any interested class members, including competition with the pros in 24-hour, real-time forecasts for the DC area. A profusely illustrated weather booklet custom-designed for this course can be purchased from OLLI at or before the first session at the printing cost of \$30 (optional but highly recommended, both as a guide to the lectures and as a useful work of reference).

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Paul Brown is a Harvard College- and Johns Hopkins-trained MD with an NIH research career focused on transmissible dementia, and a mini-career as meteorology instructor to both college students (Montgomery College and Berea) and adults (including OLLI) since his retirement in 2004.*

## 481 Fun with Math

**JONATHAN SUNSHINE**

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

**September 26**

This study group is designed to show that math is fun, interesting, and useful. The prime target is people who took at least two to three years of high school math, but were not college math majors. It will exclude high-school and first two years of college math. Among the topics will be: using math to gain understanding of a variety of “cons” often used to lure the public; statistics and probability with particular emphasis on sampling variability and the math of casino games; the inescapable paradoxes of voting when there are more than two alternatives; and number theory, the rich field dealing with the properties of whole numbers. There will be lectures, discussion, opportunities to work on problems in class, and a weekly “brain teaser.”

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Jonathan Sunshine, PhD, a retired health economist, was educated at Columbia University and Oxford University (England). He is the author or co-author of over 200 scientific papers. His work related to this study group included development of quantitative research methods, design of quantitative research studies, and supervising data analysis.*

## 483 Drug Discovery: First Step in Medicine Development

**GENE SCHAEFFER**

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

**September 29**

We will all probably use medicines at some time during our lives, especially as we get older, but where did we get the active ingredients for these medicinal products? From nature — bacteria, fungi, plants, animals? From a laboratory — fermentation, synthetic chemistry, recombinant DNA? Long ago? Recently? By accident? Rationally designed? This study group will explore these and possibly other questions regarding the origins and uses of pharmacologic substances. Some background in biology or chemistry would be helpful but is not required. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Gene Schaefer has an MS in chemistry and a PhD in biomedical sciences. Gene has worked as a medical laboratory technician in a hospital, in quality control at a pharmaceutical company (Upjohn, Kalamazoo, MI), and for almost 20 years as a review chemist in the Center for Drugs at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).*

## 492 Photosynthesis: Plants Shape Our Planet

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**September 26**

Green pigment and enzymes turn sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide into the world we see around us. The power of photosynthesis has had a profound impact on the evolution of life, and the ecology of our planet. In his book, *Eating the Sun: How Plants Power the Planet*, award-winning science writer, Oliver Morton, explains what scientists know about the process of photosynthesis, how it works, and what it produces. From there, he explores the consequences for life and our planet of the end products of photosynthesis, and builds a strong case for countering climate change. In this study group, we will closely read and discuss this book.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Although Al Taran never trained or worked in the sciences, he has had a lifelong interest in them. He studied Philosophy in college, started on a PhD with a focus on the Philosophy of Mathematics and Logic, and earned a living in Information Technology.*

# 500 VISUAL ARTS & MUSIC

---

## 508 Watercolor Painting

**SARAH WHITENER**

**Nine Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 26**

In this study group we will focus completely on the basics of watercolor painting. We will look at slides of the masters, discuss fundamentals such as composition, perspective, and color, and paint from still life and photos. This is a good environment for people who have never painted, are returning to art from a long gap, or simply need the structure of a class to keep painting. All skill levels are welcome.

Materials for the first class will be provided, and in that class we will discuss what materials should be bought or brought from home.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Sarah Whitener is a lifelong artist who enjoys drawing, painting, block printing, and needlework. She has a BA in Art History and an MA in Archaeology. She has illustrated a book on Native American stone pipes and a cooking manual, designed knitting and needlepoint projects, and painted house portraits.*

## 511 Looking at Architecture

**JOHN VORHES**

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

**September 27**

A building is part of history and, by really looking, we can see details that illuminate the culture and technology of the time. When describing a house or an office building, we often use terms like “Colonial,” “Victorian,” or “Modern,” yet these don’t accurately define the style or suggest the reasons for it. This study group will give you a vocabulary — a quick understanding of basic structure from load-bearing walls to steel skeleton skyscrapers. The study group also invites you to explore our city and its many examples of great (and sometimes not so great) architecture. The last class includes a “Fun Final” exam to test your design recall and a talk by Roger Lewis, Professor Emeritus at the School of Architecture, University of Maryland and *Washington Post* columnist. The National Trust for Historic Preservation handbook, *What Style Is It?*, is a good reference. A digital camera, so you can share your images with classmates, will be helpful but not essential.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*John Vorhes is a retired industrial designer and former project director for USIA Exhibition Services for worldwide cultural exchange programs. He has 40 years of experience in art direction, architectural design, landscape design, graphics, and television production design.*

## 516 Ballet in Russia After the Revolution

**IRIS LIPKOWITZ**

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

**September 25**

How did classical ballet, an essential institution of the 19th century Imperial Russian Court, survive the Revolution and serve the ideological needs of the Soviet state? What happened to the 19th century ballet repertoire, to choreographers and to dancers and to their training during the course of the 20th century? We will watch clips, documentaries, and performances as well as learn of the latest research from academics regarding the effects of the Revolution on Russian ballet.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

## 521 History and Aesthetics of Film

**LEONARD KING**

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

**September 29**

The aim of this study group is to demonstrate a sense of cinema as a unique form of communication with its own language, psychology, and appeal; as a developing art form from its silent beginnings in the 1890s to the present; as a source of philosophy and individual expression; and in the context of the social, political, and economic history of the country in which the film was made. Students should see the films before the sessions so class time will be used to discuss the films. Scenes will be examined to demonstrate what the director is doing in that scene. Chaplin, Lang, Welles, Hitchcock, Spike Lee, Truffaut, and Bergman will be some of the directors discussed.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Leonard King taught at Maret School for 43 years until retirement in June 2016. He started teaching a year-long History and Aesthetics of Film class in 1973. He is presently teaching a variation of this course in the evenings to adults at Maret.*

