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OLLI Partnership: Jeanne Kent

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100 Politics, Law & Government: TBD

200 Psychology, Sociology & Culture: TBD

300 Economics & Personal Finance: John Peterson

400 STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering

& Math: Albert Cheh & Al Taran

500 Music: Alan Frey & Stanley Newman

500 The Arts: Joan Simmons

600 Language: Sandy Leibowitz

600 Literature: Jeannette Rivera & Cindy Lisec

700 History & Geography: Bob Coe &

Marion Connell

800 Philosophy & Religion: Katy Adams

## Staff

Executive Director: Tony Long

Deputy Executive Director: Mary Fran Miklitsch

Academic Programs Coordinator: Lesley Diaz

Operations Coordinator: Jesse Williams

Administrative Coordinator: Terri Greene



## A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK

As you read through the catalog to choose your courses, we thought you might want to have a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to bring you the high-quality courses for which OLLI at AU is known. The adage, "It takes a village" comes to mind, but it always begins and ends with our Study Group Leaders (SGLs).

Long before you receive your catalog in the mail, our SGLs have a burning, or sometimes simmering, idea of what might make a good OLLI class. They think about it, maybe discuss it with others, do exhaustive research, and then put pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard). They sketch out the course content and schedule, identify books they might use, and finally turn all those months of work into a 100-word course description that they submit via OLLI's online proposal form. The completed form is sent to the OLLI office and to our always-on-duty Curriculum Committee . . . the process has begun.

Curriculum Committee members work with SGLs to ensure that the course description and content are clear and well developed, that courses aren't duplicated, and that the course fits in with the overall OLLI at AU curriculum. The committee meets several times each semester, then convenes to approve the courses before final Board review and approval. The Board approves the courses . . . the process continues and moves to its next phase.

We won't go into details about catalog production, but if you think of Henry Ford's moving assembly line, you'll have a good sense of what happens to produce the catalog you receive in the mail.

Once the catalog is printed, registration opens. Approximately six weeks later, lottery day at OLLI arrives (see page 6 for registration process). Once we know the results of the lottery, we assign rooms, provide an orientation for new SGLs, provide technology training for all SGLs, assign Study Group Representative (SGRs) for classes, get copied materials together, have an Open House and tours for new members, assign Welcomers to call new members, and order coffee . . . lots of coffee. During this time and throughout the year, volunteers from the 18 OLLI standing and ad hoc committees do their important work, and the staff supports them all. In any year, we have approximately 563 volunteer positions and five full-time staff—a village—all here to support you, the OLLI member, and the Study Group Leader who had an idea of what might make a good OLLI class.

We hope you enjoy choosing your classes, and we look forward to another successful OLLI at AU season.

### Martha Cutts

*Chair, Board of Directors*

### Tony Long

*Executive Director*

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

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Organization

**Phone:** 202.895.4860 | **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 at AU 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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## PARKING

Parking is available in the garage beneath 4801. In accordance with DC regulations and AU's "Good Neighbor Policy," **OLLI members are required to park in AU lots while attending OLLI.**

## SPRING REFUNDS

The office must receive requests for refunds in a written note or an e-mail **no later than close of business on Friday, March 13.** A \$10 processing fee will be assessed.

## SPRING IMPORTANT DATES

- Feb. 10** Registration forms are due by midnight for Lottery, Feb. 11
- Feb. 13** Registration Letters Emailed
- Feb. 18** Open House  
10:00 AM–12:00 Noon
- March 2** Classes Begin
- April 3** Annual Meeting
- May 8** Last Day of Classes

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

**OLLI follows American University's weather policy.** If AU has a delayed opening, OLLI's 9:45 AM classes are cancelled and the 11:45 AM and 1:45 PM classes are held. If AU is closed, OLLI also is closed for the day and all classes are cancelled. **OLLI posts a notification of any delay or closure on its website ([olli-dc.org](http://olli-dc.org)) by 6:30 AM and sends an email to all registrants.**



Printed on Recycled Paper.

# WHAT IS OLLI AT AU?

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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 designed, specifically, for people who are 50 years of age or older. 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 Orientation.

## Study Group Leader Orientation

We offer an orientation session for new study group leaders before each fall and spring semester. The topics covered include support, general logistics, information about OLLI and its members, classroom management, and using audio/visual equipment in the classrooms. Participants also have the opportunity to take a tour of OLLI, see their assigned classroom, and try out the equipment. This semester’s orientation will be held on January 22 from 9:30 AM–12:00 noon.

