



OLLI  
at American University

# SPRING 2016 CATALOG



*Where  
Curiosity  
Never  
Retires*

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## Staff

Executive Director: Anne N. Wallace  
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## SPRING GREETINGS!

Winter in Washington may be bleak and cold, but as the days lengthen, our thoughts turn to spring. Our new OLLI catalog embodies what lies ahead, from the cherry blossoms on its cover to the abundance of intriguing course descriptions within.

We invite you to make your selections and to register your choices. Our new semester starts on February 29th, well before the cherry blossoms circle the Tidal Basin. By that time, we'll be immersed in classes that stimulate our minds, in the company of friends, old and new, who share our love of learning.

Whether or not Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, spring is inevitable. Join us in celebrating the season of renewal. Commit to cultivating a garden of new varieties, and perennial favorites. They're all here, in your OLLI catalog for Spring 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gloria Kreisman'.

**Gloria Kreisman**  
*Chair, Board of Directors*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Anne Wallace'.

**Anne Wallace**  
*Executive Director*

Mailing Address: 4400 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016

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Email: [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@american.edu) | Website: [www.olli-dc.org](http://www.olli-dc.org)

# MISSION

*The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn.*

*OLLI is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that curiosity never retires.*

# EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

OLLI does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, age, religious preference, national origin, or sexual orientation.

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## IMPORTANT DATES

- Feb. 8** Lottery Day
- Feb. 10** Registration Letters emailed
- Feb. 17** **Open House: 9:45-11:15 am**  
SGL/SGR Meeting:  
11:15 am-Noon
- Feb. 22** New Member Breakfast
- Feb. 29** **Classes Begin**
- March 17** SGR Luncheon
- March 25** SGL Luncheon
- April 12** Annual Meeting
- May 6** **Last Day of Classes**
- May 20** Spring Fundraiser

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

**OLLI classes will be CANCELED ALL DAY whenever the District of Columbia Public School system announces school closings OR delayed openings.** Members are urged to check our website as well as local television and radio stations that broadcast bulletins for the District's public schools.

## JANUARY LECTURE SERIES

Go to page 43 to see the incredible roster of speakers in our January Lecture Series.



Printed on Recycled Paper.

# WHAT IS OLLI?

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Drawing on the talent and experience of seniors in the Washington, DC area, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at American University offers a unique opportunity to continue learning at the university level. Members come from varied social, economic, and career backgrounds, ranging from business, academia, and homemaking to education, the arts, and government service. What they have in common is a genuine interest in continuing their learning experiences and intellectual stimulation by participation in an organization with other “seasoned learners.” There are no educational prerequisites for membership in OLLI.

## Learning Community

The basic concept of the program is that of peer learning and teaching. Members participate fully in study groups through preparation for, and involvement in, discussions on a wide variety of subjects. There are no tests and no grades; members participate purely for the joy of learning. Members are encouraged to discuss the possibility of leading a study group with members of the Curriculum Committee and by participating in our Study Group Leader Training Course.

## Study Group Leadership Training

We offer a three-session class to give participants the confidence and skills to become effective study group leaders, and to give current or past SGLs the opportunity to share their wisdom or to improve their instructional and leadership styles. The topics covered in the class will include gathering resources, organizing a syllabus, and sharpening presentation skills. Members will have an opportunity to practice, to be videotaped, and to get feedback from each other. Coordinated by Selma Rosenthal, this class will be held February 9, 10, and 11 from 10:00-11:50 am at the Temple Baptist Church. If you are interested, please call the office at 202.895.4860 or email [OLLI@american.edu](mailto:OLLI@american.edu). (This training may be taken in addition to three other courses.)

## Membership Involvement

Members become involved not only as study group leaders or representatives but also as participants on an elected board and appointed committees. As a democratic membership organization, OLLI depends on the volunteer services of its members. Members are strongly encouraged to participate in one or more of the following:

The **Board of Directors** and its various committees develop and implement policies, procedures, and activities designed to enhance the overall program.

**Study Group Leaders (SGLs)** are members with special expertise or interests who wish to share these with other members by designing and leading study groups. They are entitled to free classes during the semester they lead a group or the following semester.

**Study Group Representatives (SGRs)** function as a liaison between their study group and the OLLI administration. They facilitate member participation, make announcements, and assist study group leaders.

## Expanded Social Experience

Membership in OLLI provides an opportunity for increased social interaction and new friendships based on a shared interest in learning. Informal lunchtime discussions and special events such as open houses, guest speakers, and coffee hours provide some of the many occasions for socializing. Many outgrowths of OLLI have developed among members interested in pursuing a topic in depth. Each “OLLI Opportunity” or “OLLI Op” meets independently and provides an environment of continued friendship and learning.

# HOW IS OLLI ORGANIZED?

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OLLI is an independent, nonprofit organization 501(c)(3) incorporated in Washington, DC, located at American University (AU), and is part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute National Network, which now includes 119 Institutes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. OLLI leases space from AU for its administrative offices. Members are eligible to use the university library, computers, parking, Metro shuttle service, campus store, dining facilities, and to join the Jacobs Fitness Center at a reduced rate.

Most educational activities of OLLI take place in classrooms leased to OLLI by the Temple Baptist Church (TBC) at 3850 Nebraska Avenue, NW. The church provides classrooms as well as office space, restrooms, and common areas. **A limited number of marked parking spaces (18) are available for handicapped members (with visible permits) in the church parking lot.**

Other classes are held at:

- Anderson Computer Lab (AC) on the AU campus
- Forest Hills (FH) Senior Inclusive Living
- Gandhi Memorial Center (GMC)
- River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation (RR)
- St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral (GOC).
- See map on page 9.

## Online Discussion Groups

We are eager to offer additional online discussion groups. You can obtain more information on the OLLI website. If you have an interest in starting an online group to discuss a book you are reading or to have an online conversation about an issue that is important to you, please contact the office to see if we can help you get an online group started. This online and interactive environment provides you the opportunity to engage with other OLLI members in a format that goes beyond the traditional classroom and gives you the flexibility to participate at your convenience.

## Support of OLLI

Membership fees (\$275 per semester) support the program. OLLI is further supported by an endowment from the Osher Foundation given to, and managed by, American University. OLLI receives a percentage of the interest from the endowment annually.

The OLLI Future Fund, established by the Board of Directors, is for future space needs. We welcome donations to OLLI at any time. OLLI is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

## EVENTS

**Open Houses** occur each fall and spring, enabling new and continuing members to get together, learn about OLLI, and meet study group leaders.

A **New Member Breakfast** is held before each semester begins to welcome new members and to answer their questions.

The **Tuesday Lecture Series** takes place during the semester and features members of the greater Washington, DC community, each speaking on a special field of interest. Members are encouraged to have lunch together and then attend the lecture from 12:15 to 1:15 pm. Lectures are free and open to the public. No reservations are necessary.

**Interim Lecture Series** are held in January and June, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays — from 10:00 to 11:30 am — featuring speakers on a variety of subjects. Lectures are free and open to the public. No reservations are necessary.

**Special Events** include day trips, museum tours, discussions, and other activities.

**Town Hall** in the fall and **Annual Meeting** in the spring give members an opportunity to see others, voice concerns, ask questions, and learn more about OLLI's future plans.

A **Holiday Party** is held in December. A **Fundraiser** is held in May.

## THE ABCs OF OLLI

### Accessibility

The Anderson Computer Lab, Forest Hills, River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral are fully handicapped accessible. The first floor (Room 6) of the Temple Baptist Church is wheelchair accessible. Participants can be dropped off by the back driveway off 44th Street. There is a split staircase leading from the first to the second floor of the church. If a participant enters from the Nebraska Ave. entrance, there are approximately 8 steps going up and 8 going down. There are two single restrooms in rooms 1 and 5 on the second floor as well as a women's and men's room on the first floor. The Gandhi Memorial Center is not handicapped accessible.

### American University Benefits

#### AU Computers

OLLI members may use the AU computers and Internet free of charge.

#### AU Library

All OLLI members may use the AU Library. The library is located on the main campus at the west end of the university quadrangle ([www.library.american.edu/](http://www.library.american.edu/)). Request a Special Borrowers Card from the Circulation Desk. Tell them you are an OLLI member. We send a list of our members to the library when the semester begins.

#### AU Fitness Centers

All OLLI members are eligible for an **annual membership at the Jacobs Fitness Center at a discounted rate**. Feel free to call the Fitness Center at 202-885-6267.

### Books

A book list is included at the back of this catalog. Books will be ordered through Politics and Prose bookstore at 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008, (202) 364-1919 or [politics-prose.com](http://politics-prose.com) online. Politics and Prose is offering OLLI members a 10% discount on books for study groups.

Books also will be available through the AU Bookstore on campus. OLLI members are entitled to a 10% discount. Books can also be ordered online (often at reduced prices) or purchased at other book stores. The following are some online suggestions for purchasing books, in alphabetical order: AbeBooks.com, AddAll.com, Alibris.com, Amazon.com, BookCloseouts.com, BookFinder.com, Half.com, and Powells.com.

### Contact Information

Please log into your OLLI account to ensure your contact information, including telephone number(s) (including any cell phone), email, emergency contact name, relationship, and telephone number are current and accurate.

## Directory of Members

We publish a membership directory each semester listing members' names, addresses, phone numbers and emails.

**Please fill out this section of the registration form carefully if you do not want your contact information included.** The directory is available online to download. Printed copies are available at each site as well.

## Email and E-Newsletter

We use email as our primary means of communication. Please make sure that you check your email several times per week during the semester. Also we send a monthly newsletter via email.

## Lecture Series

We offer four Lecture Series throughout the year. Each semester there is a lecture on Tuesdays from 12:15–1:15 pm. In January and June there are lectures on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 –11:30 am.

## Lost and Found

There is a lost and found box at the Temple Baptist Church annex office and in the River Road facility. Please check there or call the office if you have misplaced something.

## Lunchtime Options

Brown bag lunch with OLLI friends at Temple Baptist Church, dine at AU's University Club (set price), or purchase lunch in the Market Place cafeteria in the Mary Graydon Center, in the deli in the Ward Circle Building, or in the Katzen Arts Center.

## Maps

See page 9 for a map of all sites. See page 5 for a map of Temple Baptist Church and American University.

## Nametags

Please wear your OLLI nametag to all classes and events.

## Parking

See page 4 for complete information on parking.

## Privacy Policy

OLLI at American University is highly sensitive to the privacy interests of members and believes that the protection of those interests is one of its most significant responsibilities. We do not share member information with any outside groups, and we only publish the member directory as a courtesy to our members. We expect members to adhere to the same policy.

If you have questions about this privacy policy, please feel free to contact us by phone at 202-895-4860 or email at [olli@american.edu](mailto:olli@american.edu).

## Refunds

**The office must receive requests for refunds, in a written note or an e-mail, no later than the end of the second week of the term for which the refund is requested.**

A \$25 processing fee will be assessed. **This term the deadline for refunds is close of business Friday, March 11.**

## Shorts

In addition to the Spring and Fall semesters, we offer February Shorts, three- to five-day immersion study groups.

## Scholarships

If you need scholarship assistance, please write a note or an e-mail to the executive director with your request. All requests are confidential.

## Transfers

Membership in OLLI is not transferable. Spouses or partners must have their own individual memberships.

## Trips

Each academic year we try to offer several trips for members. Typically, buses are provided and trips sometimes include boxed lunches or meals at a restaurant. Past trip destinations have included:

- Civil War sites in Maryland, Virginia
- Monticello and the University of Virginia Library
- Nationals Park for Nationals baseball games
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts for Picasso Exhibit
- Wolf Trap for performance of H.M.S. Pinafore

## Waiting Lists

If you are waitlisted for a class and a seat opens in the class, members will be offered the seat in the order in which they appear on the waitlist.

## Weather Policy for Class Cancellation

**OLLI classes will be CANCELED ALL DAY whenever the District of Columbia Public School system announces school closings or delayed openings.** Members are urged to check our website as well as local television and radio stations that broadcast bulletins for the District's public schools.

Website

Please visit the OLLI website at [www.olli-dc.org](http://www.olli-dc.org):

- to view our calendar, including lecture series, and events,
- to register for classes and to pay membership dues with a Visa or MasterCard in an encrypted, secure transaction,
- to add, drop, or change classes, or to request a refund, and/or
- to make a donation to the OLLI Future Fund or to volunteer.

# ACCESSIBILITY & PARKING

## Parking by AU's Main Campus

The residential area around Temple Baptist is zoned by the DC Police for two-hour parking, which is why our classes are one hour and 50 minutes. The University also legally patrols the neighborhood and writes tickets.

**If you are attending a class or lecture in the Katzen Center, you must part in the Katzen Center garage.** If you park on the street, you may be issued a parking ticket by the University.