## 523 Creating Art Through Collage: Beginners and Advanced

**ROSE MOSNER**

**Ten Tuesdays (1:30 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 26**

Collage is the perfect medium for getting your creative juices flowing. Using a variety of materials, we will immerse ourselves in creativity, color, composition, imagery, and texture. This class is designed for beginners and seasoned artists. Bring scissors, glue, pencils, background cardboard, old photos, fabric scraps, ribbons, textured papers, string, pieces of plastic, colored pencils, paints, markers, pens, or whatever comes to mind. This class runs longer to allow for more work time.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Rose Mosner taught art in NYC schools for 22 years. With budgets for supplies very low, she canvassed neighborhood stores for fabric scraps, left-over wool skeins, wallpaper sample books, and the local lumberyard for wood scraps. Thus began her love of found-object collage. Rose's work has been in many juried shows, and she recently had a solo show at the Iona Gallery. She is also one of only ten artists involved with a special program for artists over 62 sponsored by Columbia University.*

## 527 Contemporary Ballet: Beyond Balanchine

**JOAN WEBER**

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

**September 29**

This study group is an exploration of contemporary ballet choreography, mostly European, that changed the direction and power of ballet. To many in my generation, ballet meant Balanchine. Then I discovered the work of Jiri Kylian and the world of ballet re-opened for me as powerful, dynamic, and hugely exciting. There is a large body of work done in Europe in the 1980s and 1990s, rarely seen in the US, influencing choreographers today. This study group will show several of these choreographers

and introduce their work so we can see the work and explore what is different and unique about this new dance form that is specifically balletic and yet very contemporary.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Joan Weber is a business professional in real estate development and printing sales. A ballet "amateur," Joan trained with old-school Russian ballet instructors and attended as much ballet as New York City and DC offered. She has a Masters and AbD for PhD in Medical Sociology from CUNY, was a commercial real estate developer, a Senior Vice President of Sales for Balmar Printing, owner of a printing machinery exporting company that she co-founded, and an instructor in Sociology, Medical Sociology, and Sociology of Knowledge at Brooklyn College, CUNY, and Trinity College.*

## 530 The Songs That Made America: 1900–1950

**DANIEL MOSKOWITZ**

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

**September 27**

Every year the Library of Congress selects a dozen or so recordings to be listed on a national registry for preservation. We will watch clips of a selection of the songs on the Registry in many different genres, discuss why those performances are historically significant, and share our personal memories of the tunes played in our lives. On the agenda: Artie Shaw's "Begin the Beguine," Fats Waller's "Ain't Misbehavin'," Bing Crosby's "White Christmas," Kate Smith's "God Bless America," Bessie Smith's "Down-Hearted Blues," Marian Anderson's "I've Got the Whole World in My Hands," Roy Acuff's "Wabash Cannonball," Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land" and Cole Porter's own rendition of "You're the Top."

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Award-winning journalist Dan Moskowitz has led a number of courses on American popular music. He'll be supplemented by occasional guest speakers introducing their favorites from the Registry.*

## 542 The Piano + 2, 3, 4, ... : Trios. Quartets. Quintets. ...

**JOHN BOWEN**

**Nine Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 25**

Invention of the piano in 1700 and its development into today's powerful yet sensitive instrument unleashed a flood of classical compositions merging the piano with small groups of other orchestral instruments. This study group provides a survey of the evolution of this instrumental configuration over three centuries, including works selected from those of Haydn, Mozart, Weber, Hummel, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Farrenc, Brahms, Chopin, Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn, Franck, Beach, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Smetana, Ravel, Fauré, Dvorák, Arensky, Saint-Saëns, Mahler, Shostakovich, and others.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*John Bowen is a reformed economist who has led several OLLI classical music courses, including surveys of the works of women, romantics, Americans, and Russians.*

## 577 What Makes Musicals Great?

**BARRY BORTNICK**

**DAN SHERMAN**

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

**September 26**

Focusing on some of the most interesting musicals ever created — both “standards” and lesser known surprises — the study group will show what this quintessentially American form of expression “can do.” It will look at levels on which musicals “work,” the creative decisions behind them, and how great musicals can both reflect the values and issues of their time, and be “living” classics touching future audiences and inspiring later creations — in some cases, impacting the very course of musical theatre history. The instructors will incorporate material such as films, plays, and fiction, along with video and audio clips. Musicals to be discussed include *Cabaret*, *Candide*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *A Little Night Music*, *She Loves Me*, *Carousel*, and *West Side Story*.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Barry Bortnick is a writer of book, music, and lyrics of musicals performed on both coasts and in London; Founding Director, OLLI at UCLA Extension, and former Director of Programs in Humanities,*

*Journalism, and Behavioral Sciences. He has taught courses on the musical at numerous OLLIs. He earned his doctorate from Harvard University where (among other places) he has conducted research on the development of interest in the arts and the psychology of music.*

*Dan Sherman has a love of both American history and musical theatre, and has taught more than 20 courses for OLLI at George Mason University. He made his debut at American University with a lecture on the musical Hamilton. He earned his doctorate at Cornell University and is a managing director at the American Institute for Research (AIR).*

## 579 19th Century French Art and Early 20th Century Art in Germany

**LISA LEINBERGER**

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

**September 28**

Modern artists experimented with new ways of seeing and with fresh ideas about the nature of materials and functions of art. This study group will trace the evolution of art from the Classical roots to the art of Ingres, Gros, and David. We will touch on the Romantic period of Delacroix, then move to the period of Realism looking at Corot and Courbet, the Barbizon School of Millet, and others. We will see how art changed again with paintings by Manet. Impressionism was the next change and we will look at examples by Renoir, Monet, and others. After WWI, artistic innovation began again and we will see the effect in the art of Leger. We will explore the influence of Bauhaus on German art, especially in the art of Kandinsky and Klee.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Lisa Leinberger has a background in art and has worked at the Phillips Collection. She has recently led an OLLI Short. She has a Masters Degree in Art History and has taught French.*

## 580 Favorite Operas

**BRUCE EISEN**

**Nine Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 27**

We will discuss and view some of opera's greatest and most popular works. The Study Group Leader will introduce each of the operas, and this will be followed by a presentation of a relevant DVD. Specific issues concerning each opera will be raised and addressed by the study group in the subsequent sessions. The operas will include *Aida*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Billy Budd*, *The Magic Flute*, and *Carmen*.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Bruce Eisen has been an OLLI Study Group Leader for a number of semesters. He is a retired attorney who has served as general counsel for the Washington National Opera.*