## 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 at AU 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, 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 AT AU ORGANIZED?

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OLLI at AU is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in Washington, DC, and is part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute National Network, which now includes 124 Institutes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Members are eligible to use the university library, computers, parking facilities, shuttle service, campus store, dining facilities, and to join the Jacobs Fitness Center at a reduced rate. **ALL OLLI educational activities take place at 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW. (See map on page 5.)**

## Support of OLLI at AU

Membership fees (\$300 per semester, \$550 per year) 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 to assist in funding OLLI’s operations.

The Friends of OLLI Fund, established by the Board of Directors, is a reserve fund helping OLLI maintain affordable tuition, expand and enhance its physical facilities, and develop innovative and diverse programs.

# THE ABCs OF OLLI

## Accessibility

OLLI at AU is located at 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW, which is handicapped accessible. All of OLLI's classrooms have hearing loops. See the Hearing Loop information below.

## Adding or Dropping Study Groups

Members may add, drop, or change study groups through the second week of a semester.

## American University Benefits

### AU Library

All registered 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 each academic session begins.

### AU Fitness Centers

OLLI members are eligible for an annual membership at the Jacobs Fitness Center (202-885-6267) at a discounted rate.

## Books

Books are available 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 offers OLLI members a 10% discount on books for study groups.

Books also can 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](http://AbeBooks.com), [AddAll.com](http://AddAll.com), [Alibris.com](http://Alibris.com), [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [BookOutlet.com](http://BookOutlet.com), [BookFinder.com](http://BookFinder.com), [eBay.com](http://eBay.com), and [Powells.com](http://Powells.com).

## Contact Information

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

## Directory of Members

We publish a member directory each semester listing members' names, addresses, phone numbers, and emails. Please fill out this section of the registration form carefully. The directory is available online to download during the second week of class. Printed copies are available upon request.

## 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 weekly newsletter via email.

## EVENTS

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

The **Semester Lecture Series** features members of the greater Washington, DC community, each speaking on a field of interest. Semester lectures are on Fridays from 1:30 to 2:30 PM. Lectures are free and require registration.

**Interim Lecture Series** are held on weekday mornings in January and May — from 10:00 to 11:00 AM — featuring speakers on a variety of subjects. Lectures are free and require registration.

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

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

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

## Fourth Study Group

During the third week (March 16–20) of study groups, members may ask to take a fourth study group. You must call the office to register for the study group.

## Hearing Loops

All of OLLI's classrooms are equipped with **hearing loops**, a state-of-the-art assistive listening technology. Most recent hearing aids are equipped with a t-coil. Your audiologist can tell you whether or not your hearing aid has a t-coil and, if it does, your audiologist can activate the t-coil.

With the t-coil turned on, a member can hear others in the room very clearly. Members who do not have hearing aids or who have hearing aids without t-coils, can use a loop receiver with a headset, to benefit from the loop. Each classroom is supplied with a number of loop receivers.

## Lecture Series

We offer four Lecture Series throughout the year. During each semester there is a lecture on Fridays from 1:30-2:30 PM. In January and May, there are lectures on various weekday mornings from 10:00-11:00 AM. Members are given an opportunity to register before non-members may register. Online registration is required.

## Lost and Found

There is a lost and found box in the OLLI office. Please check there if you have misplaced something.

## Lunchtime Options

There is a cafeteria on the 6th floor which serves hot and cold breakfast and lunch. Members can also brown bag lunch with OLLI friends in one of the social spaces on the 5th floor. Buy lunch

to carry out or eat in at DeCarlo's Restaurant, Le Pain Quotidien, Millie's, Starbucks, or Wagshal's Market — all within one block of 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW.

### **Membership Fee**

The fee paid each semester (or for the full academic year) is a membership fee. It allows members to take from one to three study groups for the semester. The fee is NOT a fee per study group. The membership fee entitles you to all of the benefits of membership at OLLI at AU.

### **Minis**

Minis are study groups held once-a-week for four weeks during the month of June. Each day's session in the four weeks is 1½ hours long.

### **Nametags**

Please wear your OLLI nametag to all classes. Lanyards and plastic nametag holders are available in the hallway outside the office.