**You must register your car with AU once per calendar year.**

Call 202-885-3111 or email: [parking@american.edu](mailto:parking@american.edu). Tell them you are an OLLI member. Give them your name and phone number, car make/color, and license number/state. Or complete and mail the form on page 5.

## Anderson Computer Lab

*American University Campus*

Parking is available in the Katzen Center garage. Note your parking space number. There are pay-as-you-go machines on Level P1. Parking is \$2 per hour. The machines accept cash or credit cards. Street parking is available on Nebraska Ave. between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm. An AU shuttle bus leaves from the Tenley Metro station regularly, goes down Nebraska Ave. and stops in front of Temple Baptist Church and on AU's main campus. See map on page 5.

**Anderson Computer Lab is handicapped accessible.**

## Forest Hills of DC Senior Living Residence

*4901 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008*

*foresthillsodc.org*

Forest Hills has limited parking on site. There is also plenty of street parking available on adjacent streets. **Forest Hills is handicapped accessible.**

## Gandhi Memorial Center

*4748 Western Ave., Bethesda, MD 20816*

*www.gandhimemorialcenter.org*

Gandhi Memorial Center has plenty of street parking available on adjacent streets. **The Center is not handicapped accessible.**

## River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation

*6301 River Rd., Bethesda, MD 20817*

*www.rruuc.org*

Free parking in the lot and on the south side of Whittier Blvd.

**The church is handicapped accessible.**

By Metro and Bus: The Ride-On Route 29 from the Bethesda Metro stops in front of the building.

See: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/routesandschedules/allroutes/route029.html>.

## AU SHUTTLE BUS FROM TENLEYTOWN METRO

A free, open-to-the-public AU shuttle bus leaves from the Tenley Metro station every 10 minutes and travels down Nebraska Ave. to the Temple Baptist Church. Exit the Metro on the East side of Wisconsin Ave. and make two lefts to find the bus on 40th Street.

Get off the bus at Nebraska Hall (before Ward Circle, just steps from the Temple Baptist Church).

Get on the bus at Tenley Hall or Hughes Hall inside the main AU gate on main campus to return to the Tenley Metro. Check <http://www.american.edu/finance/facilities/shuttle.cfm>. For more shuttle information, including GPS locations, see <http://bus.streeteagleweb.com/BusViewerSL.aspx>

## St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral

*2815 36th St. & Mass. Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20007*

*www.saintsophiadc.com*

St. Sophia has 108 parking spaces on site plus there is street parking available on Garfield St. **The cathedral is handicapped accessible.**

## Temple Baptist Church

*3850 Nebraska Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016*

OLLI is not authorized to use the Church parking lot. You may receive a ticket if you park there. Only Study Group Leaders may park while they are teaching. Those with handicapped plates/passes may park in the 18 designated handicapped spots. Permits must be displayed.

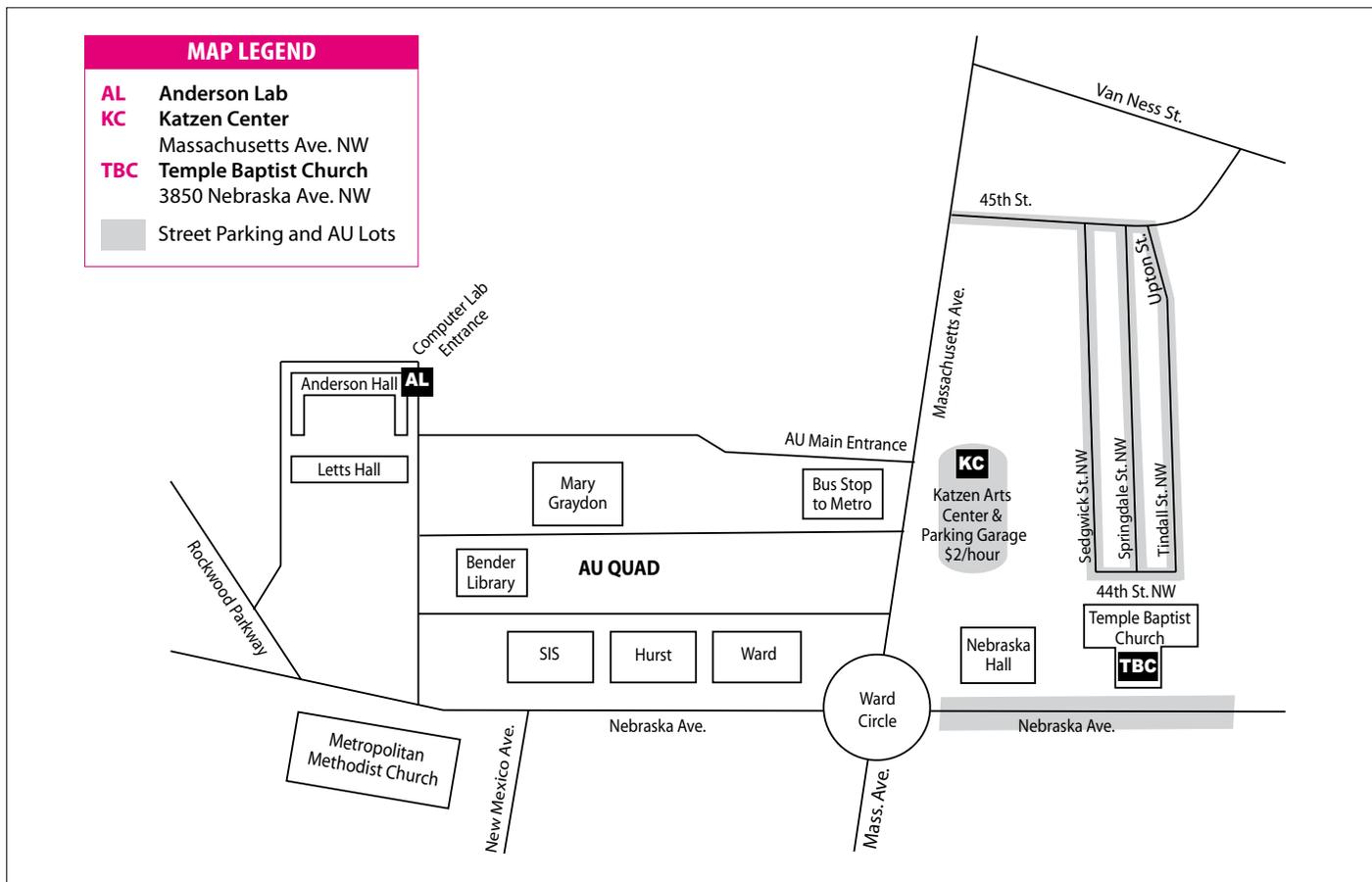
OLLI strongly recommends that you park in the Katzen Center and pay the parking fees required (\$2/hour). Use the kiosks on Level P1 to pay by cash or credit card. Or you may park in the neighborhood behind the church for less than two hours. Please respect our neighbors. **The church is not handicapped accessible.**

## OLLI Office

*4000 Brandywine St. NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20016*

There is metered street parking on Brandywine St. Use the call box near the front door to gain access to the building.

# MAP OF TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH & AU CAMPUS



## AU/OLLI PARKING REGISTRATION

The residential area around Temple Baptist is zoned by the DC Police for two-hour parking, which is why our classes are one hour and 50 minutes. The University also legally patrols the neighborhood and writes tickets.

**You MUST register your car with AU once per calendar year.** Call 202-885-3111 or email: [parking@american.edu](mailto:parking@american.edu). Tell them you are an OLLI member. Give them your name and phone number, car make/color, and license number/state. Or complete and mail the form below.

## OLLI PARKING REQUEST

I am an OLLI member taking classes during the Fall 2015 semester. **Please register my car so that I don't get an AU ticket.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CAR MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ CAR COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

CAR LICENSE PLATE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:** Public Safety, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016.

# REGISTRATION PROCESS

**We highly recommend that members get their registrations into our office BEFORE Lottery Day (February 8, 2016).**

Class sizes are determined by Study Group Leaders' requests and available space. If a study group is oversubscribed on Lottery Day, the registrations in that class are subjected to a random computer lottery process. Members who are not selected for said study group are put on a waiting list and will be called by the office if space becomes available. Registration confirmation notices will be emailed by **February 10**. We will continue to accept registrations on a space-available basis until the semester begins.

OLLI reserves the right to cancel any study group. Members registered in a study group that is canceled will be notified immediately so that they may select an available alternate.

## JOIN OLLI

*You may join OLLI, pay for membership, register for study groups, and donate to OLLI, all at once. To do so, complete the form on pages 7 and 8. Mail the form with a check made payable to OLLI to the address on the form. Or use our online registration system at [www.OLLI-DC.org](http://www.OLLI-DC.org) to join and to pay with a credit card in an encrypted, secure transaction.*

To keep your information confidential, you will need to create a user account. Follow the steps below to create your user account.

1. Go to <http://www.OLLI-DC.org>

Cursor to "**Membership**" in the menu at the top of the page.

A submenu appears. Click on "**Join OLLI**."

2. A new screen appears titled Join OLLI. Click on "**create an account**" in the first paragraph.

3. Fill in the contact information form including entering a user name and password. Write your username and password below. If you lose your user name, the OLLI office can give it to you. You can reset your password or ask the office to do so.

User Name \_\_\_\_\_

Password \_\_\_\_\_

You only need to create your user name and password once. You will use the same ones for all subsequent semesters.

4. Follow the instructions under Register for Study Groups.

# REGISTER FOR STUDY GROUPS

1. Identify the number of study groups you are interested in taking.

**(You must select 1, 2, OR 3 study groups.)**

2. **Prioritize up to six study groups** based on your preference for taking the study groups.

**(1 = highest priority and 6 = lowest priority).**

Note: Prioritize your study groups by whichever method works best for you: subject matter, time/day, location, or Study Group Leader. Even if you have marked that you only want to take one study group, you may still prioritize up to six study groups. When the system processes your registration, it will assign you to your highest level priority study groups that are available.

If you have taken a study group or had a study group leader within the past two semesters, you will be placed on a waitlist for that study group. If the class is NOT oversubscribed, the system will place as many people from the waitlist into the study group as possible. If that class IS oversubscribed, the system will give members who have not had the study group or study group leader in the past two semesters priority for that study group. This policy is designed to give as many members as possible the opportunity to take different study groups.

3. Prior to submitting your registration, please ensure that you have completed all items with an asterisk (\*). These are **required** items.

4. Submit your registration.

5. You will receive email confirmation of your **PENDING** registration.

6. After Lottery Day (Feb. 8), you will receive email confirmation of your **ASSIGNED** schedule with your name tag. Please print both.

You can change your schedule after registration day by going online or calling the office to register for any available study group.

**Please email or call the office to register for a fourth course AFTER the second week of classes.**

Do not assume there is space available if you see an empty seat. The number of participants for each study group is determined by the study group leader, by available space, and by the office.

**Our study group leaders spend a prodigious amount of time preparing their classes. Please attend the classes for which you are registered and ONLY the classes for which you are registered.**

# OLLI AT AU REGISTRATION FORM

**REGISTER NOW!**  
Lottery Day is  
Monday, Feb. 8, 2016.

**Spring 2016: February 29 – May 6**

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW • Washington, DC 20016

Phone 202.895.4860 | Email: OLLI@american.edu • website: www.OLLI-DC.org

Please complete all parts of the registration form. See directions on the previous page. You can also register online at [www.oli-dc.org](http://www.oli-dc.org)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APARTMENT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE NUMBER    -    -      
CELL PHONE NUMBER    -    -

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP TO EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBER    -    -

## REGISTER FOR STUDY GROUPS

**1. SELECT whether you want to register for 1, 2, or 3 study groups.**

Check only one box:  1  2  3

**2. List up to 6 study groups in priority order.**

STUDY GROUP NUMBER	STUDY GROUP NAME	VOLUNTEER TO BE STUDY GROUP REPRESENTATIVE
1. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Study Group Leaders:** To register for Study Group Leadership training, please call the office at 202-895-4860.

**\*To register for a 4th class,** you must call or e-mail the OLLI office after March 11, 2016.

## PAYMENTS & DONATIONS

Please make checks payable to OLLI. Payment must accompany registration or register with a credit card online at: [www.OLLI-DC.org](http://www.OLLI-DC.org).  
Financial assistance is available. Contact the OLLI office for information.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Spring 2016 Semester (\$275)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to the OLLI Future Fund. OLLI is a 501(c)(3) organization.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL**

**See reverse side for name and image releases.**

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## DONATION LISTING

**DO NOT** publish my name in any public lists of member donations.

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## DIRECTORY LISTING

Please check the boxes below if you do NOT want your contact information included in our Membership Directory, which is produced as a courtesy to our members and is intended for internal use only.

