

10
to
35
Years

OLLI AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY | 2024

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A HEARTFELT THANK YOU...

The heart and soul of OLLI—that's how we describe our OLLI teachers, or as we call them, our Study Group Leaders.

As a community of learners, we at OLLI understand that teaching is a calling and that teachers are a gift. We each have that favorite teacher who made a difference in our lives—one who gave us insight into a world we didn't know, led us on a path to discover more, or gave us the courage to do more than we imagined—a teacher who made us better.

In these pages, you will read about the 42 dedicated volunteer teachers who represent the longest-serving study group leaders in OLLI at AU's 42-year history. While your impact on us may differ from that of our childhood teachers, each, in your own way, has made us individually and collectively better. Your commitment to excellence, learning, and community is a gift to us.

From all at OLLI at AU who have benefited from your time and talent and your knowledge and passion, a heartfelt thank you to the heart and soul of OLLI!

Marianne Soponis
Curriculum Committee Chair

Mark Nadel
Board Chair

Tony Long
Executive Director

STUDY GROUP LEADER TIMELINE

1991

Sandra Levenbook (pg. 6)



1995

Arnold Leibowitz
(pg. 7)

1998

Irwin Lebow (pg. 9)



1996

Jenny Pierson (pg. 8)



1999

Linda Freeman
(pg. 10)

2000

Larry Heilman (pg. 11)



2004

Iris Lipkowitz (pg. 12)



2005

Bob Coe (pg. 13)
Helen Schwartz (pg. 14)

2006

Eleanor Heginbotham (pg. 15)
Virginia Newmyer (pg. 16)

STUDY GROUP LEADER TIMELINE

2008

Dave Palmeter (pg. 21)



2010

Lewis Cohen (pg. 25)
Bruce Eisen (pg. 26)
Carol Light (pg. 27)



2012

Ronald Parlato (pg. 33)
Judith Plotz (pg. 34)
Jacques Read (pg. 35)



2007

Leslie Frantz (pg. 17)
Andrew White (pg. 18)
Susan Willens (pg. 19)
Peter Wolfe (pg. 20)

2009

Susan Goodman (pg. 22)
Mary Poole (pg. 23)
Srimati Karuna (pg. 24)

2011

John Bowen (pg. 28)
David Hurwitz (pg. 29)
Ray Squitieri (pg. 30)
Wendel Swan (pg. 31)
John Vorhes (pg. 32)

2013

Josh Berman (pg. 36)
Stephen Elkin (pg. 37)
Eleanor Greene (pg. 38)
Rita Hadden (pg. 39)
Karen Gail Lewis (pg. 40)
Diane Swan (pg. 41)

2014

Hanne Caraher (pg. 42)
Penny Hansen (pg. 43)
Erich Keel (pg. 44)
Ellen Moody (pg. 45)
Daniel Moskowitz (pg. 46)
Charles O'Connor (pg. 47)

SANDRA LEVENBOOK

ABOUT SANDRA

Sandra Levenbook had 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.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- The Rise and Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Birth of the Turkey Republic
- Seven Great Leaders of the Past
- Quo Vadis Russia? Russia in the 20th Century from Lenin to Putin
- A Historical Journey through Turkey - from its Origin to the Present
- Russian Short Stories of the 20th Century
- Modern Russia
- Imperial Russia
- From Zoroaster to Komeini: A History of Iran
- Iran from Zoroaster to Komeini: A History of the Persian Empire
- Russian in the 20th Century: From Lenin to Putin
- The Glory That Was Turkey: The Rise and Fall of the Ottoman Empire
- A Survey of Russian Literature
- The Making of Future History
- The History of Imperial Russia
- Great Decisions
- Russia in the 20th Century
- The History of Russia, Part II: From 1905 to Present
- Russia 1905-2005: A Century of Revolution
- The History of Russia, Part I & Part II
- Russian Tales of the 19th Century

ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ

ABOUT ARNOLD

Arnold Leibowitz was an attorney in Washington, DC, in practice for over 40 years. His special interests are major social and political trends. Arnold recently retired from teaching after conducting classes at OLLI for over 25 years. He began teaching when OLLI was the Institute for Learning in Retirement in the basement of a small Methodist Church on Nebraska Avenue.



ARNOLD ON OLLI:

"OLLI has provided a place for people like me who are interested in history, literature, legal trials, and the Constitution to talk about these subjects and provided me the opportunity to encourage others."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Yiddish Literature
- Major Trials in US History I and II
- Yiddish Drama (In Translation)
- Great American Trials I and II
- Great European Trials
- Presidential Conventions and Elections
- Reformers in the Gilded Age

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Arnold.



JENNY PIERSON

ABOUT JENNY

Jenny Pierson advocated for persons with disabilities for 15 years in various settings. She then earned an extended MFA to begin teaching at both George Washington and American Universities. Since 1996 she has taught Poetry Craftshops at OLLI, each semester choosing different poets as models.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- How to Wash A Child's Heart
- Singing School: Advanced Poetry Craftshop
- Poetry Craftshops:
 - This Opened Ground
 - In the Gallery of Important Things
 - We are Made of Circles and Rectangles
 - Meditations on Color, Tone, Desire
 - We Turn in Dream
 - Collins and Hirshfield
 - The Winged Seed
 - Many Voices, One With Others
 - An Empty Room in Heaven
 - Mother of Roots, Father of Diamonds

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Jenny.

JENNY ON OLLI:

"Through teaching at OLLI, I have found a community of fellow poets who have stayed with me for years as I have helped them explore their own creative voices in poetry, as well as in their daily lives. Many friendships have been made and relished, and many dear ones have passed. At the start, I was decades younger than most OLLI members, learning from them the differing wonders of aging. Now I am on the same path, offering new poetic voices each semester in a place that encourages fresh thinking, engaged learning, and deep appreciation for what makes us, not young again, but vital."



IRWIN LEBOW

ABOUT IRWIN

Irwin Lebow was a retired telecommunications engineer with a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was a lifelong student of the Bible and taught many study groups for OLLI in both telecommunications and the Bible.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- | | |
|---|---|
| - Understanding the Information Age | - The Book of Isaiah |
| - Wandering in the Desert: Interpreting the Book of Numbers | - The Book of Genesis I and II |
| - The Book of Deuteronomy | - The Exodus from Egypt |
| - The Last Trial | - The David Story |
| - Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History | - The Book of Job |
| | - The Book of Psalms |
| | - The Book of Numbers with a Bit of Leviticus |
| | - Telegraph to Web |



LINDA FREEMAN

ABOUT LINDA

Linda R. Freeman graduated from Wellesley College, where she majored in English literature and where she met her husband Dave, a chemistry graduate student at MIT. Dave's work brought the family to the Washington, DC area in 1965, where they raised their four children. Linda is the grandparent of seven grandchildren. In the 1970s, Linda went back to work as a writer and editor in media offices, first at Washington National Cathedral, then at the University of Maryland, and finally at the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. While at the University of Maryland, Linda also earned a master's degree and a PhD in English literature. After the completion of her PhD (at the age of 60!), Linda taught Victorian literature for 15 years as a lecturer at the University of Maryland. She also has taught at Montgomery College, Smithsonian Associates, and OLLI at AU.

LINDA ON OLLI:

"I love teaching 19th-century literature and since 1999, OLLI has provided me with the opportunity to run classes without having to give exams or grade papers, and with students who, unlike some undergraduates, always keep up with the reading assignments. OLLI students are courteous to each other and to me, and they clearly want to work with me to make the class a success. What's not to like??"



