



Where Curiosity Never Retires



OLLI NEWS — October 29, 2021

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Calling All Language Instructors!

OLLI is hoping to expand its language offerings and is looking for Study Group Leaders to teach beginning Spanish, as well as other languages, such as Yiddish, Arabic, and Farsi, etc. If you speak another language and are interested in possibly becoming a Study Group Leader at OLLI, please e-mail olli@american.edu. For more information about being a Study Group Leader, please visit the [Become A Study Group Leader page](#).

Propose A Study Group or Short!

The OLLI Curriculum Committee is accepting study group proposals for both the upcoming February

Shorts and spring semester. We welcome proposals from both new and veteran Study Group Leaders. For more information about being a study group leader at OLLI, please visit the [Become A Study Group Leader page](#). If you or someone you know is interested in leading a study group and would like to speak with someone, please email olli@american.edu and we will get in touch with you.

To propose a study group, please click one of the links below. You will be prompted to login with your OLLI username/password. If you don't yet have an account, you will be able to create one. Both February and spring classes will again be offered as in-person, online, and hybrid formats. Study Group Leaders select their format preference on the proposal form.

February 2022 Shorts

The Feb. Shorts will be February 7-11. Shorts meet 3-5 times over the course of one week.

[February Shorts Proposal Form](#)

Spring 2022

The spring semester will be March 7-May 13, 2021. Study groups are 8-10 weeks long and meet once a week.

[Spring Proposal Form](#)

Proposal deadline for both sessions: November 29

Today's Friday Lecture: 1:30 PM

Hunger in America—An Ongoing Scandal

Jim Weill

Friday, October 29

1:30-2:30 PM (via Zoom)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 949 8474 8882

Passcode: 931585

Jim Weill has had a 50-year career as a leading anti-poverty and social justice advocate. After law school, Jim worked at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago as Director of Federal Litigation and Special Impact Projects. He served as counsel in several cases on plenary review in the US Supreme Court, arguing two of them; and oversaw the Foundation's attorneys on dozens of class action and impact cases on Social Security, Medicaid, Food Stamps, other public benefits, immigration, and challenges to discrimination against racial minorities, women, and children born out of wedlock. From 1982 to 1998, Jim was Program Director and General Counsel at the Children's Defense Fund, where he played a lead role in Medicaid expansions, enactment of the Children's Health Insurance Program, creation of the Vaccines for Children Program, and three major expansions of the Earned Income Tax Credit. Jim was President of the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) from 1998 until his retirement at the end of 2019. During that time FRAC led efforts to expand participation and improve benefits in key anti-hunger and anti-poverty programs, with particular emphasis on SNAP, school lunch and breakfast, afterschool and summer food programs, childcare food, WIC, and income supports like the refundable Child Tax Credit.

Next Friday's Lecture: November 5

The Original Black Elite

Elizabeth Dowling Taylor

Friday, November 5

1:30-2:30 PM (via Zoom)

Beth Taylor is an independent scholar, lecturer, and author. She received her PhD at the University of California at Berkeley. She will be discussing her book, *The Original Black Elite: Daniel Murray and the Story of a Forgotten Era*. Additionally, she is the author of *A Slave in the White House: Paul Jennings and the Madisons*, a New York Times bestseller, as well as the forthcoming *Outside Her Proper Sphere: Margaret Bayard Smith, Washington Insider in the Early Republic*.

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be included in the OLLI newsletter the morning of the lecture.

Serendipity Talk: November 4

West Side Story: Then and Now

Dan Sherman

Thursday, November 4

3:30-5:00 PM (via Zoom)

West Side Story, a retelling of Romeo and Juliet in a world of urban gang violence, revolutionized the Broadway musical in terms of its plot, music, and integration of dance. The 1957 play was made into an award-winning film musical in 1961 and will soon be seen in new film directed by Steven Spielberg. This talk will view the musical's creation, discuss its innovations, and describe its performance history using a mix of audio and video clips, including those featuring the work's creators—Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, Jerome Robbins, and Arthur Laurents.

Dan Sherman has taught several courses on musical theater and film musicals at OLLI, along with many other venues in the area. He holds his PhD in economics from Cornell and retired as Managing Director at the American Institutes for Research.

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed the morning of the talk to all OLLI newsletter subscribers.