**DO NOT** include the following in the OLLI Membership Directory.

My Name  My Phone Number  My Street Address  My E-mail Address

---

## PUBLICITY RELEASE

Check this box if you **DO NOT** authorize OLLI to use your photo and name in its marketing and publicity.

---

## VOLUNTEER

Check the box or boxes below to volunteer for tasks.

Study Group Leader (SGL)

*Develop and lead an OLLI Study Group*

Photography

*Photograph OLLI events*

Office/Mailings

*Fold, stuff, seal, and stamp OLLI mailings*

Membership/Publicity

*Promote OLLI, welcome potential members at OLLI events*

Social

*Organize OLLI social events*

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## RETURN COMPLETED FORM

**Mail completed form to:**

**Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Washington, DC 20016

**Or deliver completed form to the OLLI office at:**

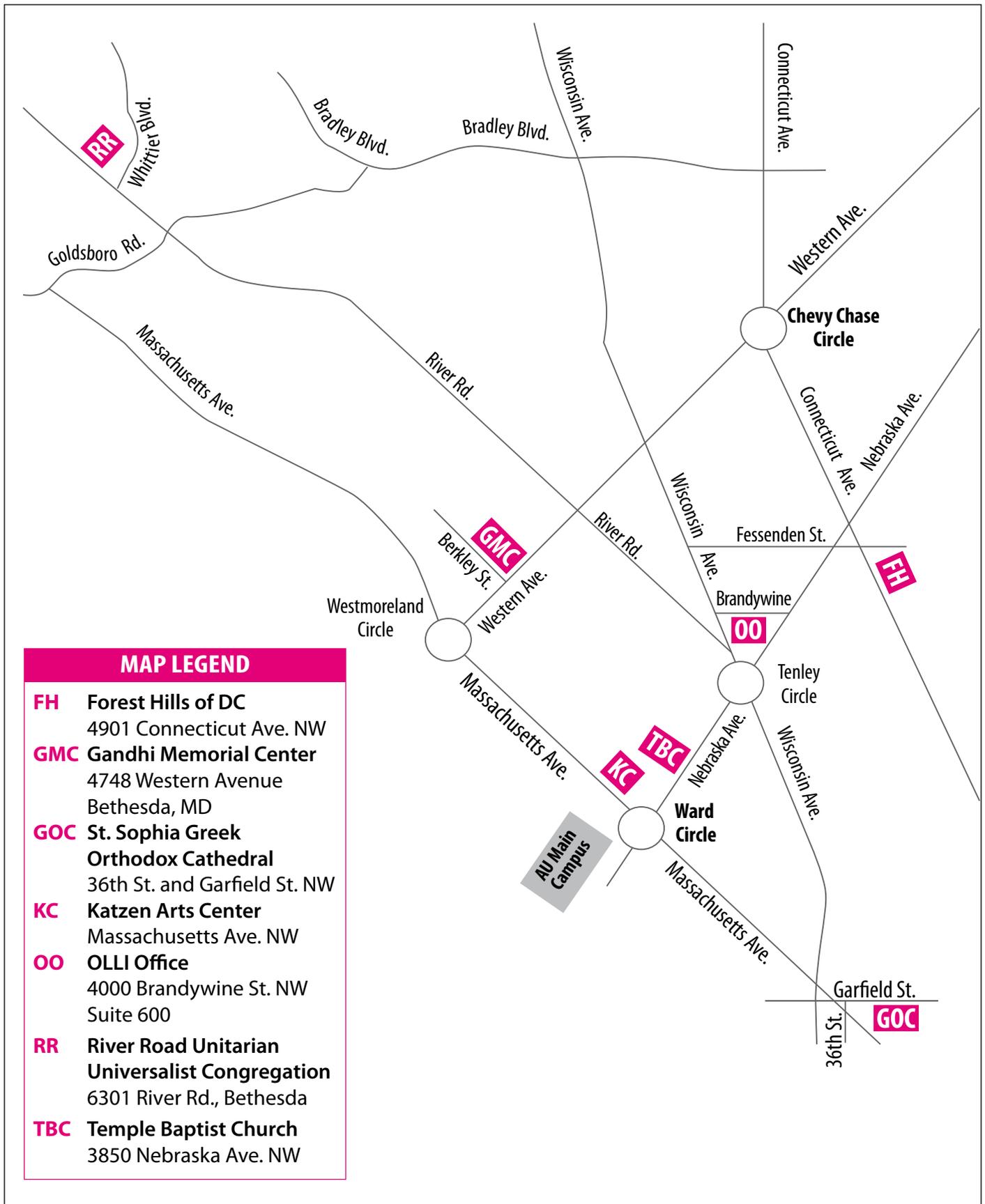
4000 Brandywine St. NW

Suite 600

Washington, DC

# MAP OF OLLI SITES

See page 5 to locate Anderson Computer Lab on the AU Main Campus.



MAP LEGEND	
<b>FH</b>	<b>Forest Hills of DC</b> 4901 Connecticut Ave. NW
<b>GMC</b>	<b>Gandhi Memorial Center</b> 4748 Western Avenue Bethesda, MD
<b>GOC</b>	<b>St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral</b> 36th St. and Garfield St. NW
<b>KC</b>	<b>Katzen Arts Center</b> Massachusetts Ave. NW
<b>OO</b>	<b>OLLI Office</b> 4000 Brandywine St. NW Suite 600
<b>RR</b>	<b>River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation</b> 6301 River Rd., Bethesda
<b>TBC</b>	<b>Temple Baptist Church</b> 3850 Nebraska Ave. NW

# SCHEDULE OF SPRING 2016 STUDY GROUPS

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER	START	SESSION	SITE	ACCESSIBLE
<b>MONDAY AM (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)</b>						
190	Israel and the World	Brenner	2/29	8	TBC	
258	Writing and Sharing Your Family History	Benor	2/29	8	RR	Ⓢ
415	The Cambrian Explosion: Body Plans for Life	Seastrum	3/7	8	RR	Ⓢ
425	Stem Cells	Cafoncelli	2/29	9	GOC	Ⓢ
542	Billings to Bernstein and Beyond: "Classical" Music in America	Bowen	2/29	9	TBC	
583	Eight Great 20th Century Composers	Squitieri	2/29	8	TBC	
631	Understanding Families Through Plays	Lewis	2/29	8	GOC	Ⓢ
635	The Latin American Short Story II (in English)	Orenstein	2/29	9	GOC	Ⓢ
646	The Book of Job	Lebow	2/29	10	TBC	
681	Great American Essays	Willens	2/29	8	TBC	
692	Shakespeare Seminar: A Close Reading of <i>Othello</i>	Coffey	2/29	8	RR	Ⓢ
823	Mastering the Skills of Mindful Awareness Practice	Drobis	2/29	10	GOC	Ⓢ
<b>MONDAY PM (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)</b>						
292	Having Fun and Living Healthier in Retirement	Bickford	3/7	9	RR	Ⓢ
510	The Pocket Studio — Drawings on the Go	Zaremba	2/29	10	TBC	
520	Masterpieces of Music (12:30 pm - 2 pm)	Snider	2/29	8	KAC	Ⓢ
612	Cours de conversation en français	Labib	2/29	10	TBC	
641	Making Barsetshire	Moody	2/29	10	TBC	
650	Introduction to James Joyce and to Joycean Writers	Bullock	2/29	10	TBC	
690	Shakespeare's Theatrical London	Coffey	2/29	10	RR	Ⓢ
724	Queen Elizabeth I — England's Renaissance Ruler	Roberts	2/29	8	TBC	
777	1914-1945 — Assessing Critical Events and Decisions	Coffey	2/29	10	RR	Ⓢ
<b>TUESDAY AM (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)</b>						
118	Critical Issues in American Policing	Martin	3/1	9	TBC	
345	The Rise of the Robots — Can We Adjust?	Cohen	3/15	8	TBC	
422	Alternative Medicine and You: Promise, Reality, Potential	Berman	3/1	10	TBC	
444	Advances in Understanding Human Cancer	Litwin	3/1	9	GOC	Ⓢ
508	Drawing and Watercolor Painting	Whitener	3/1	10	TBC	
615	Wie ist Ihr Deutsch? Wollen Sie es auffrischen?	Caraher	3/1	9	RR	Ⓢ
618	Basic Spanish — Part II	Grigera	3/15	8	RR	Ⓢ
630	Who Is <i>Our Mutual Friend</i> , Really?	Freeman	3/1	8	RR	Ⓢ
689	Writing Nonfiction	Rosenbaum	3/1	10	GOC	Ⓢ
691	Beginning Italian for Tourists	Johnson	3/1	9	TBC	
695	Fictions Rich, Strange, and Short	Plotz	3/1	10	GOC	Ⓢ
795	Quo Vadis Russia? Russia in the 20th Century from Lenin to Putin	Levenbook	3/1	9	TBC	
820	Nietzsche	Coe	3/1	10	GOC	Ⓢ
<b>TUESDAY PM (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)</b>						
172	Current Events and Public Policy II	Nevins	3/1	8	TBC	
180	Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens	Hansen	3/1	8	GOC	Ⓢ
249	Signs, Symbols and Archetypes — "What Lies Beneath"	Sachs	3/1	9	GOC	Ⓢ
250	TED Talks	Swan	3/1	8	TBC	
256	The American Songbook as Poetry, Psychology, & Manners	Palmer	3/1	10	TBC	
370	Climate Change: The Way Forward	Ridker	3/1	10	GOC	Ⓢ
389	Stock Market Theory: Classical to Modern	Metler	3/1	8	RR	Ⓢ
435	Quantum Biology	Searle	3/1	10	GOC	Ⓢ
492	Human and Animal Minds, and the Gap Between	Taran	3/1	10	TBC	
509	Drawing and Watercolor Painting	Whitener	3/1	10	TBC	
588	A World of Textiles and Rugs	Swan	3/1	8	TBC	
791	Reconstruction After the American Civil War	Wolfe	3/1	10	RR	Ⓢ
815	The Quran & Modern Society	Achrati	3/1	8	RR	Ⓢ

**LEGEND****AL** Anderson Computer Lab**KC** Katzen Arts Center**FH** Forest Hills**RR** River Road Unitarian

Universalist

Congregation

**GMC** Gandhi Memorial Center**TBC** Temple Baptist Church**GOC** St. Sophia Greek

Orthodox Cathedral



Handicapped Accessible

See page 5 for a map showing the location of the Anderson Lab and page 9 for a map showing all other OLLI locations.

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER	START	SESSION	SITE	ACCESSIBLE
<b>WEDNESDAY AM (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)</b>						
140	China's Resurgence and the Challenge to America	Yahuda	3/2	8	RR	♿
171	Current Events and Public Policy	Nevins	3/2	8	TBC	
232	Finding Your Family History on the Web	Goodman	3/2	8	AL	♿
254	Functions of Public Media: Past and Future	McDonald	3/2	8	GOC	♿
511	Looking at Architecture	Vorhes	3/2	10	TBC	
523	Creating Art through Collage (9:45 am - 12:15 pm)	Mosner	3/2	10	RR	♿
603	Poetry Craftshop: Robert Frost, A Fascicle of Poems and Notes	Pierson	3/2	10	TBC	
607	Leaving Home	Poole	3/2	10	GOC	♿
616	Hablemos en Español — Curso Intermedio	Keller	3/2	8	TBC	
619	French — Back to the Basics	Bonhomme	3/2	10	TBC	
671	The Cock-Eyed World of Aristophanes — Greek Comedy!	White	3/2	9	GOC	♿
731	More New Perspectives on History	Nadell	3/2	8	TBC	
744	How the Second World War Happened — Fateful Choices	Poole	3/2	10	GOC	♿
804	Five Very Big Questions	Stang	3/2	10	RR	♿
<b>WEDNESDAY PM (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)</b>						
152	Understanding Energy and the Natural Gas Revolution	Cooper	3/2	8	GOC	♿
210	Immigration and American Life	Denker	3/2	10	TBC	
361	Boom and Bust	Daney	3/2	8	GOC	♿
497	Plate Tectonics and the Geology of North America	Taran	3/2	10	TBC	
580	Wagner's Ring	Eisen	3/2	8	TBC	
604	Poetry Craftshop: Robert Frost, A Fascicle of Poems and Notes	Pierson	3/2	10	TBC	
638	Recent Poet Laureates: Their Styles and Themes	Coyle	3/2	8	RR	♿
654	The Good, the Bad, and the Mad: Doctors in Fiction and Film	Parascandola	3/2	10	RR	♿
669	Enjoying <i>The New Yorker</i> Together	Hausman	3/2	10	GOC	♿
676	Connecting with Young Adult Literature	Urofsky	3/2	10	TBC	
718	Ratification of the U. S. Constitution	Coleman	3/2	10	TBC	
790	Off the Beaten Path — or a Bit Offbeat — Places in the DC Area	Buglass	3/2	10	GOC	♿
826	The Message of the Holy Quran	Ayoubi	3/2	8	RR	♿
830	Western Culture and Rise of Neo Darwinian Materialism after WWI	O'Connor	3/2	10	GOC	♿
<b>THURSDAY AM (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)</b>						
156	U.S. and Global Challenges	Long	3/3	8	TBC	
351	Financial Planning in Retirement	Silfen	3/3	8	TBC	
480	Understanding Weather	Brown	3/3	10	GOC	♿
547	Prehistoric Rock Art — Part One: A Survey	Achrati	3/3	8	GOC	♿
552	You Can Play the Appalachian Dulcimer!	Buglass	3/3	8	TBC	
622	Orwell's Non-Fiction	Radner	3/3	10	GOC	♿
651	<i>Writing Down the Bones</i>	Hansen	3/3	8	TBC	
682	Great American Essays	Willens	3/3	8	TBC	
710	Seven Photographers Documenting 20th Century America	Greene	3/3	10	GOC	♿
<b>THURSDAY PM (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)</b>						
154	Global Public Health: International Organizations & Selected issues	Farrell	3/3	8	TBC	
577	Collaboration in the Arts: A Celebration	Bortnick & Lipkowitz	3/17	8	TBC	
657	<i>Middlemarch</i>	Frantz	3/3	8	TBC	
786	Red Menace	Fleischman & Palmer	3/3	9	TBC	
865	Isaiah Berlin: The Power of Ideas	Palmeter	3/3	10	TBC	
<b>FRIDAY AM (10:00 A.M. - 11:50 A.M.)</b>						
237	India: Culture, Traditions and Gandhi	Trybulec	3/4	10	GMC	
750	History and Analysis of the US Constitution	Leibowitz	3/4	10	FH	♿