CLASSES TAUGHT

- The Odd Couple: Sir Walter Scott and Jane Austen
- Reading Thoreau's Walden in the Time of Covid-19
- Reading Virginia Woolf: Don't Be Afraid!
- Who Is Our Mutual Friend, Really?
- Henry David Thoreau for the 21st Century
- Melville Masterpieces
- Beyond the Red A: Hawthorne's Other Writings
- Victorian Views of Clergy, Artists, and Lawyers
- George Eliot's *Middlemarch*
- T.S. Elliot
- Mark Twain
- Thomas Hardy
- Thornton Wilder

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Linda.

LARRY HEILMAN

ABOUT LARRY

Larry Heilman has a PhD in history from American University and an MA in history and anthropology from the University of California Berkley. He has taught Latin American history at various universities and undertaken archaeological fieldwork in Mexico, Spain, Florida, and California. Currently, he is a research associate in the Anthropology Department at the Natural History Museum of the Smithsonian. His research is focused on the impact of US foreign assistance in Latin America. A recent publication of his is *USAID in Bolivia: Partner or Patrón*.



LARRY ON OLLI:

"Teaching at OLLI is a joy because it is a collegial union where everyone is your peer. There is so much creativity and discussion that comes with teaching in person at OLLI."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- The Evolution of High Civilization in Mesoamerica
- The Cultural Evolution of Meso-America and Its Impact on North America
- The Mexican Muralists—The Impact of Rivera, Orozco, and Siqueiros

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Larry.



IRIS LIPKOWITZ

IRIS ON OLLI:

"The best part of OLLI is reconnecting with friends from my youth and connecting with new people with similar interests."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Learning to Look at Ballet
- The British 20th Century Narrative Ballet Tradition
- Best Ballet Performances
- The New York City Ballet: Past and Future
- The Impact of the Ballets Russes

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Iris.



ABOUT IRIS

Iris Lipkowitz is a native Washingtonian who trained as a child in both dance and theater locally. She graduated from the University of Michigan (BA) and the University of Southern California (MPA). Iris worked in four different federal agencies and departments and retired from the US Treasury. For the past 20 years, she has taught courses in ballet history and appreciation at two OLLIs, at American University and Johns Hopkins. She has attended ballet performances since grade school and her playbill collection resides at American University's Archives. Her personal ballet book collection numbers more than 500.

ABOUT BOB

Bob Coe's 49 courses were mostly in history, but also a few in philosophy and economics. He taught six of these courses with Jim Doyle and then with Marion Connell. He was in charge of the Shorts program for several years. In addition, he was on the OLLI Board for six years, worked as treasurer with Anne Wallace for five years, and was on the Curriculum Committee for about 15 years, to recruit new history Study Group Leaders and handle any matters with existing SGLs. He learned that all these activities were a very satisfying learning experience in his retirement years.

BOB ON OLLI:

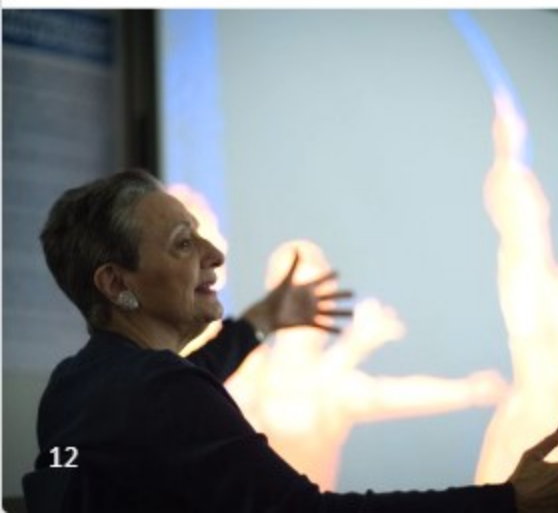
"I enjoyed and learned from the wide variety of knowledge and experience of the members of my courses. I appreciated the skills of our leaders at one of the best OLLIs in the country."



CLASSES TAUGHT

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| - The 9/11 Commission Report | - Nietzsche |
| - End of the Age of Oil | - The Dreyfus Affair |
| - Jefferson | - Lincoln and Slavery |
| - Wilson & the Paris Peace Conference | - Montaigne: <i>How to Live?</i> |
| - Lincoln: Principles, Power, Purposes | - Benjamin Franklin |
| - US 20th Century Presidency | - US Civil Liberties in Wartime |
| - Jews in Germany | - Gandhi: Triumphs and Tragedies |

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Bob.



HELEN SCHWARTZ



HELEN ON OLLI:

"OLLI means a chance to study diverse topics with interesting people. It also gives me a social dimension to the research I like to pursue and a variety of topics. After teaching undergraduates, the perspective, experience and forthrightness of OLLI students makes me feel like I've died and gone to heaven!"

ABOUT HELEN

Helen Schwartz has taught OLLI classes on Shakespeare, American literature, Year Zero: a history of 1945, as well as Fateful Documents. With a PhD in English literature, now retired from Indiana University, she has recently published a World War II thriller *Thieves of Paris*, about resisting Nazi art theft and saving Jewish children from Gestapo capture.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Fateful Documents
- Amazing Americans
- Shakespeare: FAQ
- Scientists in the Crosshairs
- Three Symbolic Novels
- Year Zero: A History of 1945
- The Monuments Men vs. Nazi Art Looters
- Reading Shakespeare Like a Director

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Helen.

ELEANOR HEGINBOTHAM



ABOUT ELEANOR

Woven into a Foreign Service wife's life abroad was a lifelong education in graduate classes and teaching in exotic places: Liberia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and, closer to home, Stone Ridge Academy. During her 18 years there she was granted four NEH Summer Study programs, which persuaded her to pursue a late-life PhD while she taught full-time. That provided a tenure-track position at Concordia University Saint Paul, where she also co-chaired three international conferences (Ingalls, Dickinson, and Fitzgerald) and from whence she was granted a Fulbright year in Hong Kong, allowing her to speak in four other Chinese cities and in Taiwan. Along the way she published two Dickinson books and some 30 articles.

ELEANOR ON OLLI:

"OLLI means sharing: what we know and what our brilliant colleagues and group members know and think. More significantly, it means friendships with all the above and those of you on the staff who help make it all happen. Thank you for slowing down the mental aging process and for this event and all the other parties."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Classics of African American Art—Parts 1 and 2
- Four by Fitzgerald
- Dickinson's Daughters
- Their Emily Dickinsons: Eight Women Poets
- A Week With Whitman in his Bicentennial Year
- A Big Book for a Short Week: James's *Portrait of a Lady*

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Eleanor.