## 581 Great Films/Great Directors

**TRISH FOXWELL**

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

**September 27**

The study group will concentrate on a rich collection of directors and films including: *Ben Hur*/William Wyler, *Lawrence of Arabia*/David Lean, *Out of Africa*/Sidney Pollack, *The Sting*/George Roy Hill, *The Age of Innocence*/Martin Scorsese, *Apollo 13*/Ron Howard, *Titanic*/James Cameron, *Sully*/Clint Eastwood, and *In the Heat of the Night*/Norman Jewison. Film clips, discussions, and in-depth information about the films, and the directors will be the format of the study group. Films with a DC connection will also be highlighted from *All the Presidents Men*/Alan Pakula, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*/Frank Capra, and several others. A field trip or guest speaker in the film industry might also be on the agenda. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Trish Foxwell is a published author and journalist. Her background encompasses working on newspapers covering the arts, including films. She has taught Great Films/Great Directors at Duke University for the past two years and has a particular interest in film history. She has published two non-fiction books with another in the works.*

## 600 LITERATURE & LANGUAGE

### 604 Poetry Craftshop: Elizabeth Bishop and Marianne Moore

**JENNY PIERSON**

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

**September 27**

This is a generative workshop for poets interested in using formal elements to deepen their craft. From readings in *The Complete Poems: 1927–1979* of Elizabeth Bishop and *Observations* by Marianne Moore, you will explore the roles that mentorship and the quest for precision played in their works. Letters, various biographical, and critical commentary, given as handouts, will enrich your efforts. Each week you will be given both a reading

and a writing assignment. Classes include deep discussion of poems by these poets, as well as the reading and commentary of the class poems.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Jenny Pierson, poet and professor of writing at George Washington University, worked as a human rights advocate, dairy farmer, editor, and caterer. She holds an MFA in creative writing from American University. Jenny has been leading poetry craftshops at OLLI since Fall 1996.*

### 612 Cours de conversation en français

**JALEH LABIB**

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

**September 25**

Ce cours est pour ceux dont le français, de niveau suffisamment avancé, leur permet de lire, comprendre et converser facilement parmi un groupe de francophiles qui cherchent à améliorer leur connaissance du français et leur prononciation. Les discussions sont en partie basées sur une variété de sujets et thèmes, soumis chaque semaine sous forme de documents Word — version compatible — joints aux courriers électroniques. Les participants sont donc censés avoir régulièrement accès à leurs emails et une bonne connaissance de l'Internet.

Ceux postulant pour la première fois doivent être interviewés au téléphone avant d'être inclus dans le système de sélection. Ils ont donc intérêt à déposer leur demande bien avant la date limite.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Jaleh Labib a parlé français depuis son enfance et tout au long de ses 35 ans d'expérience aux entreprises françaises et organisations internationales. Elle a mené un bon nombre de cours de conversation en français à OLLI.*

### 615 Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene

**HANNE CARAHER**

**Nine Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 25**

Können Sie sich auf deutsch unterhalten? Beherrschen Sie die Grundregeln der deutschen Grammatik? Wenn ja, dann sind Sie ein guter Kandidat fuer diese Klasse, in der wir uns unterhalten, manchmal Grammatik studieren und Kurzgeschichten auf deutsch lesen werden. Hausaufgaben jede Woche eine oder zwei Stunden. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

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

## 616 Hablemos en Español — Curso Intermedio/Avanzado

**MINERVA KELLER**

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

**September 27**

El español — cuyo uso se acrecienta a diario — es el lenguaje oficial de 19 países. El objetivo de este curso es que cada participante adquiera fluidez y un mejor dominio del idioma participando activamente en cada sesión. La conversación girará en torno de charlas, videos, artículos de la prensa internacional sobre eventos de actualidad, además de cuentos ó lecturas que se asignarán semanalmente por medio de un correo electrónico ó en forma impresa. Después de una breve introducción, cada tema merecerá una animada conversación culminando, si así lo desean, en un breve resumen escrito, para así incrementar la capacidad de expresión, no solo hablada, sino escrita.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Minerva Keller has an MA in Language/Foreign Studies from American University. She was a Lecturer and Adjunct Professor of Spanish, French, and Translation at college-level area institutions, and is a freelance translator. She has worked for international organizations as a translator/interpreter in Chile, Switzerland, Belgium, and Washington, DC.*

## 619 French — Back to the Basics

**EVELYNE BONHOMME**

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

**September 27**

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry wrote that: "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible." If this statement resonates with you, this study group may be for you. We will focus on basic communication skills, including pronunciation, to facilitate everyday conversation. We will review basic French structures and develop an expanding vocabulary relating to fun activities such as meeting people, traveling, entertainment, ordering food, obtaining basic services, and your own interests. Expect a lot of conversation practice in and out of class as you take your first steps toward reading and conversing about Saint-Exupéry in French.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Evelyne Bonhomme is a native French speaker currently teaching French and French for Business at Bowie State University. She has more than 20 years of experience teaching French. She is a retired lawyer with a JD from the University of Pennsylvania, and an MTS from Wesley Theological Seminary.*

## 622 Beginning Spanish 101 (Spanish for Dummies Smarties)

**SUSAN SCHNEIDER**

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

**September 26**

Hola: Learn to speak street Spanish in 30 minutes! Whether you have studied Spanish before or not, this course will allow you to learn to speak from scratch, improve your pronunciation, and increase your fluency. We will stress oral practice — listening and speaking — over reading and writing. You will learn everyday expressions and get exposure to the Spanish language and culture. The study group will use the book, *Spanish for Dummies*, 2nd edition and cell phones. Our goal is to help everyone order chimichangas flawlessly. There is no homework but ten minutes of extra practice a day will also get you arroz con frijoles.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Susan Schneider has taught conversational Spanish and English for decades. She started the ESL program for adults at the National Cathedral. She also was a Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador where she learned to speak Spanish in the barrio. She has a PhD in Linguistics, an MA in Education, and a BA in History.*