Serendipity Talk: November 15

Uncovering New Possibilities: Insights From Our Time

Kimberly Weichel

Monday, November 15

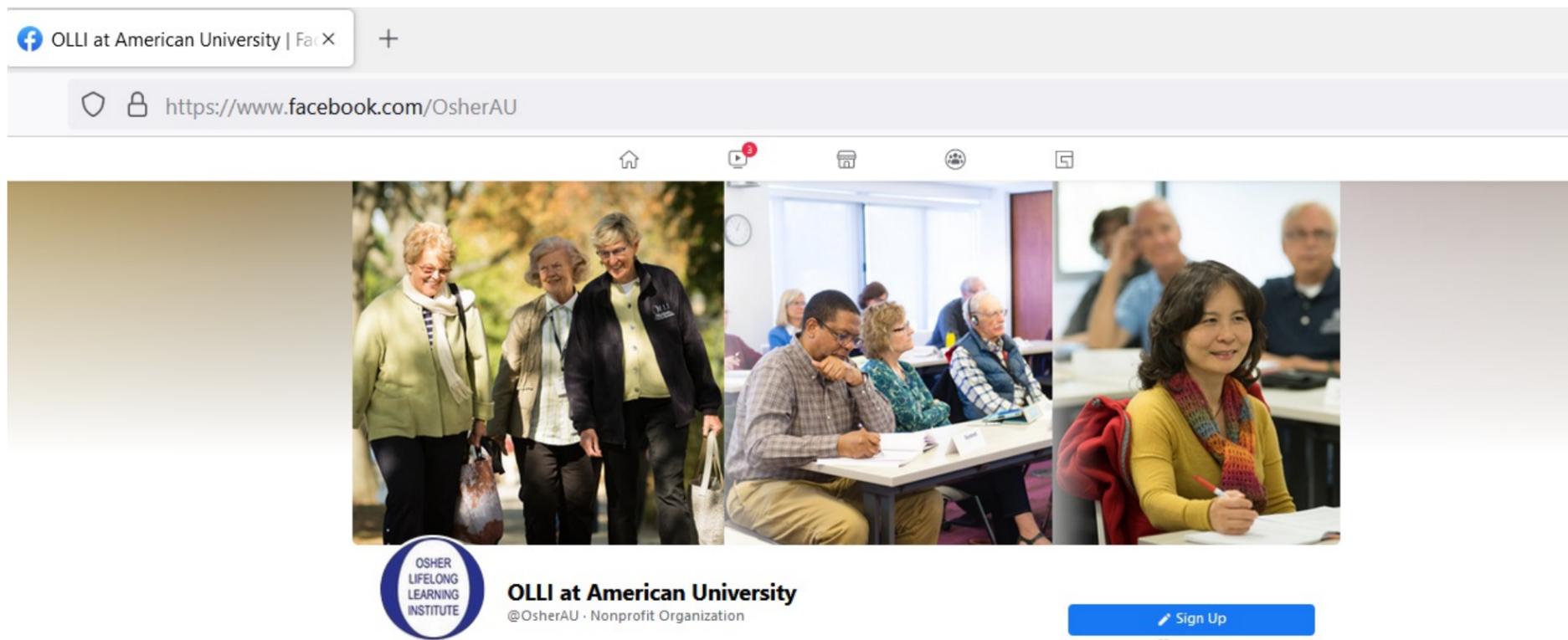
3:30-5:00 PM (via Zoom)

Author, thought leader, and OLLI Study Group Leader, Kimberly Weichel will share highlights from her new book, *Uncovering New Possibilities: Insights From Our Time*, which explores how this pandemic era is affecting us personally and collectively, and what new possibilities might emerge. The ten chapters explore: why women's leadership has been so effective and why its important now; wisdom

from Eastern healing and spiritual traditions; how our emotions subconsciously shape our behavior and life decisions; charting our second half of life with renewed vigor and grace; living a more resilient, peaceful life even during a crisis; how we transform gender norms and educate men and boys; and tuning our moral compass to live a more enriching life. She and her husband Carl, who co-authored four chapters, will highlight together several key themes covered in their OLLI courses.

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be e-mailed the morning of the talk to all OLLI newsletter subscribers.

OLLI is on Facebook



Curious about what we are up to? OLLI's members and study group leaders are at the heart of the work we do. If you're looking for ways to find out about OLLI events, connect with other members, and spread awareness of our mission, we hope you will follow and join in the conversation on our recently launched [Facebook page](#). Facebook attracts a very diverse audience of retirees and is a way to reach out to lifelong learners who might not know about us.