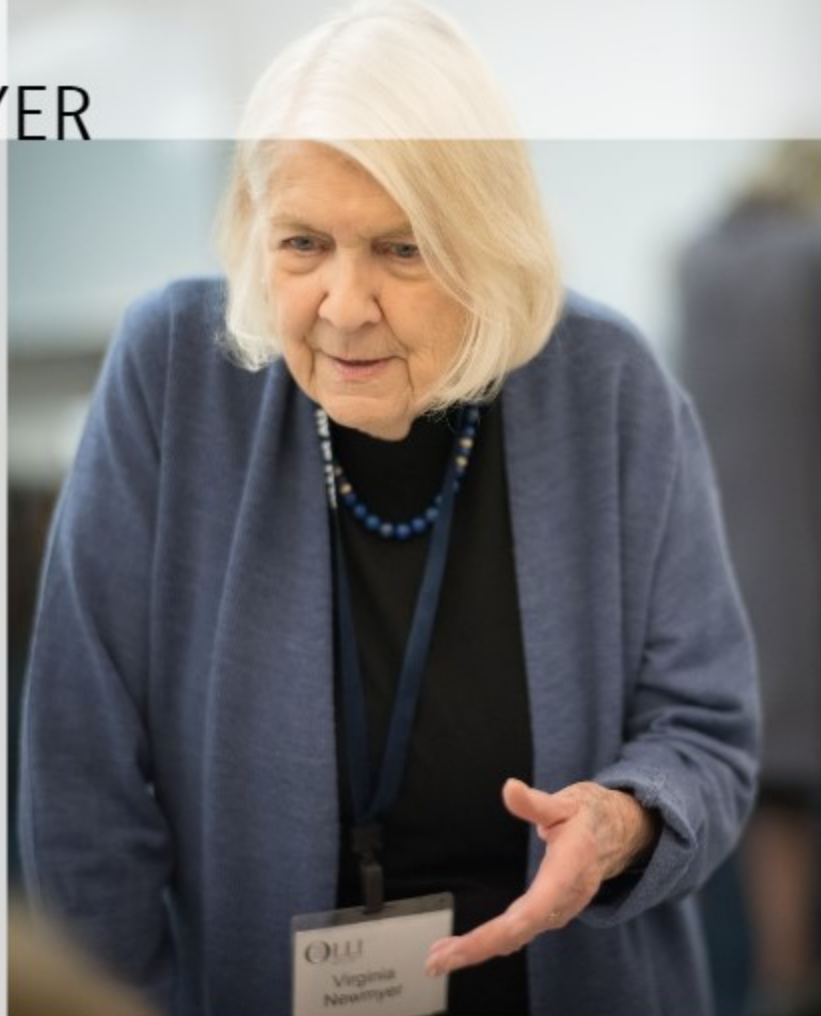
VIRGINIA NEWMYER

ABOUT VIRGINIA

Virginia has retired from teaching, but still maintains an interest in history and literature through reading. She has a live-in domestic partner, and they travel a lot together. By the beginning of August, she will have five great grandbabies, who are joining them on Martha's Vineyard this summer—with their parents and grandparents—for a couple of weeks.

VIRGINIA ON OLLI:

"OLLI came along at just the right time for me—a community of readers and thinkers and learners who replaced the colleagues I enjoyed in my professional life. I loved attending classes, then teaching, all the while making great friends with members and staff."



CLASSES TAUGHT

- World War I: Fact Through Fiction
- *Lady Chatterley's Lover*: Then and Now
- Bloomsbury: The History and Culture, Through the Literature of a Revolutionary Movement
- World War I: Fact by Fiction
- The Real Edwardians: Britain 1901-1914
- Aspects of Victorian Life
- British Writers & Historical Context
- Scenes of the Victorian Era

LESLIE FRANTZ

ABOUT LESLIE

Leslie's degrees are in history, from UVA, and English literature, from Georgetown. But her real education has come from teaching. She taught in Georgetown University's continuing education department for 20 years, then moved to OLLI in 2007. The challenge of writing and teaching a new course is something she loves to do, and OLLI has given her plenty of opportunities. Otherwise, she travels as much as she can, enjoys live theater, and has fun with friends and her large family.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- The Novels of Jane Austen
- *War and Peace* by Leo Tolstoy
- *Middlemarch* by George Eliot
- Dramatic Readings: Dickens and Others
- *Idylls of the King* by Alfred Lord Tennyson
- *Dombey and Son* by Charles Dickens
- *Tom Jones* by Henry Fielding
- *Vanity Fair* by William Makepeace Thackeray
- Charles Dickens' *Bleak House*
- Novels of Elizabeth Gaskell
- Charles Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend*
- *Paradise Lost*
- Gothic Terror
- Young Brontes
- Wayward Wives of 19th Century Fiction
- The Victorian Heroine



LESLIE ON OLLI:

"Preparing courses and leading study groups for OLLI gives me great joy. Participants in this program are highly educated, insightful, and eager to learn new things. They teach me a great deal. And they keep me sharp! I love feeling motivated to push myself a little harder intellectually, surrounded by people who feel the same way."

ANDREW WHITE

ABOUT ANDREW

Andy White has been teaching and lecturing at OLLI for quite some time. A longtime theater artist and critic on the Washington, DC scene, he has a PhD in Theater History, Theory and Criticism, with a focus on the performing arts of the Eastern Roman Empire (aka--Byzantium). A Fulbright fellow in Greece and Turkey, he has worked with Greek from Ancient to Modern times and is still puzzling over some of the changes Greek culture went through over the years. Although this unique skill set never helped him find full-time teaching gigs, he has always found a home with OLLI and its amazing membership.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Shakespeare by Barker--As He Liked It
- All About Greece, Greeks, and Greek Literature Through the Ages
- The Ancient Greeks, Their Drama, and Their History
- The Ancient Greek Art of the Dramatic Novel
- From the Age of Theater to the Age of Rhetoric
- Greece's Golden Age & Its Drama
- Hamlet, His World, Shakespeare's, and Ours
- Existentialism, Absurdism, and the Theatre
- German Drama from Sturm und Drang to Buchner
- The World of Spanish Drama
- On Beyond Athens: New Directions in the Greek Performing Arts
- Roman Comedy, or: When a Republic Becomes a Laugh Riot
- Roman Comedy -- Cheap Laughs, or Redeeming Social Value?
- Drama in America: Freedom and Free Spirits

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Andrew.

ANDREW ON OLLI:

"OLLI has always been the place where I can teach what I truly love, and where I can find people who share my many enthusiasm about history and theater."



SUSAN WILLENS

ABOUT SUSAN

Susan Willens has been an instructor at OLLI for several years, her topics ranging from essays to stories, to plays. A native Detroit, Dr. Willens has lived in Washington, DC for many years, teaching literature at The Edmund Burke School, George Washington University, and several universities in foreign countries.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- What's New in the Essay?
- What's New in the Short Story?
- Favorite Plays Revisited
- Powerful Essays From 2020
- Three Oedipus Plays by Sophocles
- Adventures in the Essay
- Best Recent Essays to Read and Write
- African-American Drama, 1959-Present
- Reading the Novella
- Reading Classic American Short Stories
- Reading Classic American Plays
- Reading New Short Stories
- Eugene O'Neill and Tennessee Williams
- Classic Short Stories
- Great American Essays
- The Best American Essays
- Let's Argue

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Susan.

SUSAN ON OLLI:

"I love and value OLLI with all my heart and I look forward to next semester."



PETER WOLFE



CLASSES TAUGHT

- The Founders and Finance
- History of American Indian-White Relations
- History of Immigration Policy and Immigration
- Reconstruction After the American Civil War
- The Road to the Civil War
- History of North American Colonies
- Israeli-Arab Relations
- Zionism
- Federalist Period in American History

ABOUT PETER

Peter Wolfe is a retired lawyer who majored in American history. He has been a Study Group Leader for numerous OLLI history courses.



PETER ON OLLI:

"I have enjoyed teaching and learning at OLLI over many years. I have always been interested in history. Extensive reading in depth from well-known historians as well as from the stimulating issues raised by the members of my classes has greatly increased my knowledge and excitement in historical subjects. In addition, I have taken numerous courses from the talented SGLs at OLLI, including subjects such as music and literature, as well as history."

DAVE PALMETER



DAVE ON OLLI:

"OLLI was my intellectual home for a good 15 years. Being an SGL was like being in a book group in which I always picked the book, confident that there would be several people who shared my interest. OLLI made my life much richer than it would have been without it."

ABOUT DAVE

A retired attorney, Dave has led OLLI discussion groups in history, literature, and philosophy since 2008.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War
- O'Casey's Dublin Trilogy
- Herodotus: The Histories
- The Radicalism of the American Revolution
- Seamus Heaney
- The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution
- War and Peace Part I & II
- John Rawls: Justice as Fairness
- Waiting for Godot
- Russian Thinkers on the Coast of Utopia
- David Hume on the Principles of Morals
- Shakespeare: Selected Sonnets
- Isaiah Berlin: The Power of Ideas

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Dave.



SUSAN GOODMAN

ABOUT SUSAN

Susan Goodman has been doing genealogy research as a hobby for 20 years. Before she retired, she worked as a journalist in print and radio, contributing features to NPR programs and news reports for WAMU.