# SPRING 2016 STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

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## 100 POLITICS, LAW & GOVERNMENT

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### 118: Critical Issues in American Policing

**SUSAN MARTIN**

**Nine Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Police shootings, such as in Ferguson MO, have rekindled widespread public debate about the role and control of police in a democratic society. The goals of this study group are to challenge assumptions about police officers and organizations, and to encourage a historical, contextual, and thoughtful approach to exploring the challenges facing policing today. Topics we will address are selection, training and diversity among personnel; the police culture; organization and management of departments; controlling the use of lethal and less-than-lethal force; corruption and integrity issues; the impacts of technology on police work; citizen complaints and investigation procedures; and the possibility of system reforms.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 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.*

### 140: China's Resurgence and the Challenge to America

**MICHAEL YAHUDA**

**Eight Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

China is considered by many Chinese and Americans as the rising great power that is in the process of challenging American global leadership and replacing its predominance in maritime East Asia. We shall evaluate the strength of this proposition, and we shall also consider the merits of the arguments as to whether or not Sino-American relations are bound to end in military conflict. In the process, we shall consider the significance of the main

dimensions of the relationship including the economic, the strategic, the ideological (or cultural) and the popular (i.e., exchanges of people).

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Michael Yahuda is Professor Emeritus in International Relations from the London School of Economics and a Visiting Scholar at GWU. Since retiring to the US in 2003, he has continued writing books and leading study groups at OLLI.*

### 152: Understanding Energy and the Natural Gas Revolution

**ROGER COOPER**

**Eight Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Energy independence, fracking, fossil fuels and climate change — the newspapers are filled with articles about energy, natural gas and the environment, but they often leave readers with a hodgepodge of conflicting views and factoids. In this study group, we will explore the energy resources that power the US and the world today and look at what may be in the works for tomorrow. We will focus primarily on the natural gas revolution and what it means. How does natural gas fit in with other energy resources? How did we move from running out of natural gas to a 100-year supply? How is the US becoming the world's largest oil producer? What are the environmental and climate change implications? What about renewable energy?

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Roger Cooper, MA, JD, has been thinking about energy issues for over 30 years. He is a former executive vice president of the American Gas Association where he served in various capacities for 24 years.*

## 154: Global Public Health: International Organizations and Selected issues

**MARGARET FARRELL**

**Eight Thursday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

This group will explore the extent to which it can be said that there is a global public health system involving such agencies as the World Health Organization, the Center for Disease Control, the World Trade Organization, UN Refugee Organization, The World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund. How effectively are they able to address infectious diseases, such as HIV and Ebola; non-infectious, disease, such as heart disease and cancer; and mental health disorders, such as schizophrenia and depression? Materials will include online readings, visual presentations, and will be sent weekly by e-mail.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Margaret Farrell, a lawyer, has practiced in several DC litigation firms. In 2009 and 2010 she was in Liberia advising the Minister of Health. She has also taught health and human rights courses at Georgetown and American University law schools, as well as in China and Sweden on Fulbright grants.*

## 156: US and Global Challenges

**OLLI COORDINATOR**

**Eight Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Faculty members of American University's School of International Service (SIS) analyze some of the most pressing issues facing the United States and the world. Drawing upon the expertise of the distinguished SIS faculty, the seminar examines how the US and other nations approach such critical concerns as world peace and security, international trade and finance, the global environment, and human rights.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*SIS produces cutting-edge research and prepares the next generation of leaders to address global challenges. SIS enrolls a diverse student body of approximately 3,000 undergraduate and graduate students from throughout the United States and more than 150 countries,*

*taught by nearly 120 full-time faculty members. The school's interdisciplinary curriculum prepares graduates for future studies and for global careers in government, multilateral and non-governmental organizations, and in the private sector.*

## 171: Current Events and Public Policy

**G. RICHARD DUNNELLS**

**LOUIS NEVINS**

**Eight Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Lou Nevins and Dick Dunnells 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 on occasion an on-point article may be suggested. But it is emphasized that this is a discussion, not a lecture, class and participants are expected to take part and to be informed.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

*Richard Dunnells is a senior partner at Holland & Knight LLP. He has been in private law practice in Washington for 43 years. He also served four years as Deputy Assistant Secretary Housing Management at HUD, and he served on the President's Commission on Housing.*

*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 10 years.*

## 172: Current Events and Public Policy II

**JESSINE MONAGHAN**

**LOUIS NEVINS**

**NORMAN CARR**

**Eight Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Lou Nevins and co-discussion leaders Norm Carr and Jessine Monaghan 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 on occasion an on-point article may be suggested. But it is emphasized that this is a discussion, not a lecture, class and participants are expected to take part and to be informed.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

*Jessine Monaghan* is Professor Emeritus of Communications at SUNY.

*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 10 years.

*Norm Carr* is a retired lawyer in private practice who specialized in litigation and media law.

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

**PENNY HANSEN**

**Eight Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

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 well 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.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**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, Johns Hopkins University, and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

## 190: Israel and the World

**MICHAEL BRENNER**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

While comparable in size and population to states like Belize or Tadjikistan, the media attention Israel receives is in a league with Russia and China. Both hatred and sympathy for this state are widespread. No other state has been condemned more often by the United Nations and no other state is mentioned more often in American election campaigns than Israel. This class focuses on Israel and its relations to its neighbors, its foes, and its friends. Leading Israel Studies experts from American University will teach classes on Israel's ties with the Arab world, the United States, and Germany. They will discuss the changing attitude of American Jews towards Israel, the demographic trends of Israel and world Jewry, and look at international Israeli water cooperation.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Michael Brenner* is Seymour and Lillian Abensohn Chair in Israel Studies at American University in Washington, DC, and Professor of Jewish History and Culture at Ludwig-Maximilian-University in Munich. He is the International President of the Leo Baeck Institute for the Study of German Jewry and the author of eight books.

## 200 PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY & CULTURE

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### 210: Immigration and American Life

**JOEL DENKER**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

"All of us are descended from immigrants," FDR, of Dutch ancestry, told a shocked audience of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Over time, waves of immigrants have both transformed American life and been molded by their new land. Diverse groups, from the early Scotch-Irish and Dutch to the later Italians, Poles, and Jews, to today's Third World settlers, have shaped our economy, politics, religion, and society. Among the questions explored are: Why were the Irish drawn to government jobs while the Greeks gravitated to small business? Why has America responded to newcomers in contradictory ways, sometimes welcoming and at other times, hostile? NOTE: This is not a course about the pros and cons of immigration policy.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Joel Denker, a veteran teacher, OLLI leader, and author, has written widely about American culture. He received his doctorate from Harvard.*

## 232: Finding Your Family History on the Web

**SUSAN GOODMAN**

**Eight Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Anderson Computer Lab**

The internet can be a gateway to researching your family history, using both primary and secondary sources from the web plus 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.) An overhead projector in the Anderson Computer Lab will be used to demonstrate how to access various records and how to enter data into Ancestry.com. Members should be comfortable using the internet and email. No paper handouts; all material will be sent as email attachments.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Susan Goodman worked as a reporter/newscaster/editor for WAMU-88.5 FM, the NPR-affiliate for local news in Washington, DC. She has also contributed news spots to National Public Radio and feature stories to NPR's "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered" as well as "Marketplace," public radio's business program.*

## 237: India: Culture, Traditions and Gandhi

**CARRIE TRYBULEC**

**Ten Friday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 04**

**Gandhi Memorial Center**

India's rich cultural heritage presents a wide array of traditions, languages, historical influences, and artistic endeavors. This course will introduce various elements of Indian tradition and culture through interactive lecture/demonstrations. Invited guest speakers (including scholars, musicians, artists, and members of the Indian community) will present subjects such as the origins of Indian languages, art traditions, food traditions, music, dance, sacred symbols, and the life message of Gandhi.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Carrie Trybulec has been the Director of the Gandhi Memorial Center since 2006. She received her college education from The American University, Washington, DC, where she received her BA in International Studies, MA in International Peace and Conflict Resolution, and her MA in Teaching.*

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

**DANIEL SACHS**

**Nine Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Our aim is to develop an awareness and appreciation for "what lies beneath," for those subtle cues, in the form of signs, symbols, and archetypes that we become aware of, consciously and unconsciously, from our earliest days forward, and that are woven deeply into the fabric of our lives. We'll seek to understand their importance in literature and in our lives. Participants will be invited to develop their own presentations of their favorite symbol systems.

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

**DIANE SWAN**

**Eight Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

TED conferences, first held in 1984, feature a range of speakers who present "Ideas Worth Spreading." Since 2007, an ever-expanding body of thought-provoking TED Talk videos has been available on the internet. This course will view and discuss talks that have stood the test of time, and also will feature recent talks that focus on current advances and new outlooks. Emphasis will be on discussion that takes advantage of the wealth of knowledge and experience that OLLI members reliably bring to a range of subjects. Each class member will assume responsibility for preparing background and discussion points for one speaker. We view and discuss excerpts from several TED talks each week. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

*Diane Swan taught English, worked as a Defense Department analyst, and developed training courses for various federal agencies.*

## 254: Functions of Public Media: Past and Future

**MARK MCDONALD**

**Eight Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Since the launch of the BBC and the passing of the American Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, public media has increased its influence in society with a remit to inform and to educate with no political bias. This group will gain an in-depth understanding of how public media work, from the newsroom trenches to executive level, from international and local news reporting to funding and sustainability. We will discover how programs are funded, how they are made, and how schedules are decided. And we will review ownership models and station budgets. We will take apart the current economic model and imagine its future in the social media world.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Mark McDonald is a journalism coach who works with clients to improve their media and public speaking skills. With 30 years in broadcasting, at the BBC, WNYC New York and WAMU in Washington, DC, he has led teams of journalists and program-makers for most of his career, which began as a radio reporter in Liverpool, UK.*

## 256: The American Songbook as Poetry, Psychology, & Manners

**RICHARD PALMER**

**Ten Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

The popular songs written by such American composers as Cole Porter, Harold Arlen, the Gershwins, Lorenz Hart, Jerome Kern, Johnny Mercer, and others between 1920 and 1950 constitute "The Great American Songbook." The study group will read lyrics, listen to many of the songs, read biographical material about some of the songwriters, with an eye to the beauty, irony, pathos, clever writing, maybe also the melding of words and music, in order to enjoy the poetry, the psychology, and the etiquette of love in that

era. We'll use reading, listening, contemplation/reflection, on-line YouTube recordings, Wiki articles, books and excerpts, and active contributions of ideas and material by participants.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Richard R. Palmer is a retired psychiatrist with a sentimental streak and an interest in social commentary; he has led three previous OLLI study groups.*

## 258: Writing and Sharing Your Family History

**ROBERTA BENOR**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

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 course will cover the 5 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.*

## 292: Having Fun and Living Healthier in Retirement

**BRAD BICKFORD**

**Nine Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 07**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

Study group participants will explore and learn ways to enjoy a healthy and happy retirement. The class will focus on the importance of balance in one's life through lecture, small group discussion, and creative exercises. Participants will learn how to enhance and develop their identity in retirement, to appreciate the mind/body connection, and to focus on the importance of

healthy family relationships. Other discussion points will focus on the wellness benefits of laughter and creativity, and of achieving a social, physical, mental, and spiritual balance.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Brad Bickford** is a retired clinical therapist and grandpa, who has studied improv, standup comedy, tap dance, painting, and plays the hammer dulcimer. He has taught classes in healthy living and fly fishing. He enjoys organic gardening, archery, and carpentry. He volunteers with the Widowed Persons Organization, Sierra Club, and City Wildlife, and volunteers to educate others about global warming.