Virtual Tour Series: Heart of DC-Part 2

Virtual Tour Series: The Heart of DC - Part 2

Tammy Belden

Tuesday, November 9

3:30-4:30 PM (via Zoom)

Join OLLI for a second virtual tour in a series of illustrated talks, led by Tammy Belden, on our capital's "historic center" and its most iconic memorials and sites.

In July, we began with the western end of the National Mall covering such sites as the Lincoln, Viet Nam Veterans, and Korean War memorials. We now progress down the Mall to its center: the Washington Monument, the White House, and the Jefferson, discussing smaller and lesser known spots along the way. Did you know that the White House was originally considered riverfront property; that the Washington Monument is sited approximately 390 feet from its original planned location; and that the original statue in the Jefferson Memorial was made of plaster painted a bronze color? Although you may already be familiar with many of these facts, we will cover some controversies, engaging anecdotes, and facts that you may not have heard!

No registration is required. The Zoom link will be emailed to all members the morning of

the event.

Dulcimer Music

Karen Buglass' Appalachian dulcimer class is virtual this semester but students have found a way to play together! After receiving Karen's recording of the melody to *Leaving Lismore*, one student recorded herself playing the harmony part alongside it. Enjoy their rendition of this lovely Celtic tune [here](#).

Recorded Classes

Fall members may access all recorded classes through Friday, December 17, by logging on (with username and password) to the OLLI [website](#). Once logged on, click on the Study Groups tab across the top. Next, scroll down and click on 2021 Fall Recordings. This will bring you to the recordings page, organized by each day. Click on the day your class meets to find the recordings arranged by class time.

Knowledge Management Survey for Retirees

Researchers at NC State University hope to learn about your recent retiree experience via anonymous electronic survey. Those of you who have retired within the last five years are asked to consider participating in this quick five-minute [survey](#). Your experience as a recent retiree may be helpful to employers to improve their ability to manage future retirements and the knowledge transfer process. The survey will include a few questions about you and then ask about your experience. The survey has been reviewed by the NC State University Institutional Review Board (IRB). The summary results may be shared in sum or part in academic and business publications to help employers improve. **The last date for participating in the survey is November 30.**

Contact: Beth Ritter, bmritte2@ncsu.edu or 919-513-1726

American University News & Events

CENTER FOR ISRAEL STUDIES

Two States or One? Rethinking the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Monday, November 1

11:30 AM-12:30 PM (via Zoom)

Join our panelists who will discuss the viability of the two state solution, as well as the alternatives, including how one bi-national state might look. Speakers: Omri Boehm (New School), Yael Aronoff (Michigan State University), Saliba Sarsar (Monmouth University). [Register](#).

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Seeing Climate Change Symposium

Friday-Sunday, November 5-7 (streaming)

Attend virtual events at the university's first annual Seeing Climate Change symposium, inspired by the exhibition [Diane Burko: Seeing Climate Change](#), on display through December 12 at the American University Museum. [Register](#).

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

Films Across Borders: Cooked: Survival By Zipcode

Thursday, November 4

6:00-7:00 PM (via Zoom)

Join a live virtual conversation with filmmaker Judith Helfand about *Cooked: Survival By Zip Code*, an award-winning documentary about extreme heat, the politics of disaster and survival. The conversation will be moderated by Executive Director of The Center for Environmental Filmmaking and SOC Professor Maggie Burnette Stogner. [Register](#).

CEF Presents National Park Service Student Video Showcase

Friday, October 29

6:00-7:15 PM (online)

The Center For Environmental Filmmaking presents a showcase of outstanding student videos that reveal the extraordinary values and resources of the National Park Service.

[Register](#).

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Take Action: Fighting for Women and Girls

Wednesday, November 3

6:00 PM (Streaming)

Women and Politics Institute executive director Betsy Fischer Martin joins *Take Action: Fighting for Women and Girls* author Stephenie Foster in a discussion about her guide to activism and advocacy for those who want to support women and girls. [Register](#).

AU ARTS

Home of AU's performing, visual, literary, and media-based arts. [View the schedule and registration links](#).

AU MUSEUM

Fall Schedule: until Sunday, December 12

Friday-Sunday only

11:00 AM-4:00 PM

The [museum](#) is again open to visitors. View [upcoming exhibitions](#). Patrons and university community members can now experience shows on display at the [Katzen Arts Center](#). Follow the museum on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MISSION

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

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

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