SUSAN ON OLLI:

"Over the years I've had the good fortune to be a member of many OLLI study groups as well as developing a study group that uses genealogy to 'find your family history'. What I hadn't anticipated is that OLLI has given me another 'family' that has become important to my life. I've learned so much from other OLLI members over the years. I'm especially grateful to those in the genealogy group who have become regular contributors and who have, over the years, brought their expertise and enthusiasm to share with us all. Thanks to all my fellow travelers who have made life so much richer."



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Finding Your Family History
- Workshop: Finding Your Family History
- Workshop: Finding Your Family History in the Digital World
- Finding Your Family History on the Web
- Finding Your Family History on the Internet
- Researching Your Family History
- Family History on the Web
- Family History

MARY POOLE

ABOUT MARY

Mary enjoyed immensely the 23 years she spent teaching English literature in the International Baccalaureate program at Washington International School. For 13 of those years, she also worked as a university counselor. Before that, she got a master's at Georgetown University and had a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship at the University of Florence, Italy, and two grants from the NEH for the Teaching Shakespeare Institutes at the Folger. With her husband John, she was an active participant in an informal English history group started in 1974 by a few couples in DC. They were soon joined by diplomats at the British Embassy who would replace themselves when they left for other posts. Over the years, these cross-country relationships led to frequent reunions in various countries, with talks and papers related to where they gathered.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Testament of Youth
- Kazuo Ishiguro
- Fiction from Four Countries
- Shadows of War I, II, and III
- Music in Fiction
- Leaving Home I and II
- Fiction from Five Countries
- Fools of Fortune
- What Shall We Do About the Children
- Hard Times in Academia
- After the War I and II

MARY ON OLLI:

"Sometime last spring, one of my faithful class members used the words 'our wonderful class.' I don't remember what she was referring to, but I know what it meant to me, not a compliment to myself the SGL, but to everyone who reads the books (which they may or may not like) and joins the discussion either verbally or by listening with interest. Because they are the lifeblood of any reading and discussion class and if it works it is because of them. This is what OLLI means to me, that we SGLs can count on the robust response of our members class after class and year after year. So that each study group is an endeavor that we do together, each part complementing the other."



SRIMATI KARUNA

KARUNA ON OLLI:

"OLLI has been a tremendous connection into our neighborhood community. Through many years of interaction with OLLI members, our lives have been enriched through the dynamic and diverse array of backgrounds, educational pursuits, and personal relationships. It has been a treasured experience in every way."

ABOUT KARUNA

Srimati Karuna is an American who began her dedicated service to the ideals of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Foundation beginning in 1998. Karuna became Director of the Gandhi Memorial Center in 2006. The Gandhi Memorial Center presents the philosophy and life message of Mahatma Gandhi, as well as the spiritual and cultural heritage of India. It also provides educational and cultural activities for the international community in the Washington, DC area with art exhibitions, classes, lectures, films, and performances offered throughout the year. Karuna received all her education from American University with a BA in international relations, MA in international peace and conflict resolution, and MA in teaching. She is the author of two books: *Lights on the Path* and *Prayer Beads*.



CLASSES TAUGHT

- India: Culture, Traditions and Gandhi
- Four Paths of Yoga Philosophy

LEWIS COHEN

LEWIS ON OLLI:

"It is a source of intellectual stimulation, new friends and relationships and the best way I know to keep your equilibrium during the complicated transition from work to retirement."



ABOUT LEWIS

Lewis served in the Peace Corps as an English teacher in Tunisia. He was also a Foreign Service Officer, US trade negotiator, and international trade consultant specializing in Japanese trade barriers. Lew has been an OLLI SGL for a decade. Education: BA Columbia College, MA Johns Hopkins (SAIS), and MPA Harvard Kennedy School. He has led classes on globalization, income inequality, artificial intelligence, and separation of church and state.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Globalization & the Recession
- The Stillborn God
- Globalization: A Four Letter Word
- Globalization-Can It Be Tamed?
- The Price of Inequality
- The Rise of the Robots—Can We Adjust?
- The Irony of American History
- Invasive Networks—Nowhere to Hide!
- Platforms vs. Governments—The Emerging Clash
- AI—Are We Riding a Tiger?

BRUCE EISEN



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Opera Study
- Short Operas
- Metropolitan Opera
- Eight Modern Operas
- Eight Political Operas
- Favorite Italian Operas
- Operas on the Edge
- Met Opera Season 2014-2015
- Wagner's Ring
- 20th-Century Operas
- Favorite Operas Part I and II
- Wagner and Strauss: Master and Disciple
- Die Meistersinger/Verismo Opera
- Early Operas of Wagner and Verdi
- American Originals: How World War...
- Wagner's Parsifal and Some Authors...
- Operas in Four Languages
- Opera as Politics
- One Act Operas

BRUCE ON OLLI:

"OLLI has allowed me to interact with many smart and interesting class members, some of whom have become my close friends. It is wonderful that age has not diminished the inquiring spirits of so many members, and it is certain that these classes have helped me to better enjoy my retirement years."

ABOUT BRUCE

A retired communications attorney who has been general counsel of Washington National Opera, Bruce has served as SGL in classes addressing opera and classes covering authors JD Salinger, Kurt Vonnegut, TS Eliot, and Thomas Mann.

CAROL LIGHT



ABOUT CAROL

Carol Light is a mostly retired State Department attorney with a Shakespeare problem. She became addicted during law school when she was fortunate enough to spend part of a summer in London where she was first exposed to the Royal Shakespeare Company in performance. Ever since, she's fed her habit however she could, most recently by leading Shakespeare in Performance study groups at OLLI. She states that she's learned more from participants than she feels she has imparted—a good return on investment. Carol is an avid theatre-goer, loves to travel, and continues to volunteer weekly at an employment law legal clinic.



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Exploring the Tempest: A Performance-Based Approach
- OLLI Players Workshop
- Considering King Lear: A Performance-Based Approach
- Shakespeare in Performance - Becoming Henry V
- Henry V Lite: Beginnings, Middles, & Ends
- Shakespeare in Performance - Henry V Lite
- The Irrepressible Art of Adaptation
- Shakespeare in Performance: Revealing Richard III
- Shakespeare in Performance: The Making of A Merchant of Venice
- Shakespeare in Performance: Tackling Taming of the Shrew
- Hamlet: Shakespeare in Performance
- Performing Our Town
- Shakespeare in Performance: The Scottish Play
- Radio Script Workshop

CAROL ON OLLI:

"What OLLI means to me: Opportunity... Probably the thing I've loved the most is that doing my classes has given me an opportunity to do a deep dive into each play that's been discussed... In doing so, I've read into history, looked at art, learned what performers and directors have to say about their experience, and even delved into the academic depths for a look at what thinkers have been thinking (which changes over time, and succumbs to fads). After that, in no particular order: The people at OLLI, members and staff alike. What an interesting, diverse, intelligent, and, yes, curious group of people... the opportunity to try and learn new things... there is such a wide range of subjects and since there is no shame in trying a course but then dropping it, I feel quite free to explore new subjects... there's always something going on to stimulate curiosity, provide new insights, or just learn about things that had never crossed my mind before."

JOHN BOWEN

ABOUT JOHN

John Bowen hails from a musical family in Rochester, New York, and is an economics graduate of Yale and Vanderbilt Universities. He taught in that field at Princeton and, for many years, at Ripon College in Wisconsin. Upon retirement, he and wife Marcella followed one of their six children (an executive with EPA) to settle in the DC area, where he was fortunate to be able to follow his interest in classical music, both as a researcher for the Steinway Diary Project at the Smithsonian and as an OLLI class leader, first at the University of Maryland and subsequently at American University. At AU, his courses have included surveys of romantics, women composers, American composers, and Russians.