## 300 ECONOMICS

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

**LEWIS COHEN**

**Eight Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 15**

**Temple Baptist Church**

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

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

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

### 351: Financial Planning in Retirement

**MARTIN SILFEN**

**Eight Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

This study group will explore how to get the most from your resources during retirement. We will focus primarily on developing a plan to meet your retirement spending goals, and on the critical role investments play in that process. We will learn about the special advantages of tax-favored retirement accounts, including Individual Retirement Accounts, Roth IRAs, employer plans and annuities. Other topics to be covered include Social Security, tax planning, estate planning, and gifting.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Martin Silfen** was a practicing retirement planning and estate planning lawyer for 21 years and a wealth planner with a wealth management firm for 14 years. He is the author of *The Retirement Plan Distribution Book* (The National Underwriter Co. 1999), and *The Retirement Plan Distribution Advisor* (The National Underwriter Co. 2002).

### 361: Boom and Bust

**WILLIAM DANEY**

**Eight Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Pundits will argue that the 2008 financial crisis was the first crash in American history driven by complex derivatives and consumer debt. Indeed, each financial bust has shown unique characteristics. However, from William Duer's attempt to profit from the country's post-Revolutionary War debt, to the debt-fueled railroad expansion in the mid-19th century, through the most recent crash, debt and financial complexity, which makes it impossible to distinguish good loans from bad, have been common themes. This study group will review the economic history of the United States, primarily focusing on the downturns.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Bill Daney** has a degree in engineering and spent his career with the federal government, retiring from NASA in 2005. Since then, he has taken a major interest in economics. He is a past president of the Peer Learning Partnership in Anne Arundel County, where he led the Economic Issues Group for four years and taught 16 classes.

## 370: Climate Change: The Way Forward

**RONALD RIDKER**

**Ten Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

This study group offers a survey of the science, economics, and political issues involved in global warming. Examples of topics to be covered include the findings of the latest 5-year report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the results of the recent global conference in Paris, which aimed to reach an agreement among countries on burden-sharing, and projections of what the world might be like in 50 years given alternative economic, technological, and policy scenarios. Several sessions will involve presentations by outside experts.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Ronald Ridker, a PhD economist, wrote two of the earliest books on related topics, directed a program on population, resources, and the environment at Resources for the Future (an economic think-tank in DC), and worked in the Operation Evaluation Department of the World Bank for many years.*

## 389: Stock Market Theory: Classical to Modern

**WILLIAM METLER**

**Eight Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

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 web site to apply indicators to time their favorite stocks. **OLLI does not endorse particular products or financial advice from Study Group Leaders.**

**Class Format:** Lecture and 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 modelling for new methods in problem solving, from deep sea to deep space. During this time, he became fascinated with theories for stock market modelling.*

## 400 BIOLOGY, PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY & MATH

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### 415: The Cambrian Explosion: Body Plans for Life

**ELIZABETH SEASTRUM**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 07**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

One of the most famous events in the history of life, the "Cambrian Explosion," occurred when fossils of complex marine animals appeared suddenly in the geological record of over a half billion years ago. Almost all the major phyla for the modern animal kingdom were laid down, while others seemed to disappear. Why? And what would happen if you rewound the tape of life? Would it still lead to us or are we accidents of evolution? Stephen Jay Gould's classic *Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History* (1989) explores these questions as well as the nature of scientific inquiry. We will update his book with insights from new works by Doug Erwin and others, and indulge in some paleoart along the way.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Betsy Seastrum is a retired lawyer who has worked as a volunteer at the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum, Department of Paleobiology, Graphics and FossilLabs, since 2005.*

### 422: Alternative Medicine and You: Promise, Reality, Potential

**JOSH BERMAN**

**Ten Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Alternative medicine is fundamentally appealing, widely used, but poorly understood. But "used" is not necessarily the same as "useful." The objective of this study group is to understand and evaluate alternative medicines and interventions, through the examination of scientific papers. We will discuss biologically based therapies such as botanical herbs, dietary supplements, diets, vitamins, and homeopathy; mental interventions such as the placebo effect and meditation; manipulative interventions such as chiropractic and massage; combined mental and physical interventions and acupuncture. This is a course in which valuable and potentially valuable alternative practices are analyzed from a medical point-of-view.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Jonathan (Josh) Berman, MD, PhD, FAAP, FASTMH**, was previously Director, Clinical and Regulatory Affairs, of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health.

## 425: Stem Cells

**ANTONIO CAFONCELLI**

**Nine Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

What are stem cells? How they are generated and how many types of stem cells are there? The course will address the molecular biology and the new research of stem cells. The field is growing exponentially with numerous publications and new research centers interested in developing stem cells for potential clinical treatments in the form of stem cells transplants for neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and all the chronic metabolic diseases. Most of the study group will be covered by reading the book, *Stem Cells: An Insider's Guide* by Paul Knoepfler. This book will be supplemented with a manual addressing some important issues related to stem cells. A previous background in biology is helpful.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Antonio Cafoncelli** is a retired thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon. He was a Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery at West Virginia University, and has an MA in Public Health from WVU.

## 435: Quantum Biology

**BARBARA SEARLE**

**Ten Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

During the 20th century, quantum mechanics revolutionized our understanding of the physical world at the nanoscale. Now, scientists are beginning to apply this new knowledge to biological mechanisms operating at the molecular level. This new research is explored in a lively book, *Life at the Edge: The Coming Age of Quantum Biology* by Johnjoef McFadden and Jim Al-Khalili.

We will read most of the book and do our best to understand it. Some knowledge of molecular biology and/or modern physics will be helpful.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Barbara Searle** is a veteran study group leader who specializes in biological topics. She has a PhD in biology and is retired from a career in international development at Stanford University and The World Bank.

## 444: Advances in Understanding Human Cancer

**STEPHEN LITWIN**

**Nine Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

There has been remarkable progress in understanding cancer in the last three decades. This malady, the most enigmatic of human diseases, is beginning to be understood, as part of the complexity of living, growing, and dividing cells. A recent book, *The Emperor of All Maladies* describes the progress in unlocking the knowledge of this mysterious group of illnesses. It will be used along with lectures, class discussions, and recent media reports to update past achievements, to introduce us to the extraordinary, counterpoised, balance between our genes and our immune defenses, and to provide us with a glimpse of the promise and perils of the personal (targeted) medicine of the future.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Stephen Litwin, MD**, is a retired medical researcher, doctor (internal medicine) and cancer drug reviewer for the US FDA, who has a strong interest in the history of science and a background of lifetime professional involvement in immunology, as it relates to human cancer and autoimmune diseases.

## 480: Understanding Weather

**PAUL BROWN**

**Ten Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Everyone talks about the weather, but ... now you can at least understand why it occurs (even if you still can't do anything about it). We begin with the physical principles governing the behavior of heat, wind, and water, and then show how they interact to produce good, bad, and really bad weather: frontal storms, thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Time permitting, we will also read weather maps and make 24 hour forecasts, talk about global warming, and explore the atmospheric light show.

A general familiarity with science will make it easier to digest a few of the more challenging concepts, but the course is strictly non-mathematical. An illustrated booklet created for the course can be purchased at cost (\$30).

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

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

*Paul Brown* is a Harvard College- and Johns Hopkins-trained MD who has followed a career in neuroscience at the NIH with a mini-career as meteorology instructor to both college students and adults (including OLLI) since his retirement in 2004.

## 492: Human and Animal Minds, and the Gap Between

**ALBERT TARAN**

**Ten Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Do animals have minds? What are the characteristics of human minds, and how different are they from animal minds? In this study group, we will focus on topics in the evolution of intelligence in humans, and the emergence of human minds. We will read and discuss *The Gap: The Science of What Separates Us from Other Animals*, by Thomas Suddendorf, as the primary reading material, with supplementary material (handouts) to provide more detail on select topics. Each session will combine lecture and discussion.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 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.*

## 497: Plate Tectonics and the Geology of North America

**ALBERT TARAN**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

We live on a dynamic, ever changing planet. The continents have undergone endless reconfigurations over the eons. The Appalachians were once taller than the Himalayas. And Morocco was once a short day trip from Washington. In this study group, we will examine the forces that shift large swaths of earth's crust, called plates, into ever changing configurations, that causes

mountains to rise and erode away, and that result in the birth and death of oceans. The dynamism of our planet ultimately led to the creation of life. We will explore how plate tectonics forged the major features of the North American continent, and set in motion the geological processes that continue to shape it today.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 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

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### 508: Drawing and Watercolor Painting

**SARAH WHITENER**

**Ten Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

This class will start with some basic lessons in drawing and then move into color. We will look at watercolors by the masters and experiment with basic watercolor technique such as washes, wet-on-wet painting, hard and soft edges, and the use of complementary color. Materials for the first class will be supplied, but participants will need to provide their own paper, paints and brushes, all for around \$60. Specific materials will be discussed in the first class.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Sarah Whitener is a lifelong amateur 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.*

### 509: Drawing and Watercolor Painting

**SARAH WHITENER**

**Ten Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

See 508 for description and bio.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

## 510: The Pocket Studio—Drawings on the Go

**ANKA ZAREMBA**

**Ten Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Instead of taking snapshots on your phone that no one may look at again, learn how to make beautiful souvenir pictures in pencil, watercolor, and gouache. Like the 19th century masters, travel through life with a painting journal, and in this class learn about color, perspective, proportion, and a variety of easily portable media to let your fingers and imagination fly. This is a hands-on studio class; we will study different media, and working from “set objects” and live clothed models, hone our technical skills at rendering images of life. Look for a description and supply list (approximately \$15-\$25) on [www.azarembaart.com/classes](http://www.azarembaart.com/classes).

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Anka Zaremba has lived and worked in the UK, East Africa, and Asia, where she has taught art in schools from kindergarten through high school, and acted as a community art programs coordinator as well as a freelance writer. She studied Literature at the School of African and Asian Studies at Sussex University, Education (arts) at Warwick, and Museum Studies at Leicester University all in the UK. In this area, she is a teaching artist at the Kreeger Museum, and has taught youth programs at the Corcoran and at the Yellow Barn in Glen Echo. She tries to draw every day.*

## 511: Looking at Architecture

**JOHN VORHES**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

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 class will give you a vocabulary — a quick understanding of basic structure from load-bearing walls to steel skeleton skyscrapers. The class 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, would be helpful, but is 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.*

## 520: Masterpieces of Music

**NANCY SNIDER**

**Eight Monday Afternoons (12:30 PM - 2:00 PM)**

**February 29**

**Katzen Arts Center**

This course will focus primarily on masterpieces of music from the Western classical canon. We will explore the historical context, composer, and other factual information as useful for a deeper listening experience. There will be a lot of guided listening. Other AU music faculty will also present lectures drawn from their primary subject areas. Class format will be similar to those of past AU Music Program courses. This study group will run from 12:30-2:00 with no 10-minute break.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Cellist Nancy Jo Snider is a member of the Opera Lafayette Orchestra and performs regularly in a variety of chamber and period instrument ensembles. In addition to her recording/performance projects with Opera Lafayette, performing highlights have included performances with Trisha Yearwood, Mirenka Cechová (Spitfire Company, Czech Republic), Modern Musick, Shakespeare Theatre, Washington Early Music Festival, Washington Ballet, Washington Bach Consort, and VERGE.*

## 523: Creating Art through Collage: Beginners and Advanced

**ROSE MOSNER**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (9:45 AM - 12:15 PM)**

**March 02**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

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 perfect 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 is longer (2.5 hours) 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. Last September, two of her collages were displayed at the Corcoran. Rose has been in two juried shows in the past several months, and seven of her bas reliefs were accepted for a joint show with another artist at the Herndon Art Center this past fall.*

## 542: Billings to Bernstein and Beyond: "Classical" Music in America

**JOHN BOWEN**

**Nine Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

This study group provides a sampling of American music, its context, and its creators. The composers we will study include, among others, William Billings, Stephen Foster, John Philip Sousa, Amy Beach, Scott Joplin, Charles Ives, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, and Joan Tower. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Though an economist by birth, John Bowen has led several OLLI music appreciation courses.*