## 631 Understanding Families Through Plays

**KAREN GAIL LEWIS**

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

**September 25**

For this study group, participants will read four popular plays: *All My Sons*, by Arthur Miller; *The Last Seder*, by Jennifer Maisel; *Fences*, by August Wilson; and *Lost in Yonkers*, by Neil Simon. We will discuss each play (in the above order) for two weeks, focusing on relationships among family members, typical emotional and health issues, and gender roles that have been influenced by prior family generations. We'll see how the richness of interpretation changes given the societal dictates. We'll also see how each

play might be different if written by a playwright of a different race, ethnicity, or gender. We may predict an Act 3. This is a fun, interactive class.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Karen Gail Lewis has been practicing family therapy for over 40 years and has authored numerous books about marriage, gender relationships, singles, and adult siblings.*

## 641 The Booker Prize Marketplace Niche

**ELLEN MOODY**

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

**September 25**

In this study group, we'll discuss three winners: Paul Scott's *Staying On* (1979), Graham Swift's *Last Orders* (1996), and Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* (2009). We will explore our prize-obsessed culture, how the Booker functions in the fiction industry. The Booker is more than a marketplace niche, though. The books characteristically share a group of themes: historical, post-modern, post-colonial, self-reflexive, witty, melancholy books. Many are masterpieces. All three choices have also have been made into brilliant and successful films. We'll discuss the film adaptations as well.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Ellen Moody has a PhD in English Literature, with two books, essays on 18th and 19th century literature, film adaptations of novels, and translated poetry from the Italian Renaissance among her published work. An independent scholar, she maintains three blogs and a website on literature. She taught in senior colleges for over 30 years.*

## 646 The Book of Psalms

**IRWIN LEBOW**

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

**September 25**

*The Book of Psalms* contains 150 poems, many of which were chanted with instrumental accompaniment in the Jerusalem temple during the sacrificial worship. The word psalm comes from the Greek and means a song played on a plucked instrument. The Psalms are the best-known examples of inspirational biblical poetry to most of us from their fundamental role in both the Jewish and Christian liturgies. They were written over a period of 500 years by many authors; King David is traditionally the author of many psalms, although this is doubtful historically. In the course, we will read and discuss many of the psalms from Robert Alter's *The Book of Psalms*:

*A Translation with Commentary*, and present examples of music that has been written to accompany them.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Irwin Lebow, a retired telecommunications engineer with a PhD from MIT, has also been a lifelong student of the Bible. He has taught many study groups for OLLI in both telecommunications and the Bible.*

## 651 Writing Down the Bones

**BROCK HANSEN**

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

**October 02**

This is a study group for people who like to write, or think they might, but who need a stimulus to practice writing. We will use Natalie Goldberg's book, *Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within*, in which she describes a method for writing practice and overcoming writer's block. In each session we will have two or more spells of writing practice in response to a prompt. We write for 10–15 minutes, after which participants are encouraged but not required to share what they have written. Positive feedback is encouraged and more critical feedback can be requested. The writing practice tends toward memoir, though it is not limited to that. A bonus is getting to know your fellow writers through their writing. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Brock Hansen has enjoyed writing since elementary school and is intimately familiar with the challenges of writing on a regular basis. He has participated in groups such as this and led this study group for OLLI twice before. He always finds them stimulating and a great way to get to know fellow OLLI members through their writing.*

## 655 Joseph Conrad — Moral Tales

**RONALD PARLATO**

**Nine Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 25**

The study group will be based on a selection of Conrad's novels, novellas, and short stories set in the tropics or on the sea, and which illustrate the themes of morality, solidarity, alienation, and courage common to all his works. The study group will examine the books as literature, but will focus on the moral dilemmas he sees as a part of life. The objectives of the study group are to understand Conrad's philosophy, metaphors, style, language, and



intent. Texts: *Lord Jim*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Victory*, *The Nigger of the Narcissus*, *The Secret Sharer*, and selected short stories.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

**Ronald Parlato** has taught four previous study groups in literature at OLLI; and also at universities in South Carolina and Mississippi. He is a graduate of Yale University with a double major in English and French literature. He is a retired International Management Consultant.

## 657 *Tom Jones*, by Henry Fielding

**LESLIE FRANTZ**

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

**September 26**

In this study group, we will discuss this novel's history and context, style and form, and what Fielding intended with his innovative approach to prose fiction. But we'll also read for the pure fun of it. Fielding tells us that his subject is Human Nature, and even after 250 years, his treatment of us is very funny, and rings very true.

This is listed as a nine-week course, but there will actually be eight meetings, with a scheduled break at the midpoint. Leslie has to be away for one week in late October. Group members should read Books I, II and III before our first meeting.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Leslie Frantz** is an experienced teacher of English. She taught in Georgetown University's Continuing Education program for 25 years, and has been leading OLLI study groups since 2007.

## 669 *Enjoying The New Yorker Together*

**BOB HAUSMAN**

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

**September 28**

*The New Yorker's* audience beyond New York enjoys reportage, commentary, essays, short stories, satire, poetry, and cartoons, with artistic provocative covers, book, theater and movie reviews, medicine and law, world politics, and social issues. For each class "hour" (45 minutes) a member chooses an item from a *New Yorker* issue and adds something from his/her experience, knowledge or research, followed by class discussion. OLLI members have taken the course two, three, and four times. Enjoy an open, friendly atmosphere where true conversation occurs.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Bob Hausman** has been an attorney in all three branches of the Federal government and in private practice. He has enjoyed reading and discussing *The New Yorker* magazine all his adult life. He has led this course at OLLI for a number of years.

## 671 *On Beyond Athens: New Directions in the Greek Performing Arts*

**ANDREW WHITE**

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

**September 26**

What exactly did the Greeks do with their amazing theatrical legacy? After Athens was swallowed whole by Philip and Alexander the Great, did the theatre decline and fall? Or did it set the stage for new literary forms? Join theatre artist and historian Andrew White as he guides us down through the centuries, from Alexander's time onward, to see the amazingly subtle things the Greeks did with their theatres and their repertoire of classic dramas. Through a combination of primary sources, school manuals, sermons, and orations (seasoned with a modern theorist or two), we will see how the Greeks applied theatre on the streets, in the churches and salons of the elite, and set the stage for the Italian Renaissance.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Andrew Walker White** (Andy) is a theatre artist, historian, and local performing arts critic. He has taught a wide range of drama courses with OLLI over the past ten years. His first book, *Performing Orthodox Ritual in Byzantium*, was published with Cambridge University Press, and he is hard at work on his next volume.