JOHN ON OLLI:

"What does OLLI mean to me? Couple of things. For one thing, having spent the bulk of my life in front of a classroom, I had not realized that I would miss that as much as I did. For another, teaching music in OLLI classes allowed me to get into course material I had never been able previously to explore. And of course, meeting new people in the classroom gives me a broader perspective on life."



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Women as Composers
- Early Romantic Composers: Their Lives, Their Times, Their Music
- Romantic Composers: The Next Generation
- Billings to Bernstein and Beyond: "Classical" Music in America
- The Russians are Coming, the Russians are Coming: Composers, That Is
- The Piano + 2, 3, 4: Trios. Quartets. Quintets

DAVID HURWITZ

ABOUT DAVID

David Hurwitz is a Certified Financial Planner Practitioner, as well as a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor®, Chartered Retirement Plan Specialist®, Retirement Income Certified Professional®, Accredited Portfolio Management Advisor®, and Behavioral Financial Advisor. David has been named "Best Financial Advisor" by the readers of Bethesda Magazine since 2010, Washington Post magazine, Five Star Wealth Manager since 2019, and Forbes Best in State Maryland since 2021. More information can be found on his website at www.davidbhurwitz.com.

DAVID ON OLLI:

"OLLI is a place where curiosity and comradery are nurtured at a stage in life where those things are vital to living your best life."



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Maximizing Your Assets
- Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income

RAY SQUITIERI



ABOUT RAY

Ray Squitieri is an economist with expertise in energy, environment, and resource economics. He began his career in California at the Rand Corporation and the Electric Power Research Institute. He then moved to Washington, DC to work at the US Treasury Department and the White House Council of Economic Advisors. He retired from the federal government in 2016. Ray has long had an interest in music. He sang in the Harvard Glee Club and many other choral groups. He began studying voice in his 40s, was bass soloist and section leader at a DC church, and was the oldest ever Young Artist at the Natchez Opera Festival. Ray has a bachelor's degree from Harvard and a PhD from Stanford.

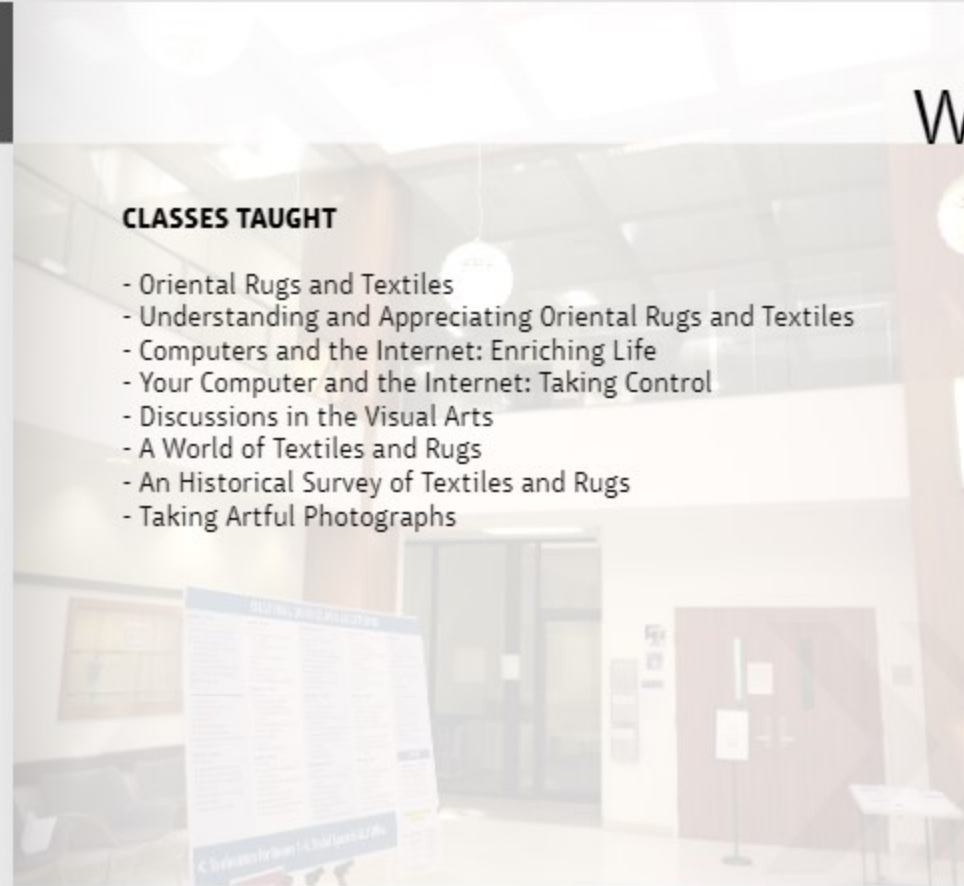
CLASSES TAUGHT

- The Singing Voice
- The Italian Vocal Tradition
- The German Vocal Tradition
- The Music of J.S. Bach
- Baroque Vocal Music
- The Coming of Modernism, 1890-1920
- Understanding World War I in Politics and Culture
- The First World War in European Politics and Culture
- Eight Great 20th-Century Composers
- The Fall and Rise of Modern China
- How the World Became Modern: 1500-1920
- The Science of Music and Sound
- The Life and Instrumental Music of J.S. Bach
- Effective Philanthropy
- The Story of Language
- Clear Thinking in the Age of Data Overload

RAY ON OLLI:

"Being an SGL at OLLI has been the most rewarding experience of retirement. It has allowed me to immerse myself in subjects I have long been fascinated by, chiefly concerning history and music, and to share what I have learned with others."

WENDEL SWAN



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Oriental Rugs and Textiles
- Understanding and Appreciating Oriental Rugs and Textiles
- Computers and the Internet: Enriching Life
- Your Computer and the Internet: Taking Control
- Discussions in the Visual Arts
- A World of Textiles and Rugs
- An Historical Survey of Textiles and Rugs
- Taking Artful Photographs

ABOUT WENDEL

Wendel Swan is a retired lawyer and business intermediary with a lifelong eclectic interest in the arts. He has led various OLLI classes on oriental rugs and textiles, discussions in the visual arts, computers and the internet, as well as photography.

WENDEL ON OLLI:

"When we first joined OLLI in 2009, it was a means to keep our minds active as we eagerly continued to learn, whether as SGLs or class members, about subjects both familiar and new. With the brilliant move to Mass Ave, a whole new dynamic blossomed in the OLLI community with vastly improved technology and connections that were made in the social spaces, becoming almost a new way of life beyond the classrooms."