## 547: Prehistoric Rock Art — Part One: A Survey

**AHMED ACHRATI**

**Eight Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

This course is designed to familiarize the participant with prehistoric rock art. The first three introductory sessions provide conceptual bases for understanding rock art: its origins, development, techniques, types, content, interpretation, dating and preservation. This is followed by a survey of rock art traditions of Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and the New World. Interdisciplinary in its approach, the course stresses the importance of aesthetic growth and creative thinking. Whether your interest is in art, music, history, literature, philosophy, religion, or archaeology, this course will engage your views on human existence and expand your intellectual horizons.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Ahmed Achrati, PhD, is currently an adjunct faculty at the Howard Community College of Columbia, MD. He is also the director of the Sumer Fundamentals of Arabic at Georgetown University.*

## 552: You Can Play the Appalachian Dulcimer!

**KAREN BUGLASS**

**Eight Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

If you can count to three, you can play the dulcimer! Learn to strum, fret notes, play chords, and finger pick on this user-friendly instrument. With tab — a simple play-by-number system — you'll master many tunes in several styles and be ready to play many more. Everything from traditional fiddle tunes to classical music is available for the dulcimer. Reading music is not required. Have fun learning and playing in a joyful, non-competitive environment. Instruments and picks may be borrowed from the instructor. Dulcimers available while in class.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Karen Buglass was a city planner and utility manager before finding her passion for elementary education. She holds a BS degree from Cornell, an MA from the University of Pennsylvania and an MEd from Lesley University. She took up the Appalachian dulcimer about 10 years ago and offers lessons, workshops, and performances through [sweetstrings.biz](http://sweetstrings.biz).*

## 577: Collaboration in the Arts: A Celebration

**BARRY BORTNICK**

**IRIS LIPKOWITZ**

**Eight Thursday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 17**

**Temple Baptist Church**

From Rodgers and Hart to Gilbert and Sullivan, from Bernstein, Laubentz, Sondheim, and Robbins joining talents (with an assist from Shakespeare) to create *West Side Story*, to Balanchine, Nijinska, Picasso, and Chanel co-creating a production of the *Ballets Russes*, the story of artistic expression — and popular culture — is replete with examples of notable collaborations. How does collaboration work? How do individuals, often with egos and differing temperaments, manage to come together — or, sometimes even more challenging, stay together — to create something memorable? How do art forms that draw on distinctly different kinds of materials and sensory expressions end up blended in such a way that the whole is uniquely different from the sum of its parts? Drawing principally on examples from musical theatre and dance, but touching on film and other media, this richly illustrated course explores a variety of forms of artistic collaboration, the often mysterious processes that made it happen, and, most of all, the end results we can celebrate today.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Barry Bortnick is a composer/lyricist/book writer of musicals performed on both coasts and in London; former Program Director, Humanities, UCLA Extension and Founding Director of its OLLI. He has a PhD from Harvard University, where he did research on creativity and the development of interest in the arts, and has taught courses on music, musical theatre, and the arts at OLLIs on both coasts.*

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

## 580: Wagner's Ring

**BRUCE EISEN**

**Eight Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Beginning on April 30, Washington National Opera will present three cycles of Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, perhaps the company's most ambitious undertaking ever. We will spend two classes addressing each of the four ring operas which should

give us time to view DVDs of each opera and will fully discuss and explore Wagner's vision.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Bruce Eisen has been an SGL for a number of OLLI semesters and has presented many operas for review. He was general counsel of Washington National Opera for several years.*

## 583: Eight Great 20th Century Composers

**RAY SQUITIERI**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

We will follow the path of 20th century concert (classical) music, beginning with the important innovations of Claude Debussy. We will then explore the two main strands of modernism through the music of Igor Stravinsky and Arnold Schoenberg, along with the music of the unlikely revolutionary, Charles Ives. We will continue with two distinctively Russian modernists, Sergei Prokofiev and Dmitri Shostakovich, before concluding with examples of music from the late twentieth century. Special welcome is extended to those who think they don't like 20th century concert music.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Ray Squitieri, an economist with the US Treasury, has led seven different OLLI study groups on music, art, and history.*

## 588: A World of Textiles and Rugs

**WENDEL SWAN**

**Eight Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

The domestication of sheep and weaving with wool in Mesopotamia combine to be one of mankind's greatest discoveries of the last 12,000 years. This course will survey the historical and cultural evolution and spread of weaving that began with textiles related to the familiar (yet still exotic) "Oriental rugs" but spread to Asia and to Europe. The lectures will variously discuss the importance of woven textiles for use other than as floor coverings or clothing, the major geographic groups of textiles, differences between Near Eastern and Western Hemisphere textiles, fakes, connoisseurship and textiles as Islamic art.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

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

*Wendel Swan* is a rug and textile collector, a frequent speaker at the Textile Museum, at the Smithsonian, and to various rug societies and conferences in the US and abroad in addition to organizing conferences. He has previously been an SGL of courses on Oriental rugs, computers and the internet, and discussions in the visual arts.

## 600 LITERATURE & LANGUAGE

### 603: Poetry Craftshop: Robert Frost, A Fascicle of Poems and Notes

**JENNY PIERSON**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

For serious poets who wish to enrich their craft, this class will read a fascicle of Frost's poems and related notes, selected by the SGL, as models for your own work. By deeply reading each poem, you will explore Frost's uniquely American voice and his manner of layering meaning, in the context of his process, his life, and times. Weekly assignments require writing a poem, critiquing works of others, and preparing for discussions.

**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.

### 604: Poetry Craftshop: Robert Frost, A Fascicle of Poems and Notes

**JENNY PIERSON**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

See 603 for description and bio.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

### 607: Leaving Home

**MARY POOLE**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

"The soul, like the body, voyages at her own risk." [E. M. Forster]

This class will read and discuss four novels and a memoir, all of which deal in various ways with a change of place, from the familiar or accepted to the unexpected or disturbing. We will pay attention to the lives of the authors as well as to the way their works are written. See book list at the back of the catalog.

All the books are under 300 pages. Class participants should read to Chapter XII (half the novel) of *Burmese Days* before our first meeting.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Mary Poole* has a master's degree from Georgetown University and taught English Literature in the International Baccalaureate program at Washington International School for 23 years.

### 612: Cours de conversation en français

**JALEH LABIB**

**Dix lundi après-midi (13h00 - 14h50)**

**le 29 février 2016**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Ce cours est destiné à ceux qui lisent et comprennent assez bien le français, peuvent converser aisément parmi un groupe de francophiles et souhaitent améliorer la langue et leur prononciation. Les discussions sont basées, en partie, sur divers sujets et thèmes — actualités, politique, littérature, art, histoire, mode de vie, et autres — soumis sous forme de documents Word, joints aux courriers électroniques. Les participants doivent donc avoir régulièrement accès à leurs emails et une bonne connaissance de l'Internet.

Pour évaluer le niveau du français, les candidats postulant pour la première fois doivent être prêts à être interviewés au téléphone avant d'être inclus dans le système électronique de sélection.

Reprise.

**Class Format:** Lecture et discussion

**Reading:** 2 à 3 heures par semaine.

*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: Wie ist Ihr Deutsch? Wollen Sie es auffrischen?

**HANNE CARAHER**

**Nine Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

This course — intermediate to advanced level — will comprise conversation, grammar drills, and translations of current affairs articles. Homework 1-2 hours/week. This study group is a continuation from last semester.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

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

## 616: Hablemos en Español — Curso Intermedio

**MINERVA KELLER**

**Eight Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

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 incrementar así la capacidad de expresión, no sólo 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 and Foreign Studies from AU. 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.*

## 618: Basic Spanish- Part II

**MONICA GRIGERA**

**Eight Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 15**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

An introduction to Spanish communicative competence. The eight study-group sessions are designed for anyone who has some experience with Spanish and is interested in basic conversational exchanges.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Monica Grigera is a native Spanish speaker and an educator who has taught from kindergarten to college and from Patagonia to Pennsylvania.*

## 619: French — Back to the Basics

**EVELYNE BONHOMME**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

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 course may be for you. We will focus on basic communication skills, including pronunciation, to facilitate everyday conversation. We will learn to use basic French structures in simple sentences, 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 practice in and out of class as you take your first steps toward reading, and conversing about, Saint-Exupéry in French someday.

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 twenty years of experience teaching French. She is a retired lawyer with a JD from the University of Pennsylvania, an MTS from Wesley Theological Seminary, and a BA (Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude) in French Literature from Wesleyan University, CT.*

## 622: Orwell's Non-Fiction

**JOHN RADNER**

**Ten Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

We will read and discuss several of the engaging, opinionated, provocative essays George Orwell wrote between 1931 and 1949 on poverty and colonialism, the civil war in Spain and World War II, "the invasion of literature by politics" and "the all-prevailing schizophrenia of democratic societies." We'll also read *The Road to Wigan Pier* (1937) and *Homage to Catalonia* (1938), the two books where Orwell began self-consciously writing "against totalitarianism and for democratic socialism." Study group members will need access to email.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*After retiring from George Mason University, and finishing Johnson and Boswell: A Biography of Friendship (Yale 2013), John Radner has led OLLI study groups on "Orwell's Relevance," "Samuel Johnson's Essays," and "Swift's Gulliver's Travels & Other Writings."*

## 630: Who Is Our Mutual Friend, Really?

**LINDA FREEMAN**

**Eight Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

We will read and discuss *Our Mutual Friend*, Charles Dickens's last completed novel and one of his least familiar works. Dark, complex, masterfully written, the work is full of psychological inventiveness, attacks upon upper-class hypocrisies, humorous linguistic play, symbolic sweep, domestic absurdities, public welfare that terrorizes rather than raising up, the River Thames that runs through it — and two consummate villains. All in all, a novel well ahead of its time! Tell your friends that you are reading *Our Mutual Friend* and enjoy their stunned reactions.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Linda Freeman, PhD, a retired University of Maryland lecturer in Victorian literature, has also taught for Smithsonian Associates and has led many OLLI study groups.*

## 631: Understanding Families Through Plays

**KAREN GAIL LEWIS**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

This course will evolve around four plays, spanning 100 years and two continents: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by T. Williams; Lillian Hellman's *Another Part of the Forest* (prequel to *The Little Foxes* written 6 years prior); *Crimes of the Heart* by B. Henley, a delightful story of 3 sisters; and *Hedda Gabler* by Ibsen. We discuss each play for two weeks, focusing on themes of family relationships, emotional issues, gender roles, prior family generations, and the context of the period written. We see how each play might be different if written by a playwright of a different ethnicity, or gender. This is a fun, interactive class. Reading each play beforehand will enrich participation.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

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

## 635: The Latin American Short Story II (in English)

**LINDA ORENSTEIN**

**Nine Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

The Latin American short story rose to prominence during the second half of the 20th century in large part due to the international success of the style known as magic realism. The literary boom of the 1960s served to consolidate the popularity of Latin American literature throughout the world. The Latin American literary tradition began in a primarily oral narrative form. Regionally different themes, forms, and styles developed over time. The rich array of authors and genres will be our focus, with emphasis on the great authors of the 20th century. Our discussions will center on the stories they produced and the relationship of their work to their lives and times.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Linda Pollack Orenstein has taught the Spanish language and the literature and art of Spain and Latin America to students of all*

ages, ranging from pre-kindergarten to adults. She taught in the Montgomery County Public School system for twenty years at the high school level. She is currently an artist engaged in abstract art.