## 673 *World War I: Fact by Fiction*

**ELSA NEWMYER**

**VIRGINIA NEWMYER**

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

**September 28**

This course will analyze the physical and emotional costs of World War 1 through the lens of fiction. A little over a century ago, in early August of 1914, Europe descended into a war more costly and ruinous than any ever fought up to then. On the Western front, the combatants — chiefly Germany, Austria-Hungary, France, and England — suffered untold slaughter of men and severe physical and psychological consequences to those soldiers and to the women and children on the home front, over four long years. In this Study Group, Elsa Newmyer and Virginia Newmyer will

explore the Western Front, from the British point of view, and the place it continues to hold in our imagination. We shall see, in particular, through novels, short stories, poems, pictures, and screen adaptations how our emotional connection to the protagonists has deepened.

Students will read *Birdsong*, by Sebastian Faulks, and Sebastian Barry's *A Long Long Way*, in addition to one or two poems, provided for each class. Participants will also be asked to watch the film *Regeneration* for discussion. We will email a sampling of pre-war poetry to read before the first class and class members might want to begin *Birdsong*, which we will introduce in the second session.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

**Elsa Newmyer** taught English and related subjects to middle and high school students for close to 30 years. A lifelong reader, she loves nothing more than teaching literature. She spent 20 years at Georgetown Day School, in addition to other independent schools.

**Virginia Newmyer** has taught many courses at OLLI, chiefly about British history, illustrated with PowerPoint presentations. She also teaches classes with Susan Willens on the links between literature and history at *Politics and Prose* and at the Smithsonian.

## 678 Shakespeare in Performance: The Making of a Merchant of Venice

**CAROL LIGHT**

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

**September 28**

Should Hitler's favorite Shakespeare play, *The Merchant of Venice*, be performed at all and, if so, can it or should it be made palatable to modern sensibilities without destroying its artistic integrity? We will look at what the text says and why, as well as discussing what choices are available to editors, directors, actors, and other contributing artists, what balances must be struck, and how these choices and our own preconceptions make a "Merchant." We will see and discuss how, among others, performances from Laurence Olivier, Al Pacino, and Maggie Smith resolve the question of how tolerant will we be, and should we be, of the bigotry and ambiguity of this acknowledged problem play.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Carol Light's** decades of addiction to Shakespeare in Performance, particularly by the Royal Shakespeare Company, has resisted all known forms of therapy. Despite this problem, she managed to mostly retire as a lawyer and now leads Shakespeare in Performance

*Study Groups, having done Hamlet, Tempest, Lear, Henry V, and Richard III.*

## 681 The Best American Essays of 2016

**SUSAN WILLENS**

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

**September 25**

This study group will read a selection of essays from the *The Best American Essays of 2016*, edited by Jonathan Franzen and will discuss the range of styles, forms, and subjects covered.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Susan P. Willens** has been an OLLI study group leader for several years, following her career as a teacher. She taught English — literature and composition — at George Washington University, the Edmund Burke School, and in several universities and schools overseas.

## 682 The Best American Essays of 2016

**SUSAN WILLENS**

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

**September 28**

For course description and Study Group Leader bio see 681.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

## 684 Three Symbolic Novels

**HELEN SCHWARTZ**

**Nine Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 26**

Symbols offer different paths into three outstanding novels: Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony* (Southwest Indian culture engages the dominant Anglo culture), Elie Wiesel's *The Gates of the Forest* (his best novel about Jewish survival in WWII Hungary), and Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* (about an English family at their summer home and the physics of memory). These are three of my favorite books, with insight into three distinct times and cultures. Come explore.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Helen Schwartz** has taught OLLI classes on Shakespeare, American literature, *Documents that Changed the World*, and *Year Zero: A History of 1945*. Retired from Indiana University, with a PhD in English Literature, she now writes historical suspense novels and traffics in the international exchange of ideas.

## 690 Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Hamlet*: A Close Study

**OSA COFFEY**

**Nine Mondays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 25**

This study group will examine Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark* with emphasis on a close reading of the text. Short lectures will highlight the literary, social, and political context of the late Elizabethan age. DVD scenes from a variety of *Hamlet* productions will be shown. Students who enroll in this group need to have prior knowledge of some of Shakespeare's major works, i.e. by having read several plays, seen performances, or having participated in previous OLLI Shakespeare groups.

*Hamlet* will be performed at a local theater in the fall of 2017.

A group visit to see the play will be organized.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Osa D. Coffey has a PhD in English literature and extensive teaching experience. She has been a Senior Docent at the Folger Shakespeare Library for more than ten years. She has previously led several OLLI groups on various Shakespeare topics.*

## 695 Reading Modern Italian Fiction: Writers and Regions

**JUDITH PLOTZ**

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

**September 28**

This study group will concentrate on four modern Italian novelists — Giorgio Bassani, Italo Calvino, Elena Ferrante, and Leonardo Sciascia — whom we will read within their biographical, historical, and regional contexts. Bassani depicts Ferrara under Fascism; Sciascia the complex web of mid-20th century Sicilian society; Ferrante the Camorra-controlled neighborhoods of late-20th century Naples. Italo Calvino, by contrast, is a Utopian writer of imaginary spaces. We'll supplement the reading with a few relevant films (*The Leopard*, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*). Most of our texts are short — short stories or novellas — so there will be plenty of time for discussion.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Judith Plotz, Professor Emerita of English, taught at George Washington University for many years, offering courses in British romanticism, 19th century humanities, colonial/postcolonial British*

*and Indian literature, and children's literature. At OLLI she's taught Kipling, Colonial Fiction, and Metaphysical Fiction. Recently she's been studying Italian.*