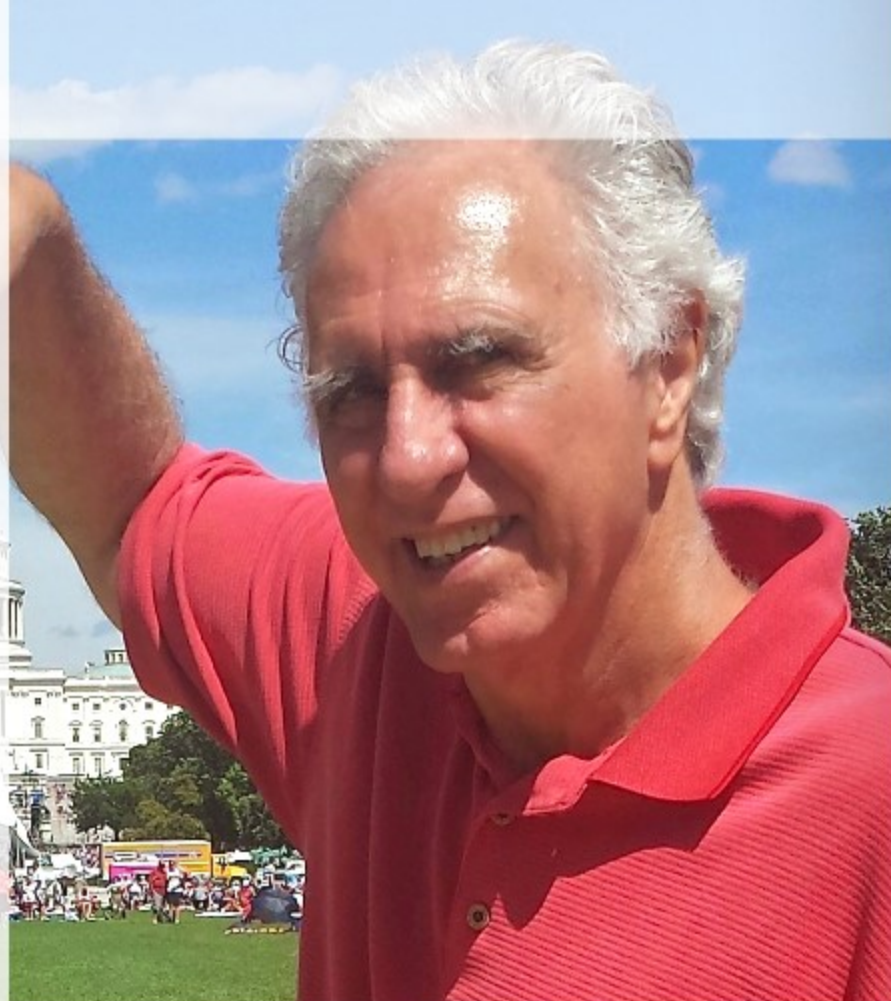
JOHN VORHES

ABOUT JOHN

John Vorhes is a retired industrial designer who worked for 30 years at USIA mounting exhibitions about American culture that traveled to a few unfriendly or undeveloped parts of the world, a mission he loved during the Cold War. They told the story of wars and all and were usually in trouble with the local regime but embraced by the people. For him, it was a combination of design and telling a story. John's OLLI architecture classes hoped to build on that experience. His Wild West course came from his discovery that his great-grandfather was a town sheriff in 1880s Kansas. He was a "westerner" and didn't know it.

JOHN ON OLLI:

"OLLI gives me the opportunity to get people excited by knowing more. I loved it when my students told me they saw a building that reminded them of something we talked about in class. Learning to 'look' is what the course is about."



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Looking at Architecture
- The Architecture of the Wild West
- The Architecture of the Wild West and the American Character
- The Myth and Reality of the Wild West

RONALD PARLATO

ABOUT RONALD

Ron Parlato has taught literature at OLLI for ten years. He is a graduate of Yale University with a double major in English and French literature. His graduate degree is in Urban Planning, but his principal career was in International Development where he worked in over 60 countries.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- But Was it Love? Famous Couples from Literature
- Famous Couples from the Theater: But Was It For Love?
- The Plays of Chekhov, Ibsen, and Strindberg
- Joseph Conrad—Moral Tales
- D.H. Lawrence—The Dynamics of Sexual Will
- Graham Greene—The Drama Of Moral Conflict
- Tennessee Williams and the Golden Age of American Theater
- Early Twentieth-Century American Fiction
- Southern Writers
- 19th-Century Fiction
- Greek Tragedy

RONALD ON OLLI:

"OLLI is a well-run, top-tier, premier non-degree program, noteworthy for the high caliber of [study] group leaders (teachers) and students. The array of courses available every semester is remarkable and shows the diversity of interests represented in the program. The OLLI staff is always helpful and supportive, the classrooms are well-lighted, large, well-equipped; and many of them with wide windows and natural light. I cannot imagine a better experience."



JUDITH PLOTZ

ABOUT JUDITH

After retiring from GWU after 50-plus years in the English Department, Judith has taught a range of OLLI courses (colonial and post-colonial writing, Italian fiction, philosophical fiction, Canadian literature); embarked on a new scholarly project attempting to chronicle both in personal and more widely professional terms, the rise and fall of the humanities from the 1960s to the present; and attempted to sustain her husband in his illness.

JUDITH ON OLLI:

"OLLI has been a source of friendship, intellectual refreshment, and sustained astonishment at what engaged discussion can produce."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Reading Kipling: Eight Weeks, Eight Kiplings
- Modern Indian Short Fiction
- Kipling and Colonial Short Fiction
- Fictions Rich, Strange, and Short
- Reading Modern Italian Fiction
- The Idea of North in Canadian and US Writing
- Italian Jewish Writing
- One-Offs, Odd Lots, and Nonpareils
- The Odd Bunch...



JACQUES READ

ABOUT JACQUES

Jacques Read received his AB from Princeton University in 1957, his MS from Yale in 1959, and his PhD from Yale in 1962. He completed his postdoctoral at Columbia Nevis Synchrocyclotron from 1961-1963. Jacques taught at Fairleigh Dickinson from 1963-1964 and the University of California, Livermore Campus from 1964-1972. He performed research at Oak Ridge and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories. Jacques was employed by the Atomic Energy Commission as a consultant from 1973-1974, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as a nuclear engineer from 1975-1988, the Department of Energy as a division director from 1989-2003, and Montgomery County as a science and math substitute teacher from 2013-2016.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Periodic Table of Elements
- Thinking Machines
- Old and New Mathematics
- Extremely Elementary Quantum Mechanics
- Concepts of Quantum Mechanics
- A Survey of Chemistry
- Energy
- Algorithms: How Machines Think
- Relativity
- Numbers
- The Elements
- The Quantum World
- Relativity, Gravity, and the Quantum
- Why the Square Root of Minus One is Your Friend



JACQUES ON OLLI:

"I have always done something like teaching since being a TA in grad school, and without the need to prepare for courses I would likely forget everything."



JOSH BERMAN

JOSH ON OLLI:

"'Curiosity never retires' is exactly right. Fellowship is equally important. The study groups, fellow participants, and staff deserve a lot of praise for assisting retirees manage this last stage of their life cycle."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Alternative Medicine and You: Promise, Reality, Potential
- Jewish History and Art: Patriarchs to Present
- Story of the Jews and their Art
- Jewish History and Art: A Survey Course
- Jewish History and Life: A Survey of 4,000 Years
- Jewish History from Abraham to the Diaspora
- Jewish History and Life: Diaspora to Israel
- Understanding Medical Recommendations and Advances
- Jewish History and Life: Patriarchs to Israel
- Jewish History and Life: Patriarchs to Diaspora

ABOUT JOSH

Josh received a PhD in Biophysics from Harvard University, and then engaged in medical training with an MD from Einstein College of Medicine, pediatric residency at Mt Sinai Hospital (NY), infectious disease fellowship at Cornell Medical Center (NY), and further infectious disease training at the Laboratories of Clinical Investigation and Parasitology at the NIH. In the army Josh was Research Coordinator of the Malaria Drug Development Program and Chief of the Biology Department at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Washington, DC.

Josh's next position was Director, Clinical and Regulatory Affairs, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), NIH. He has been Chair of World Health Organization/Tropical Disease Research Product Development Teams for antileishmanial agents and is on the Editorial Board of Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, and Clinical Infectious Diseases.

He has published over 150 research articles and 30 reviews and received the 1997 Louis Weinstein Award for the best clinical article in Clinical Infectious Diseases. Josh is presently Vice-President for Clinical Affairs, Fast-Track Drugs and Biologics, LLC.