## 638: Recent Poet Laureates: Their Styles and Themes

**DANIEL COYLE**

**Eight Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

The aim of this study group is to introduce you to the prevailing trends in contemporary American poetry by examining the works of these recent poet laureates: Richard Wilbur (appointed 1987); Billy Collins (2001); Louise Glück (2003); Kay Ryan (2008); W. S. Merwin (2010); Natasha Trethewey (2012); Charles Wright (2014); and Juan Felipe Herrera (2015). Reading will be light, 6-8 poems per week. Texts of the poems will be provided via the internet or handouts. Wherever possible, classroom presentations will include videos of the poets reading their works and discussion of contemporary painters whose work is thematically similar to the poet being studied that week.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Dan Coyle has a PhD in English and American literature from UNC/Chapel Hill. Although he found a career in academic database publishing, teaching literature had been his original career goal. Retirement has its rewards.*

## 641: Making Barchester

**ELLEN MOODY**

**Ten Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

We'll read *The Warden*, *Barchester Towers*, and *Doctor Thorne*. Trollope said that he conceived *The Warden* while walking in the purlieu of Salisbury Cathedral; that he took "great delight" in the writing of *Barchester Towers*, and he predicted it would be a novel that would "live" on. By *Doctor Thorne* he was filling an imagined parallel world with rich characters; in *Framley Parsonage*, he mapped it. Elizabeth Gaskell's "I wish Mr. Trollope would go on writing *Framley Parsonage* for ever" has become

proverbial when people describe how many readers have felt about the Barchester series. We'll study the making of the first three books in context and compare them to excerpts from the 1983 BBC Barchester Chronicles. If in spring the new Julian Fellowes mini-series *Doctor Thorne* airs on time (BBC/PBS), we'll compare that too.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Ellen Moody has a PhD in English literature, with women's poetry, novels/memoirs & art, the long 18th century, Victorian novels, and film studies her major areas. She has taught in colleges for over 40 years, loves Trollope's books and all sorts of film adaptations, and has published a good deal.*

## 646: The Book of Job

**IRWIN LEBOW**

**Ten Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

The Book of Job, probably written around the 5th century BCE, is one of three so-called Wisdom books in the Bible. It addresses the age-old problem of why bad things happen to good people, a notion that is completely contrary to a fundamental teaching of the Torah: if you obey God's commandments you will prosper and if you don't you will be punished. Yet Job was readily admitted into the biblical canon; scholars are not sure why. It is the most mysterious of all the biblical books. None of its characters are Israelites, yet all are monotheists. The book contains a short prose frame story at the beginning and end surrounding the most powerful and virtuosic poetry in the entire Hebrew Bible. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture 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 courses for OLLI in both telecommunications and the Bible.*

## 650: Introduction to James Joyce and to Joycean Writers

**COILIN OWENS**

**MARY BULLOCK**

**Ten Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Part 1: Coilin Owens

James Joyce is widely regarded as the single most influential writer of the last century. He is more widely read than any other English-language writer. His works confront modern issues — the implications of mass literacy, commercialism, urbanization, the rise of secularism, and the decline of the British Empire. In their time, they were regarded as scandalous and unreadable. They exemplify literary modernism: works that are mythologically structured, ironical, morally detached, and ambiguous. Despite the many cultural changes since World War II that enabled “post-modernity,” they are still celebrated for their humor, subtlety, and erudition. In five sessions, we will read and analyze selections from his four major works and develop an appreciation of his enduring literary reputation. Works include Joyce’s early fiction and excerpts from *Ulysses* and *Finnegans Wake*.

Part 2: Mary F. Bullock

Continuing our study of Joyce’s contribution to 20th century Irish literature, we will read and analyze the works of certain Irish writers who were especially influenced by Joyce’s modernism, both subject matter and literary style. They include Flann O’Brien, William Trevor, Edna O’Brien, and John McGahern.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Coilin Owens, PhD, is retired from George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, where he taught Irish and English literature for 30 years. He is well known as a Joyce scholar and has led studies of Joyce’s works as well as of Irish drama and Irish culture. He has taught groups at the Smithsonian, at Arlington and Fairfax OLLI groups, and has led OLLI at AU courses in various topics to high acclaim. Owens is the author of Before Daybreak, a Joycean study about which he lectured at OLLI in 2012.*

*Mary Bullock, MEd, an OLLI member since 2001, is retired from careers as English teacher in Arlington, VA, and as head of Special Projects in Legislative and Public Affairs at the National Science Foundation. She has studied Irish literature, especially works of Joyce, for several years.*

## 651: Writing Down the Bones

**BROCK HANSEN**

**Eight Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

This is a study group for people who enjoy writing, or think they might, but who might need or want a stimulus to practice writing. We will use Natalie Goldberg’s *Writing Down the Bones*, in which she outlines a method for writing practice. Members are encouraged to read the book before the study group begins. In each meeting we will have two or three bursts of spontaneous writing practice lasting 10-15 minutes each. The writing is not intended to be limited to fiction or non-fiction but will be whatever is inspired by a specific launch or stimulus given at the beginning of each exercise. Some writers may respond with memories or personal associations, in which case the output may tend toward memoir, but it is not limited to that. After each exercise, members will be able to share what they have written. No one is required to share and only positive feedback is permitted. Participants should come prepared with their favorite writing materials.

**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 difficulties in getting started writing. He has participated in and led writing practice groups such as this one and found them to be effective and stimulating. He published Shame and Anger: The Criticism Connection in 2006 and has enjoyed leading two OLLI study groups based on that book.*

## 654: The Good, the Bad, and the Mad: Doctors in Fiction and Film

**JOHN PARASCANDOLA**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

Physicians have been portrayed in various ways in fiction over the centuries. For convenience, these depictions can be classified into three categories: the good, the bad, and the mad (as well as various combinations thereof). This study group will examine, through lectures, readings and film excerpts, various portrayals of doctors in fiction and film. Among the authors discussed are Moliere, Stevenson, Ibsen, Chekhov, Verne, and Cronin. Film excerpts will include *Frankenstein*, *The Body Snatcher*, *Arrowsmith*, *The Citadel*, and *The Girl in White* (as well as TV doctors).

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*John Parascandola, PhD in History of Science, taught at the Universities of Wisconsin and of Maryland, was Chief of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine, and served as Public Health Service Historian. He is the author of four books, and has recently co-edited an anthology of works on Coney Island.*

## 657: *Middlemarch*

**LESLIE FRANTZ**

**Eight Thursday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

George Eliot's *Middlemarch* is considered by many critics to be the ultimate Big Victorian Novel. Virginia Woolf said it was the only Victorian novel written for grown-up people, and I think it is fair to say that George Eliot was the most intellectual of all the Victorian novelists. *Middlemarch* is divided into eight books, or parts, so we will take on the challenge one Book at a time, with an eye to characterization, social and historical background, and the carefully woven plot. Study group members should read Book I (chapters 1-12) before the first class meeting.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Leslie Frantz is an experienced teacher of English. She taught nineteenth century literature in Georgetown University's continuing education program for over twenty years, and she has led numerous study groups here at OLLI.*

## 669: Enjoying *The New Yorker* Together

**BOB HAUSMAN**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Many Washington area readers enjoy reading the articles, cartoons, etc, in *The New Yorker* magazine. In the class, we enjoy it even more by trading our knowledge and opinions about the subject. For each class hour, a class member chooses an item from one of *The New Yorker's* issues and adds something from his or her experience, knowledge, or research; then the class discusses the subject. Student subscriptions to *The New Yorker* are available. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Bob Hausman has been a lawyer in all three branches of the federal government and in private practice. He has read the The New Yorker all of his adult life and enjoys discussing its contents. He has led this course for several semesters.*

## 671: The Cock-Eyed World of Aristophanes — Greek Comedy!

**ANDREW WHITE**

**Nine Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Did Ancient Greeks have a sense of humor? And if they did, are any of the jokes appropriate for mixed company? Join OLLI veteran Andrew Walker White as he explores the crazy, bawdy, and profane world of Aristophanes, the premier comedian of Athens' golden age. Part "Daily Show," part "Saturday Night Live," Aristophanes' comedies skewered the movers and shakers of history's first democratic city-state. [Reader Discretion is Advised.]

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Andy White is a theatre artist and historian; he will shortly publish his first book with Cambridge University Press, on Byzantine theatre and ritual.*

## 676: Connecting with Young Adult Literature

**SUSAN UROFSKY**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Young Adult Literature spans teen literature at one end and adult literature at the other. Books can be funny and lively, yet deal seriously with life cycle issues that affect us and the young people in our lives, including our grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Sometimes these books are referred to as books that kids choose to read because they are found in libraries and book stores more often than classrooms. Themes that are explicitly addressed transcend what we read as kids. These themes include coming of age, suicide, critical illness, and extremist societies. Our intent in this study group is to explore this literary form and to build bridges across generations.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Susan Urofsky majored in English and is an avid reader. She enjoys reading and discussing books borrowed from her teenage*

granddaughters. She worked in Virginia at the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, as Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and as Commissioner of the Department of Rehabilitative Services.

## 681: Great American Essays

**SUSAN WILLENS**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

In contemporary essays, writers level with readers. They explain what bothers them or what they adore or what we ought to notice. In this course, we read new essays together, watching the essayists at work, sometimes with urgency, sometimes with beauty. Discussion — and some writing — will follow.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hrs/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: Great American Essays

**SUSAN WILLENS**

**Eight Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

See 681 for description and bio.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

## 689: Writing Nonfiction

**MARCUS ROSENBAUM**

**Ten Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Do you want people to read what you write? This course on nonfiction storytelling — that is, journalistic writing — will help you write anything from letters to op-ed pieces to blogs to books. Beginners will learn how to get started; experienced writers will improve their skills. Each class will begin with a short lecture, then

focus on each other's writing — what works, what doesn't and why. Please note that despite the class type listed below, this study group requires substantial writing, at least one story per week, in addition to some reading. You can learn how to write well only by actually writing.

**Class Format:** Reading, Writing, and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Marcus Rosenbaum* worked off and on at NPR for 30 years. He was executive producer of "Talk of the Nation," national editor, foreign editor, senior editor of "All Things Considered," and polling director. Marc also has substantial print experience. His book, *Heart of a Wife: The Diary of a Southern Jewish Woman*, was published in 1998.

## 690: Shakespeare's Theatrical London

**OSA COFFEY**

**Ten Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**February 29**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

This group will focus on Shakespeare's *Richard II* and *Hamlet* as they reflect, among other things, the theatrical milieu of the Elizabethan age. Shakespeare was the major contributor to making London the theatrical hub of Europe, and theater was England's greatest contribution to the Renaissance. Mini-lectures will focus on Shakespeare's environment in terms of playhouses, acting companies, actors and acting, audiences, court performances, and the process of moving plays from manuscript through performance, printing, and publishing. There will be short lectures, DVD scenes from the plays, and group discussions.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Osa Coffey*, PhD in English literature, has 40 years' experience in teaching, research, publication, and administration. She has previously taught at OLLI and is a Senior Docent at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC.

## 691: Beginning Italian for Tourists

**JOYCE JOHNSON**

**Nine Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Temple Baptist Church**

The main objective of this class is to provide those traveling to Italy with a basic knowledge of Italian that will allow them to get by in everyday situations. They will be comfortable engaging in

such actions as registering at a hotel, ordering a caffè latte from a barista, understanding the menu at an Italian restaurant, and asking for directions (and understanding the response). Other scenarios will be discussed according to the interests of the class. The class emphasis will be on speaking and engaging in dialogue along with learning basic grammar. Participants will need to purchase a set of CDs with an accompanying work-book at a cost of approximately \$40.00.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Joyce Johnson worked as a financial manager with the State Department and had the good fortune to spend four years at our Embassy in Rome. She keeps up her Italian through an informal group of Italian speakers and travel to Italy. She also speaks Spanish, having spent time in Latin America, and she can drag up college French as needed.*

## 692: Shakespeare Seminar: A Close Reading of *Othello*

**OSA COFFEY**

**Eight Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

This is a seminar for OLLI members who are already familiar with several of Shakespeare's works, either by having read or seen them or attending a previous OLLI, or other, Shakespeare class. Study group members will analyze in detail the plot, language, imagery, characterizations, themes, and dramatic devices of one of Shakespeare's most famous and "modern" tragedies and share their insights in guided, but informal, discussions. There will be no formal lectures. Selected DVD clips from the productions of various directors will be shown in order to highlight individual scenes and examine different ways of staging the play.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Osa Coffey, PhD in English literature, has 40 years' experience in teaching, research, publications, and administration. She has previously taught at OLLI and is a Senior Docent at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC.*

## 695: Fictions Rich, Strange, and Short

**JUDITH PLOTZ**

**Ten Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

This course will bring together works of idea-driven short fiction — novellas, short stories, allegories, fables, aphorisms. All brilliantly written, these works are also: a) classical and canonical; b) richly quirky; c) full of moral, psychological, metaphysical, philosophical, political, and ethical challenges; d) disquieting; e) windows into a range of historical periods and societies; f) surprisingly short. The objective of the course is to explore the intellectual challenges and to enjoy the aesthetic play and inventiveness of these readings.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Judith Plotz is Professor of English Emerita at George Washington University, where for almost fifty years she taught courses in British Romantic poetry, 19th-century humanities, Victorian literature, Indian colonial/postcolonial literature and theory, and children's literature. She has taught several OLLI courses.*

## 700 HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

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### Western Culture and the Rise of Neo Darwinian Materialism after World War I

**CHARLES O'CONNOR**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

See description of Study Group 830.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

### Isaiah Berlin: The Power of Ideas

**DAVID PALMETER**

**Ten Thursday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

See description of Study Group 865.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

## 710: Seven Photographers Documenting 20th Century America

**ELLY GREENE**

**Ten Thursday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 03**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

We will focus on seven photographers — Lewis Hine, Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans, Gordon Parks, Roy De Carava, Esther Bubley, and Danny Lyon — who created images that picture America from 1904 to 1999. Photographs, like other historical sources, are interpretations, versions of “reality” that document facts, express ideas and opinions, and also tell stories. We will spend a session on each photographer, considering his or her historical context and life experiences, and examine a selection of photographs asking these questions: What is this picture about? How, why, and for whom was it taken? How was it used?