## 700 HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

### 705 The Life and Times of Winston Churchill

**STANLEY NEWMAN**

**Ten Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:30 PM)**

**September 27**

This study group will examine the life and times of Winston Churchill (1874–1965). Born at the time of the great British Empire under Queen Victoria, Churchill lived to see its dissolution. He played a major role in British and world events after becoming an MP at the age of 26. He was a major actor in World War I and, for many, the savior of England in World War II. We will discuss his political, family, literary, and artistic life. We will hear some of his memorable speeches. The study group will look at Churchill, not only from the point of view of admirers, but also from his critics. The study group participants will be asked to volunteer to make short presentations on selected topics. The book, *Churchill, An Unruly Life* by Norman Rose (paperback) can be borrowed from the Study Group Leader by the first eleven participants. The hardback book, in larger print than the paperback, is titled *Churchill: The Unruly Giant*, which is out of print but may be found online. This study group will run an extra 15 minutes.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Stan Newman graduated from Trinity College and Columbia Law School. He received a Political Science Association Fellowship to study at the London School of Economics. He is a former Adjunct Professor at Catholic and American Universities. This will be Stan's fourth semester leading this study group.*

### 711 Anti-Intellectualism in America

**JOEL DENKER**

**Nine Thursdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 28**

Suspicion of the intellectual is a powerful force in America today. Its roots run deep in our culture and history. We will examine historian Richard Hofstadter's Pulitzer Prize winning book, *Anti-Intellectualism in American Life*. In this study, Hofstadter demonstrates the role of anti-intellectualism in American politics, education, religion, and other areas. Although there will be lecture, the core of the sessions will be analysis and discussion

of the text. Supplementary readings will be used to clarify and expand on Hofstadter's ideas.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Joel Denker is a veteran teacher and OLLI leader, whose books illuminate central themes in American culture — education, ethnicity, labor, and food. He received his doctorate from Harvard.*

## 715 Evolution of Civilization in Meso-America: 20,000 BC–2017 AD

**LARRY HEILMAN**

**Nine MONDAYS (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 25**

The course will explore the evolution of civilization in Meso-America from 20,000 BC to 2017 AD by examining the pre-Columbian antecedents in Meso-America; the Iberian antecedent; the Spanish conquest; the political, economic, and religious institutions of the Colonial period in the Viceroyalty of Nueva España (New Spain) and its Audiencias (Guatemala and Yucatan); the 19th century, Mexico and the United States; the 1910 Revolution and its impact; the Mexican muralists in the 20th century; the Mexican muralist movement spreads into the US. The discussions of institutions and artifacts (art and architecture) will provide the opportunity to study continuity and change in Mexico. During each session 10 to 15 minutes may be devoted to contemporary affairs Mexico.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Larry Heilman has a PhD in History. He has taught Latin American History at various universities and undertaken archeological fieldwork in Mexico, Spain, Florida, and California. Currently he is a Research Associate in the Andean Division of the Anthropology Department at the Natural History Museum of the Smithsonian where his research is focused on the impact of US foreign assistance on Bolivia from 1939 to 2013. His book, USAID in Bolivia: Partner or Patrón? is forthcoming from Lynne Rienner Publishers.*

## 718 Politics in the Early American Republic

**BARBARA COLEMAN**

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

**September 28**

During the tumultuous decade of the 1790s in America, rival political factions of Federalists and Republicans battled over the future course of the young republic. The legacy of the Revolution

itself was at stake in the eyes of leaders Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison. As we discuss the political philosophies of these men, and the domestic and foreign events of that period, we will try to understand the animating passions of a democratic nation — then and now.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Barbara Coleman is a retired senior policy advisor for AARP's Public Policy Institute. She has taught several OLLI study groups on American History.*

## 719 Jewish History and Life: Diaspora to Israel

**JOSH BERMAN**

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

**September 27**

Judaism has been present for 4000 years. In this study group, we will follow Judaism from its apparent end with the diaspora in 135 CE to the State of Israel, with the aim of understanding how Judaism was able to survive another 19 centuries and be a part of our present world. Equal emphasis will be placed on historic events and Jewish life during those periods of history. The two texts (Scheindlin's, which is short and clear, Johnson's, which is longer and more provocative) will be supplemented by original sources and videos.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** More than 3 hrs/week.

*Jonathan (Josh) Berman, MD, PhD, is a Jewish-American with a lifelong interest in his heritage.*

## 721 TR, Twain, and American Imperialism

**ROBERT COE**

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

**September 27**

In this study group, we will deal with an important development in American history: the bitter conflict between the expansionists and the anti-imperialists at the turn of the 20th century over the country's future role in the world. The expansionists were led by Presidents William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt, Henry Cabot Lodge, and William Randolph Hearst. The Anti-Imperialist League included such important figures as Mark Twain, Andrew Carnegie, and William Jennings Bryan. The expansionists narrowly won in the Senate and the Supreme Court on the crucial issue of the US occupation of the Philippines. We will assess why this occurred and the implications for America's subsequent foreign policy.

Book: Stephen Kinzer, *The True Flag*.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Bob Coe** has an MA in History from Columbia and an MAT in Teaching from Wesleyan. A former Foreign Service Officer, he has been teaching mostly history study groups at OLLI since 2005.

## 724 City-States in Renaissance Italy: 1350–1527

**MARKLEY ROBERTS**

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

**September 25**

The flowering of art and humanism in Renaissance Italy, 1350-1527, stemmed from a marvelous concentration of wealth by affluent, highly competitive Italian city-state merchants, bankers, and professional soldiers. We will read about and discuss these city-states' achievements in trade, politics, intellectual life, and art. We will also look at some outstanding individuals, such as the Duke of Urbino, Machiavelli, Castiglione, and the d'Este sisters. Plenty of reading, plenty of discussion.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

**Markley Roberts**, an economics PhD, has given various OLLI courses, including one on Lorenzo di Medici and Renaissance Florence.