STEPHEN ELKIN

ABOUT STEPHEN

Stephen Elkin has a PhD from Harvard and has taught at Smith College, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland. He is the author and editor of multiple books and scholarly papers, and the recipient of a variety of teaching awards.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- John Locke and the American Republic
- Executive Power and Statesmanship
- Hayek and Marx: Two Views of Capitalism
- Hannah Arendt as Political Thinker
- Revolutions (and Their Aftermath)
- The Lincoln-Douglas Debates
- Lincoln as Statesman
- Liberalism and Conservatism
- When Do Democracies Die?
- Liberalism, Conservatism (and Socialism)
- Politics and the Moral Life
- The Decline of the American Republic
- What Is to Be Done
- Shakespeare's Political Theory
- Shakespeare's Princes: Power and Statesmanship
- The Fate of the American Republic



STEPHEN ON OLLI:

"As to what OLLI has meant to me, I will only say that I have found OLLI students as stimulating to teach as those I taught at Smith, Penn, and Maryland."

ELEANOR GREENE

ABOUT ELEANOR

Elly Greene has taught history, trained teachers, and designed curricula for about 30 years in Massachusetts, Northern Virginia, and DC. She led OLLI study groups on Eleanor Roosevelt, the Laurel Grove School, the Progressives, on Making the History of 1989, and on Seven Photographers Documenting 20th-Century America.

ELEANOR ON OLLI:

"For more than ten years, OLLI has been for me an excellent place to learn and teach. As a study group participant, I explored many familiar and unfamiliar subjects and discovered new friends. As a Study Group Leader, I so enjoyed the challenges of learning while teaching—always a collaborative process with the range and experience of the folks in my study groups. Lots of effort and always worth it!"

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Eleanor Roosevelt: Selected Case Studies
- Resilience in History: The Laurel Grove School
- Seven Photographers Documenting 20th-Century America
- The Progressive Movement: Why It Still Matters
- Making the History of 1989

RITA HADDEN

ABOUT RITA

Rita was born in Hanoi, raised in Saigon and Phnom Penh, and educated in Chinese, French, and American schools. She worked for 42 years in technology management and culture change consulting. Rita especially loved the last 22 years, when she led major transformations in large, complex organizations that wanted to become more effective. Her book *Leading Culture Change in Software Organizations* was published in 2003. Rita's work took her to cities across America, Europe, and Asia, where she assessed the Capability Maturity of organizations. Rita travelled around the globe and lived in China and Thailand for one year. She learned to speak two dialects of Chinese, Thai, Italian, and Spanish. Rita taught Internet Commerce and Project Management at Nanjing University, Technology at Ithaca College and at Takhli AFB in Thailand, and Change Management to adult learners around the globe. Upon retirement, she became president of the Asian American Forum in DC. For the past 10-plus years, Rita has enjoyed OLLI at AU, leading discussion courses on "Understanding Asia" and international films.

RITA ON OLLI:

"OLLI has changed my life in retirement. It has encouraged me to deepen my knowledge of my heritage, learn more about Asian and American foreign policies and challenges, and speak French more fluently once again. I love interacting with OLLI members. They are smart, outspoken, and keep me on my toes!"

CLASSES TAUGHT

- The History of Internet Commerce
- Understanding Asia
- Asian Films: Culture, History, Politics
- International Films on Food and Relationships
- More Asian Films: Culture, History, Politics
- Race and Sexuality

KAREN GAIL LEWIS



ABOUT KAREN

Karen Gail Lewis, marriage and family therapist in private practice for over 50 years, is author of numerous books and professional articles on marriage, gender communication, single women, and adult siblings. Her newest book is *Sibling Therapy: The Ghosts from Childhood That Haunt Your Clients' Love and Work*. She has taught family therapy at several colleges and medical schools (in the US and Chile), including at the University of Santiago. She has been active nationally and internationally in family therapy organizations and with her presentations. She has taught at an OLLI for almost 20 years—in Cincinnati, Temple University, John Hopkins/Shady Grove, and AU.

KAREN ON OLLI:

"OLLI means I look forward to Mondays with great anticipation and pleasure!"

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Understanding Families Through Plays
- For the Love of Siblings: Film to Understand Family Relationships
- Guess Who's Coming to Dinner: Understanding Family Relationships
- On Golden Pond: Understanding Family Relationships
- My Family/Mi Familia: Understanding Families Through Film
- For the Love of Spouses and Siblings—A Film
- Understanding Families Through Film

DIANE SWAN

DIANE ON OLLI:

"OLLI opened up a whole new world of accomplished, interesting people and fascinating things to learn. I was very nervous before my first class as an SGL, but am so glad I took that plunge."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- TED Talks: Great Lectures with Discussion
- TED Talks: Cutting Edge Ideas
- Cutting-Edge TED Talks
- TED Talks
- TED Talks: Focus on Society
- TED Talks Favorites
- Recent TED Talks

ABOUT DIANE

Diane Swan taught English, worked as a Defense Department analyst, and developed training courses for various federal agencies. Being in classrooms is a common thread, first as a teacher, then observing classes she designed and wrote, and finally volunteering in ESL classes. She finds being an OLLI SGL challenging and satisfying; sharing that role, as she currently does, has added a lot of fun and camaraderie.



HANNE CARAHER

ABOUT HANNE

Hanne Caraher came to "the land of unlimited opportunities" and specifically to Washington in 1961, with short stints in Florida and Wisconsin. When she retired, she immediately and enthusiastically embraced two new pursuits: teaching advanced German and taking classes at OLLI and masters rowing. She is grateful for how OLLI and rowing have enriched her life.



HANNE ON OLLI:

"OLLI at AU is many things to me: new areas of knowledge, new friends, new horizons, and old friends who have been signing up for my class for many years..."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- German 20th-Century Writers
- Wie ist Ihr Deutsch? Wollen Sie es auffrischen?
- Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene. Wollen Sie es Verbessern?
- Knitting 101 and More
- Wir unterhalten uns auf deutsch



PENNY HANSEN

PENNY ON OLLI:

"I came to OLLI for the first time in 2010 after having walked down many 'retirement roads' for almost a decade. Like so many of us, I learned about OLLI from a friend and signed up for three classes. To my amazement, they were all marvelous with outstanding teachers and intellectually challenging. In 2012, by pure accident, I stumbled across a subject that fascinated me—the Supreme Court. I had no background in the topic at all, no law degree or professional or course work to stand on, but after a year of studying the subject I was empowered by OLLI to put together a course. Because it is a subject that is always evolving, I've continued to learn and teach about it for the last decade. It has become a second career—one in which 25 or so really smart people join me in exploring deeply important events in our life as citizens—every semester! And, of course, some of those very bright people have become dear friends that I join in classes I take from other amazing teachers. Happily, one of those was my husband Brock who also became an OLLI teacher, creating a writing course that many people participated in for years. It is not an over-statement to say that OLLI has been the most important factor in making my retirement years some of the most exciting and rewarding of my life."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens
- Populism and the Presidency

Penny's Supreme Court course evolves each session and has been taught 18 times over the past 10 years.

ABOUT PENNY

Penelope Hansen directed numerous programs at the Environmental Protection Agency during its first 30 years, implementing the country's first recycling, hazardous waste, Superfund, acid rain, and technology verification programs. She has devoted much of her retirement to studying the Supreme Court and has given OLLI classes on this and other subjects for the last ten years. She was educated at Skidmore College, Johns Hopkins University, and the Kennedy School at Harvard University.