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Elly Greene has taught history, trained teachers, directed projects, and designed curriculum in history education and conflict management in Massachusetts and the Washington, DC area. She has led OLLI workshops on Eleanor Roosevelt (twice) and another on the Laurel Grove School.*

## 718: Ratification of the U. S. Constitution

**BARBARA COLEMAN**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Ratification of the US Constitution in 1787-1788 has been called the nation’s first national election campaign — the “seedtime of American party politics.” While most Americans are familiar with the drafting of the Constitution, few appreciate how difficult was ratification. This battle was a dramatic and often bitter struggle waged at state-by-state conventions. Historian Pauline Maier called the ratification process “one of the great and most probing public debates in American history.” We will use her book, *Ratification: The People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788*. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Barbara Coleman is a retired senior policy adviser for the AARP Public Policy Institute with expertise in long-term care. She has also worked as a researcher/writer for other nonprofits.*

## 724: Queen Elizabeth I — England’s Renaissance Ruler

**MARKLEY ROBERTS**

**Eight Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**February 29**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Queen Elizabeth I had a big impact on the making of “early modern” Renaissance England. Her life (1533-1603) included conflict with France and Spain, would-be husbands, would-be heirs to her crown, Ireland and Scotland (Mary Queen of Scots), religious battles in England, and with the Papacy. Her court stimulated poetry, theater, and fashions in women’s and men’s dress. Lots of reading, lots of discussion.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Markley Roberts has given various OLLI courses, including Italian Renaissance, Making the US Constitution, and Alexis de Tocqueville. He has a PhD in economics.*

## 731: More New Perspectives on History

**PAMELA NADELL**

**Eight Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Temple Baptist Church**

This study group will be taught by eight instructors and graduate students in AU’s History Department who will give lectures that highlight the newest work of the faculty and graduate students. The planned topics will be: Foreign Explorers in Modern China; the Equal Rights Amendment, 1946-1963; Runaway Slaves and Slave Catchers in Early America; Gender and Military Occupation during the American Revolution; Caribbean Enlightenment; Untold Aspects of the Vietnam War; The Place of Muslims in African History; and The US Women’s Reserves in World War II.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*AU’s faculty and graduate students work in and outside academia to improve our understanding of the past, combining scholarly excellence with a commitment to public service. Faculty are not only exemplary teachers and scholars, but they are also actively involved with archives, museums, government institutions, and non-profits in DC, across the US, and around the world.*

## 744: How the Second World War Happened — *Fateful Choices*

**JOHN POOLE**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

The best way to understand how the Second World War happened and became even more calamitous and inhumane than the first one would be to read and discuss Ian Kershaw's *Fateful Choices*. Professor Kershaw, an expert on the Nazi state and biographer of Hitler, traces the historic roots of the conflict and examines ten actions of Winston Churchill, Adolf Hitler, Franklin Roosevelt, Joseph Stalin, Benito Mussolini, and the rulers of Japan that took place between May, 1940 and December, 1941.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*John Poole, a history buff, retired after a career in the Antitrust Division of Justice. He majored in history and literature in college, focusing on 19th Century Britain.*

## 750: History and Analysis of the US Constitution

**ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ**

**Ten Friday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 04**

**Forest Hills**

The focus of the course will be on the US Constitution's origin and development over time, trying to stay away from cases and focusing more on the political and legal dynamics of the Constitution. After discussing in the initial lecture the origins of the ideas of the Constitution from the Declaration of Independence, State Constitutions, and Northwest Ordinance, the course will examine the key individual sections of the Constitution: the Bill of Rights, the Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary, and the Civil War Amendments. We will examine their initial intentions and the discussions of the articles at the Constitutional Convention, and then go on to focus on the present issues with respect to these provisions.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

## 777: 1914-1945 — Assessing Critical Events and Decisions

**KENNETH COFFEY**

**Ten Monday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**February 29**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

Focusing on the flow of related events that led from the legacies of World War I through the end of World War II, the group will address critical events and decisions in Europe, the Middle East, America, and Japan. The German Weimar era and the Nazi years will receive special attention. The emphasis of the course will be on understanding what happened, why it happened, and what could have happened. Classes will include both background lectures, highlighted by video clips, and follow-up class discussions. Internet articles for background reading, issues for discussion, as well as relevant book references, will be provided on a weekly basis.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Kenneth Coffey is a retired Fed. Including teaching at the Naval Postgraduate School and the Naval Academy, he worked for 10 different agencies in both the Legislative and Executive branches. The majority of his work focused on the assessment and implementation of manpower policy changes. He has led two earlier versions of this course.*

## 786: Red Menace

**VIRGINIA FLEISCHMAN**

**RICHARD PALMER**

**Nine Thursday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Knowing that the era 1944 to 1956 is part of the living heritage and perhaps memory for our OLLI types, the course will cast a sympathetic as well as critical eye on this period of American history. Whittaker Chambers, Dalton Trumbo, atom bomb, Richard Nixon, William F. Buckley, *The Crucible*, Chang Kai-Shek, "Tail-Gunner Joe" McCarthy, Alger Hiss, HUAC, Joseph Welch, "blacklist," Edward R. Murrow, Klaus Fuchs, "pumpkin papers," Los Alamos, and Roy Cohn are some of the names and ideas we will conjure with, from a perspective of formal history and personal reflection. Using some printed sources, on-line resources, DVDs, and active participation of members, we hope to bring alive the era — if not the fear.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Virginia Fleischman* has a long interest in the history of the Red Menace; she has had various careers in history teaching, marketing, and recently retired as a cooking teacher.

*Richard R. Palmer* is a retired psychiatrist with an interest in history and memory. This is his fourth OLLI course.

## 790: Off the Beaten Path — or a Bit Offbeat — Places in the DC Area

**RALPH BUGLASS**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

### **Greek Orthodox Church**

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 some of these little known gems and the fascinating stories behind them. Examples include presidential monuments and commemoratives in quite unexpected places; relics of the area's rich African American history; Gilded Age mansions near DuPont Circle; Frank Lloyd Wright's three houses; early mills that still work; cemeteries that come to life with stories of those interred; and more. The last session will be an "open mic" for participants to share favorite spots of their own.

**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 AU, he has previously led OLLI courses on school segregation/desegregation in DC and Maryland.

## 791: Reconstruction After the American Civil War

**PETER WOLFE**

**Ten Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

### **River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

Reconstruction after the Civil War has featured a dramatic shift in the historical literature. The early racist view was drastically revised during the Civil Rights revolution of the 1960s. This course will focus on the contemporary view of Reconstruction as a period when the hopes of the ex-slaves were first raised and then dashed by the violent opposition of the South and the inattention or change in view of the North. We will rely on the works of Eric Foner, but will supplement them with lectures based on a wide variety of sources.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Peter Wolfe* is a retired lawyer who majored in American history. He has been the study group leader for many OLLI history courses.

## 795: Quo Vadis Russia? Russia in the 20th Century from Lenin to Putin

**SANDRA LEVENBOOK**

**Nine Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

### **Temple Baptist Church**

The course will examine the Russian Civil War and the subsequent Soviet triumph culminating with World War II victory. Next we will chart the path that eventually led to the implosion of the Soviet system. We will then discuss how the new "Russian Republics" endeavored to establish themselves. However, since coming to power in 2000, Putin has made a concentrated effort to suppress any attempt to democratize the country while concentrating all power in his hands.... Are we witnessing a return to Soviet times? This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Sandra Levenbook* has an MA from the University of Maryland in Middle Eastern studies, and an undergraduate degree in English and Literature from the University of Florence, Italy. Before becoming an instructor at OLLI, she taught history in various countries throughout the world.

# 800 PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

## 804: Five Very Big Questions

**DAVID STANG**

**Ten Wednesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 02**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

How do I know what I think I know is actually true? Where did I come from? Who am I? What is my life's purpose and how do I overcome impediments to achieving it? What happens to me when I die? The ancient Greek philosopher Socrates was reputed to have declared, "The unexamined life is not worth living." For persons interested in undertaking a Socratic-inspired self-examination, these five questions are a good place to start. The course is intended to be conducted as a graduate school seminar in which these questions are approached through each participant presenting his or her own commentary on the weekly readings. Manual available for purchase from SGL.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

*David Stang, BA Philosophy, JD, MTS, is the author of the course text, two other books, and numerous published articles and book reviews. He is a Washington, DC attorney. He is also the Founder and Chairman of the Society for the Study of Varieties of Religious Experience predicated upon the scholarship of William James.*

## 815: The Quran & Modern Society

**AHMED ACHRATI**

**Eight Tuesday Afternoons (1:30 PM - 3:20 PM)**

**March 01**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

Consisting of eight sessions, this introductory course provides the students with basic cultural background of the Quran, its structure, foundational narratives, interpretations, and importance in shaping the worldviews of Muslims.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Ahmed Achrati's qualification to teach an introductory course to the Quran derives from a solid grounding in Arabic, knowledge of the Quran, and extensive familiarity with Islamic legal and theological texts. His teaching experience includes language, Islamic study, and anthropology.*

## 820: Nietzsche

**ROBERT COE**

**Ten Tuesday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**March 01**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Friedrich Nietzsche has been one of the most important philosophers during the past 150 years. Using selections from his writings, we will examine a variety of Nietzsche's key concepts, including the overman, the will to power, the revaluation of all values, and eternal recurrence. We will also discuss his attack against Christianity, his attitude toward the Jews, his criticism of Germany, his complicated relationship with Richard Wagner, and his opposition to democracy. We will attempt to assess Nietzsche's heritage.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Bob Coe has an MA in History from Columbia and an MAT in Teaching from Wesleyan. He has been teaching mostly history courses at OLLI for the past ten years.*

## 823: Mastering the Skills of Mindful Awareness Practice

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

**Ten Monday Mornings (10:00 AM - 11:50 AM)**

**February 29**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Mindful awareness can be described as a process of opening up to our experience in the moment — the physical sensations, feelings, and thinking as well as the external world of sound and sight. Many studies have demonstrated that mindfulness practice can reduce stress and improve emotional and physical health. We will learn techniques to use in formal meditation practice as well as in ordinary life to open our hearts and better appreciate each moment. Classes will include formal instruction, guided meditations, and group discussion. This class is designed to give participants skills to establish and continue a regular practice of mindful awareness. It is appropriate for both beginners and experienced meditators.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Jeffrey Drobis, a retired MD, has practiced mindfulness meditation with Shinzen Young for 20-plus years. He has trained as a facilitator and teaches his Basic Mindfulness techniques — a system that draws on traditional Asian practices but is consciously secular and contemporary.*

## 826: The Message of the Holy Quran

**MAZEN AYOUBI**

**Eight Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**

The study group provides an introduction to Islam's Holy Book: The Holy Quran. The group will cover a literary, historical, and religious introduction, related chapters, "Suras," and verses, "Ayahs." Topics covered include circumstances of revelation, written compilation "Revelation Writers," core belief, major themes, and connections with the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament. Book: *The Message of the Quran*, translated and explained by Muhammad Asad. Books will be available for purchase from the SGL on the first day of the study group. A field trip to Washington Islamic Center is planned. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Mazen Ayoubi, AIA, has a master's in Architecture and Urban Design from Washington University, St. Louis, MO; BS in Architecture, Damascus University, Arabic Language curriculum. He attended Arabic and Quran classes in Damascus institutes. He was a Georgetown University Arabic instructor, and has lectured and taught Islamic studies.*

## 830: Western Culture and the Rise of Neo Darwinian Materialism after World War I

**CHARLES O'CONNOR**

**Ten Wednesday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 02**

**Greek Orthodox Church**

Is science the only reliable source of genuine truth, is reality only valueless matter lacking meaning or purpose, and is the idea of God or the transcendent an indefensible delusion? We will trace the development of this materialist worldview and its underlying theory of knowledge from the Enlightenment through the cultural turning point of World War I to its current intellectual prominence due largely to the war's impact on Western theology, philosophy, literature, art, and even music. We will evaluate selected writings by some "new atheists," using the process thought of Alfred North Whitehead and John F. Haught.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*After more than forty years of environmental law practice,*

*Charles O'Connor earned a Doctor of Liberal Studies Degree from Georgetown, focusing on the cultural impact of World War I.*

## 865: Isaiah Berlin: The Power of Ideas

**DAVID PALMETER**

**Ten Thursday Afternoons (1:00 PM - 2:50 PM)**

**March 03**

**Temple Baptist Church**

Philosopher and intellectual historian Isaiah Berlin argued that "Great movements began with ideas in peoples' heads." Berlin wrote penetratingly of the folly of attempting to impose the structure of physical sciences on human affairs, of assuming that rationality always would or should prevail over cultural and emotional factors, of believing that our values — whether individual or collective — do not conflict. Sometimes conflicts cannot be resolved, and we simply must choose. We will read a selection of Berlin's essays on these and other topics, including nationalism.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*David Palmetter, a retired lawyer, has led study groups in philosophy, literature, and history since 2008.*