## 740 Slavery in America: 1619–1820

**KAREN STEWART**

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

**September 28**

This study group will examine the first 200 years in the development of slavery in America. Study group participants will be expected to read the assigned text in Ira Berlin's *Many Thousands Gone* in preparation for each session. We will examine the evolution of slavery across geographic areas and across time. The focus of the discussion will be on the ways in which decisions, legislation, and policies concerning slavery, implemented in the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries, continue to impact us today. There is an important national conversation about race going on in America right now. This study group will be a chance to engage with each other in that conversation.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Karen Stewart** recently retired from Westat where she was a Senior Study Director. She worked on a variety of health and social science studies under contract to CDC, NIH, and other federal and private agencies. Her interest in slavery began during her service in the Peace Corps. She has studied the topic intensely since her retirement.

## 750 Great American Trials

**ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ**

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

**September 29**

This study group will examine eleven major American trials. The lectures will place the trials in historical and political context so the importance of the case can be seen more clearly. Actual transcripts, where available, will be used to discuss the legal tactics and the personalities of the lawyers, prosecutors, and defendants.

Trials discussed in this seminar will include: The Trial of Anne Hutchinson, The Black Sox Scandal and Pete Rose, the Lincoln Assassins, the Oppenheimer case, the Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. and James Earl Ray, the John Brown Case, the Custody Trial of Gloria Vanderbilt, The My Lai Massacre, the Baby M case, and Bush v. Gore.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Arnold Leibowitz** is an attorney in Washington, DC, in practice for over 40 years. His special interests are major social and political trends.

## 763 American Civil War: The Battle of Atlanta and the Road to Nashville, 1864

**CHRIS BRADLEY**

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

**September 27**

We will study The Battle of Atlanta and the consequences to the Army of Tennessee en route to the Battle of Nashville in 1864. The course includes a one-day bus trip led by Ed Bearss to a local Civil War site.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Chris Bradley** has led this study group for 17 years. He is a native Washingtonian and Civil War historian.

## 764 Breakup of the Ottoman Empire, 1800–1923, and Consequences Today

**ELIZABETH SHELTON**

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

**September 28**

World War I brought the breakup of the Ottoman Empire into 40 separate nations, creating the modern Middle East and the Balkan nations. What are the consequences today, 100 years after the peace treaties were signed ending the war? The “Eastern Question” — at the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire (Who got which part of the Empire?) occupied the European diplomatic scene throughout the 19th century, involving all the Great Powers. This study group examines the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, World War I, the European plays for territorial expansion, and how the treaties ending the Great War set the stage for hot spots in the Middle East today.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*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 Doctor of Liberal Studies degree at Georgetown University.

## 766 Russian Thinkers on the Coast of Utopia

**DAVID PALMETER**

**Nine Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 27**

When Tom Stoppard read Isaiah Berlin’s *Russian Thinkers*, a series of portraits of mid-19th century intellectual exiles from Tsarist Russia, he was inspired to write his award-winning trilogy, *The Coast of Utopia*, recounting their political and social ideas, their struggles, and their betrayals, in London, Paris, Geneva, and elsewhere in the West as they unsuccessfully plotted to reform the decadent Tsarist government. We will read and discuss relevant essays from *Russian Thinkers* — including portraits of the anarchist Mikhail Bakunin, the journalist and political theorist Alexander Herzen, and the novelist Ivan Turgenev — and then each of the plays of Stoppard’s trilogy: *Voyage*, *Shipwreck*, and *Salvage*. The reading and discussion will be roughly two-thirds Berlin and one-third Stoppard. Participants should read Berlin’s essay, “The Birth of the Russian Intelligentsia,” prior to the first class.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*David Palmeter*, a retired lawyer, has led OLLI study groups since 2008.

## 777 Germany: 1860-1950 — Bismarck to Hitler to Adenauer

**KENNETH COFFEY**

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

**September 25**

The study group will focus on the flow of related events that led from Bismarck’s unification of Germany, through World War I, the Weimar Republic, Hitler’s rise, successes and disasters of World War II, post-war mayhem, to Germany’s reentry into the society of nations. The emphasis will be on understanding what happened and why it happened. Classes, primarily, will be background lectures with short video clips. Class discussions will focus on provided issues. These issues, as well as background articles on the Internet and book references, will be provided on a weekly basis.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ken Coffey* is a retired Federal employee. Including teaching stints at the Naval Postgraduate School and the Naval Academy, Ken worked for ten different agencies in the Legislative and Executive branches. He earned his PhD from the University of London. He has led several similar study groups.

## 786 The Bolshevik Revolution a Century Later

**RICHARD PALMER**

**Eleven Tuesdays (1:45 PM - 3:15 PM)**

**September 26**

The year 2017 marks the centenary of the Russian Revolution; mostly, the Revolution was an unmitigated disaster. This study group will examine the disaster. In addition, the study group will also look for positive or humanizing elements — in art, architecture, music, literature, and political developments especially outside Russia — that mitigate the history and legacy. Much of the course will utilize online resources, including *The New York Times*’s Red Century feature, and the expertise of some collaborators.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Richard R. Palmer* is a retired Washington psychiatrist with an interest in history and culture. He has led several OLLI study groups previously.

**Collaborators** to be determined.

## 787 Exploring the History of the Amazon

**XENIA WILKINSON**

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

**October 05**

This study group focuses on interactions between human societies and their impact on the Amazonian eco-system. We will discuss contacts between European explorers, conquerors, missionaries, and naturalists with indigenous societies. In the post-colonial era, we will examine the Amazon rubber boom. Turning to contemporary issues, we will focus on the devastation caused by aggressive development and settlement projects, and the efforts of environmental organizations, indigenous groups, and other actors to protect the Amazonian environment. Our discussions will be based primarily on the assigned reading, *Tree of Rivers: The Story of the Amazon*, by John Hemming, 2009.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*After retiring from the US Foreign Service, Xenia Wilkinson earned a PhD in Latin American history at Georgetown University. Her dissertation examines the Amazon rubber boom of World War II. Her interest in the Amazon stems from her work as environment counselor at the US Embassy in Brazil during the 1990s.*