ERICH KEEL

ABOUT ERICH

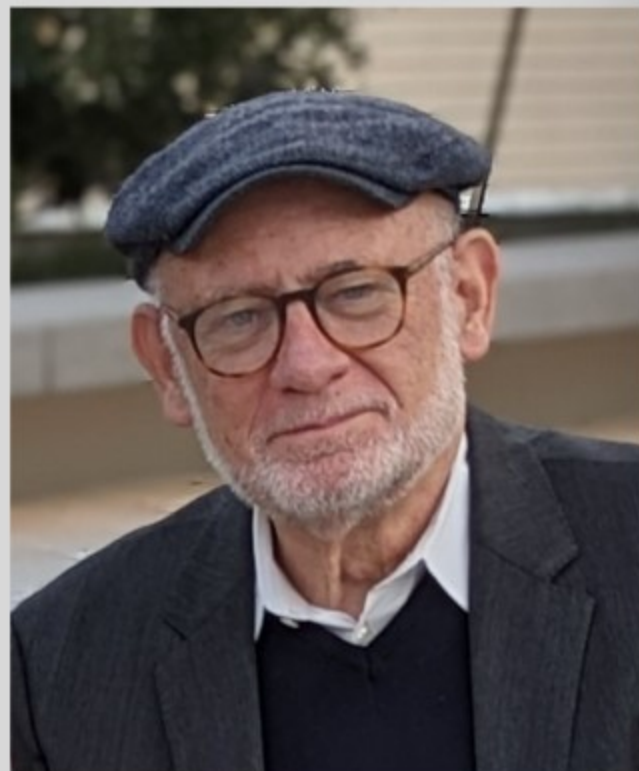
Born and raised in Zurich, Switzerland, Erich Keel served as the Kreeger Museum's Head of Education from 1999 to 2013. He graduated from Emory University with a dissertation on critical theory. His current studies focus on selected themes in European and US art history, including symbolism, color theory, and abstraction.

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Art and Artists in the Third Reich
- Adolf Hitler and Modern Art
- The British Avant-garde: Pre-Raphaelites, Arts and Crafts, Art Nouveau
- Art in France: From 1929 to 1968
- Vienna – City of Art: 1848-1914
- Art in Italy: From National Unification to the Rise of Fascism
- American Artists in Italy: 1750-1914
- Milan: City of Art
- Art & Politics: The Changing Fortunes of Milan and Lombardy
- Washington Color Painters: 1940 to 1990

ERICH ON OLLI:

"OLLI has been an extraordinary forum for teaching and learning, whether the conversation evolves in class, at a meeting, or over a leisurely cup of coffee. Study Group Leaders are volunteers. They do not get paid. Their reward is OLLI's invitation to pursue their passion and share it with individuals who are equally driven by a search for knowledge."



ELLEN ON OLLI:

"OLLI means a place to go to where I find myself among like-minded, well-educated, generous people who offer friendship and appreciate what I can contribute to their later years' knowledge and enjoyment. I usually come away having enjoyed myself and not feeling so alone as I would without my husband—to whom I was married for 44 years."

CLASSES TAUGHT

- Jane Austen: First Half, Steventon and Bath
- Beyond Barsetshire: Trollope, Irish, European & Political Novelist
- The Poldark Novels in Context I
- Henry Fielding's Tom Jones
- Making Barsetshire
- 19th Century Women of Letters
- Pivotal City and County Victorian Novels
- The Booker Prize Marketplace Niche
- The Later Virginia Woolf
- Trollope's Traveler, Colonialist, Writing and Rural Tales
- The Enlightenment: At Risk?
- Trollope's "Can You Forgive Her?" (Palliser 1)
- The Man Booker Prize: Short and Short-Listed
- Anthony Trollope's Phineas Finn: The Irish Member (Palliser 2)
- The Bloomsbury Novel
- Anthony Trollope's Phineas Redux (Palliser 4)

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Ellen.

ELLEN MOODY

ABOUT ELLEN

Ellen got her PhD in English Literature in 1979, and has been teaching either college level courses, or now OLLI ones, since 1972 with a few breaks. She was and continues to be an independent scholar and published writer. When she retired in 2012 and her husband died in 2013, she turned to OLLI to find a new social world to belong to, and found the people enabled her to carry on teaching and choose topics and books she didn't get a chance to begin to do in undergraduate courses. Her specialties have been consistent over the years: British literature in general (the 18th and 19th century especially), Jane Austen, Anthony Trollope, translation (from the Italian, poetry by Renaissance women), womens' studies, film adaptations, and most recently from a post-colonialist standpoint.



DANIEL MOSKOWITZ



CLASSES TAUGHT

- Salad Days: A History of British Stage Musicals
- Singing on the Seine: Broadway Musicals Set in Paris
- War Songs of the 20th Century
- Broadway Musicals of 1943
- The Structure of the Broadway Musical
- Salvaged Songs from Failed Musicals
- Politics in the American Musical
- Broadway's Black Divas of the 1920s
- The Songs That Made America: 1900-1950
- Voices of the Stars: Who's Really Singing?
- Politics in the American Musical
- American Popular Song: The B-list Composers: 1930-1960
- Broadway Musicals 1943: the Shows, the Stars, the Songs

Note: This is just a selection of the courses taught by Daniel.

DANIEL ON OLLI:

"TEACHING: A way to use and share my knowledge and a spur to do deep and ordered research on topics I know just a bit about. BEING A CLASS MEMBER: learning in a deep and ordered way about topics I previously had only marginal interest in (and occasionally none at all). And, of course, meeting (and occasionally re-meeting) interesting people, some of whom I now count as friends."



ABOUT DANIEL

After graduating from Penn in 1956, Daniel began writing for *BusinessWeek* and stayed there for 35 years, in various cities until getting to DC in 1965. Since 1991 he has been freelancing, most recently primarily for *American History* magazine, although assignments have slowed considerably. He began attending musicals (The Red Mill was his first) at age six and has loved them ever since; with "no talent for singing, acting, or dancing," leading OLLI courses has been his first opportunity to do something with his appreciation and knowledge of musicals and American popular music in general.

CHARLES O'CONNOR



ABOUT CHARLES

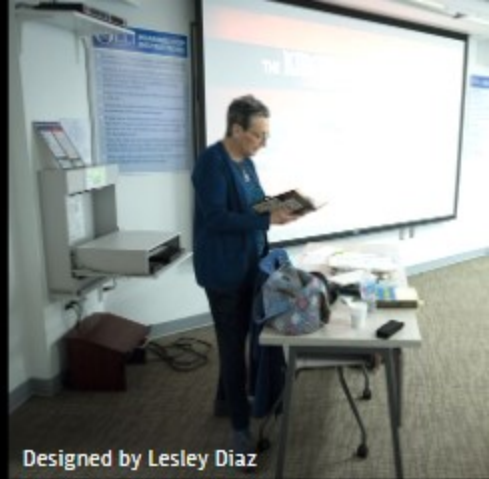
After more than 40 years of private environmental law practice in Washington DC, Charles returned to Georgetown University in 2008 and earned a Doctorate in Liberal Studies (DLS) in 2012. Since 2014, he has taught at OLLI, and briefly at Georgetown in the Graduate Liberal Studies Program (2016-2017), drawing on his interdisciplinary graduate work in modern Western culture. His current OLLI course, Great War on Western Culture and the Western Worldview, draws upon a wide range of cultural disciplines, including his book, *The Great War and the Death of God: Cultural Breakdown, Retreat from Reason, and Rise of Neo-Darwinian Materialism in the Aftermath of World War I*. Charles has continued publishing articles in the core subject areas. He graduated from Harvard College, AB cum laude in English (1964), and Georgetown University, JD (1967), MALS (1985), and DLS (2012).

CLASSES TAUGHT

- World War I and the New Atheism
- World War I and the Rise of Atheism
- Western Culture and the Rise of Neo Darwinian Materialism after World War I
- Roots of the New Atheism: Philosophy, Science, and the Cultural Impact of World War I
- The Impact of the Great War on Western Culture and the Western Worldview

CHARLES ON OLLI:

"OLLI provides a personally enriching opportunity to share with OLLI's academically curious, engaging, and thoughtful membership my interests in some of the modern cultural and existential questions we confront. My teaching at OLLI presents both an exciting intellectual challenge and a valuable learning experience. It has enriched my own life and, I hope, the lives of my study group members over the past 10 years. I have also benefited from taking many OLLI courses, which have enhanced my course, writing, and teaching."



Designed by Lesley Diaz