## 790 Off the Beaten Path in the DC Area

**RALPH BUGLASS**

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

**September 28**

As the nation's capital, our area is replete with well-known historical attractions tourists swarm to. But there are many other lesser known yet equally interesting landmarks that warrant visiting — or at least knowing about. Come hear about — and experience through lavishly illustrated slides — some of these little known gems and the fascinating stories behind them. Examples include presidential monuments and commemoratives in unexpected places, reminders of World War II and the area's rich African-American history, Gilded Age mansions near DuPont Circle, buildings by Frank Lloyd Wright and other noted architects, early mills that still work, cemeteries that come to life with stories of those interred, and more.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ralph Buglass is a Washington area native and lifelong history buff. A retired communications professional with a BA in history from Cornell and an MA in journalism from American University, he has led OLLI study groups on school segregation/desegregation, and speaks frequently to community groups on a variety of local history topics.*

## 794 Hamilton and Jefferson: Patriotic Protagonists

**MARION CONNELL**

**Nine Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 26**

The contrasting credos of these two founders still resonate in contemporary public policy and American Presidential campaigns. This study group will focus on comparing the political philosophies of Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, exploring how each developed during their lifetimes and is now found in modern practice. Participants will be encouraged to identify examples of each approach as a basis for class discussion.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Marion Connell graduated from Mount Holyoke College with an AB degree in political science and philosophy. She has a masters degree in public administration and over 30 years experience in local, state, and Federal government. Marion has lectured at AU in the School of Public Affairs and is an avid history buff.*

## 799 Henry Stimson and the American Century

**AL KILBORNE**

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

**September 29**

Perhaps no American Statesman cast a longer shadow over the 20th century than Henry Stimson. A protege of Theodore Roosevelt, he subsequently served as cabinet secretary under four presidents. It was Stimson to whom FDR turned to run the War Department during World War II. His last and most heartbreaking assignment was overseeing the development and delivery of the atomic bombs. This is a study group covering the overarching issues of the first half of the 20th century through the lens of Henry Stimson, whose wisdom and rectitude remained unflappable. In 1962, at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis, twelve years after his death, Kennedy's advisors were still asking each other, "What would Colonel Stimson do?"

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Al Kilborne* taught history for 40 years in New York City and DC. Beyond the classroom, he has lectured at Georgetown, the National Archives, local historical societies, and *Politics and Prose*, where he introduced his book, *Woodley and Its Residents*. His education (Pomona, NYU, and Oxford) was interrupted by stints in Vietnam and the rodeo.

## 800 PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

### 815 The Qur'an and Modern Society

**AHMED ACHRATI**

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

**September 28**

This introductory study group provides students with basic cultural background of the Qur'an, its structure, foundational narratives, interpretations, and importance in shaping the worldviews of Muslims. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Ahmed Achrati* is currently an adjunct faculty member at Howard Community College, Columbia, MD, teaching languages and anthropology. He has extensive teaching experience.

### 823 Mastering the Skills of Mindful Meditation

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

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

**September 26**

Mindful awareness can be described as a process of opening ourselves to experience in the moment — physical sensations, emotional feelings and thinking as well as sight and sound. We will learn techniques to use in formal meditation practice as well as in ordinary life to help us be more present in the moment. Sessions will include instruction, guided meditations, and group discussion. Jeffrey will be teaching a comprehensive approach to mindfulness that he learned from his teacher Shinzen Young. Although there is no required reading, participants should plan to practice meditation on their own for at least 10 minutes on most days. This study group is appropriate for both beginners and experienced meditators.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Jeffrey Drobis*, a retired MD, has practiced meditation for 25 years. He has trained as a facilitator with his teacher Shinzen Young and

leads regular group meditations on the telephone. The Mindfulness techniques that he teaches draw on traditional Asian practices but are consciously secular and contemporary.

### 834 Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation — Intermediate Level

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

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

**September 25**

This study group is similar to another offering, Mastering the Skills of Mindful Awareness Practice. It is intended for persons who have taken that class or who have previous experience with meditation. If you are in the latter group, please contact me at [jeffdrobis@gmail.com](mailto:jeffdrobis@gmail.com). Classes will include instruction, extensive guided meditations, and discussions. In addition we will discuss a book titled *The Science of Enlightenment* by Shinzen Young.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hr/week.

*Jeffrey Drobis*, a retired MD, has practiced meditation for 25 years. He has trained as a facilitator with his teacher Shinzen Young and leads regular group meditations on the telephone. The Mindfulness techniques that he teaches draw on traditional Asian practices but are consciously secular and contemporary.

### 835 Exploration of Eastern Thought

**CARL WEICHEL**

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

**September 28**

Eastern religions and philosophies embody many virtues that we in the West find alluring: introspection, gentleness, sensitivity, fortitude, and connection with mind and body. Buddhism in China, Tibet and Southeast Asia, Confucianism in China, Daoism in China, Jainism in India, Sikhism in India, and Zoroastrianism in Iran hold these virtues, but each is quite different in its ideas, practices, and histories. We will explore their unique ethics, cosmologies, and theologies along with backgrounds to their texts, symbols, images, and practices/rituals. Also reviewed will be their cultures and politics, from the early eras of their founding philosophers to current communities and practices that have spread to the West. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/week.

*Carl Weichel* has degrees in marketing and in communications. He has held various positions over his career in marketing, design, and advertising in Australia, South Africa, Canada, and San Francisco.



## 841 The Philosopher's Stone: Enlightenment in Contemporary Philosophy

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**September 27**

While still seeking enlightenment, the proverbial philosopher's stone, contemporary philosophers have extended their field of study well beyond the traditional, academic boundaries of Ethics, Metaphysics, Epistemology, etc. Today, philosophers address issues of interest to a wide audience of informed readers, while still maintaining philosophical rigor in their arguments. Providing a forum for these philosophers, *The New York Times* launched a column in 2010 called "The Stone." In this study group, we will closely read and discuss several essays from this column, collected in *The Stone Reader: Modern Philosophy in 133 Arguments*.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2-3 hrs/week.

*Al Taran* majored in Philosophy as an undergraduate, and began work on a PhD, but earned a living in Information Technology. He has maintained a lifelong interest in Philosophy, and relishes the thought of returning to the subject from the perspective of maturity. This will be his fifth study group for OLLI.

## 867 Aristotle

**DONALD ROSS**

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

**September 29**

This study group will present a unique approach to Aristotle, organizing his philosophy into seven layers of ideas. This semester will focus on Aristotle's logic and epistemology.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Donald Ross* has studied Aristotle in the original Greek and has published on this subject.