### **Parking** (See page 4.)

### **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 publish the member directory as a courtesy to members. We expect members to respect other members' privacy. The directory is not to be shared with others outside of OLLI. If you have questions about this policy, please 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 by the deadline specified in this catalog. A \$10 processing fee will be assessed.

### **Shorts**

We offer February and July Shorts, three- to five-day immersion study groups. Each day's session is 1½ hours long.

### **Scholarships**

If you need scholarship assistance, please download and complete the scholarship request form on the website. All requests are confidential.

### **Semesters**

OLLI at AU has two regular academic semesters: Spring, which begins in March, and Fall, which begins in September. Semester study groups run from 8 to 10 weeks long. Each class session is 1½ hours long.

### **Spring Valley Building**

American University and OLLI at AU refer to 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW as the Spring Valley Building.

### **Texting**

Sign up to receive text messages regarding delayed openings, closings, cancelled classes, etc. **1.** Login to your account. Click on "Edit Account" in the menu on the left. Add your cell phone number to your account if it is not there, then click "Submit." A blank page titled "Overview" appears. **2.** Click on "Text Messaging." Click on the blue button that reads "Opt In for Text Messaging." You will receive a text to confirm. **3.** Reply "YES." You can opt out at any time.

### **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. Trips sometimes include boxed lunches or meals at a restaurant. Trip destinations have included:

- Arlington Cemetery
- National Cathedral
- Museum of the American Revolution
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

### **Vending Machines**

There are vending machines with water, soda, and snacks on the 4th and 6th floors.

### **Waitlists**

If a seat opens in a class which has a waitlist, members will be contacted by staff and offered a seat in the order in which they appear on the waitlist.

### **Weather Policy for Class Cancellation**

OLLI follows American University's weather policy. If AU has a delayed opening, OLLI's 9:45 AM classes are cancelled and the 11:45 AM and 1:45 PM classes are held. If AU is closed, OLLI also is closed for the day and all classes are cancelled. OLLI posts a notification of any delay or closure on its website ([www.olli-dc.org](http://www.olli-dc.org)) by 6:30 AM and sends an email to all registrants.

### **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 credit card in an encrypted, secure transaction,
- to add, drop, or change classes; to request a refund; to volunteer, and/or
- to make a donation.

### **Wi-Fi**

Wi-Fi at OLLI is free. The Network Name is AUGuest-ByRCN. No password is required.

# PARKING & TRANSIT

## Public Transportation

Visit the **Parking & Transit** page on our website at [https://www.oli-dc.org/parking\\_transit](https://www.oli-dc.org/parking_transit) for up-to-date information on using public transportation to attend OLLI activities.

## Parking

**Parking is available in the garage beneath 4801. In accordance with DC regulations and AU's "Good Neighbor Policy," all members of the AU community — including OLLI members — are required to park in AU lots while attending OLLI. Parking on the street while attending OLLI likely will result in a \$200 parking ticket from AU.** For full parking information, visit the Parking & Transit page at [https://www.oli-dc.org/parking\\_transit](https://www.oli-dc.org/parking_transit) on our website.

## Parking Payment Options

Parking is \$2 per hour. You must pay for parking BEFORE class. In order to pay, you must know your vehicle's license plate number.

You may pay for parking:

- with credit card or cash at the kiosks located on each parking level, or
- by credit card using a smartphone and the PayByPhone app (see right), or
- with a credit card by calling PayByPhone at 888-450-7275.

## How to Pay By Phone

Dial 888-450-7275. The first time, you will be prompted to:

- Enter your cell phone number
- Create a 4-digit pin number
- Enter your 16-digit credit card number
- Enter your 4-digit expiration date
- Enter the 4-digit location code for Spring Valley Garage: 4889
- Enter your license plate number.
- Enter the number of hours you want to park.

## AU SHUTTLE BUS FROM TENLEYTOWN METRO

For full information on the shuttle service, go to: <http://www.american.edu/finance/facilities/shuttle.cfm> on AU's website.

**The AU shuttle buses are kneeling buses and are handicapped accessible.**

A free, open-to-the-public AU shuttle bus leaves regularly from the Tenley Metro station, makes stops at the Katzen Center, and then at the Spring Valley Building (4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW), where OLLI is located. To return to the Katzen Center Garage or the Metro, catch the shuttle at the shuttle bus stop behind 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW.

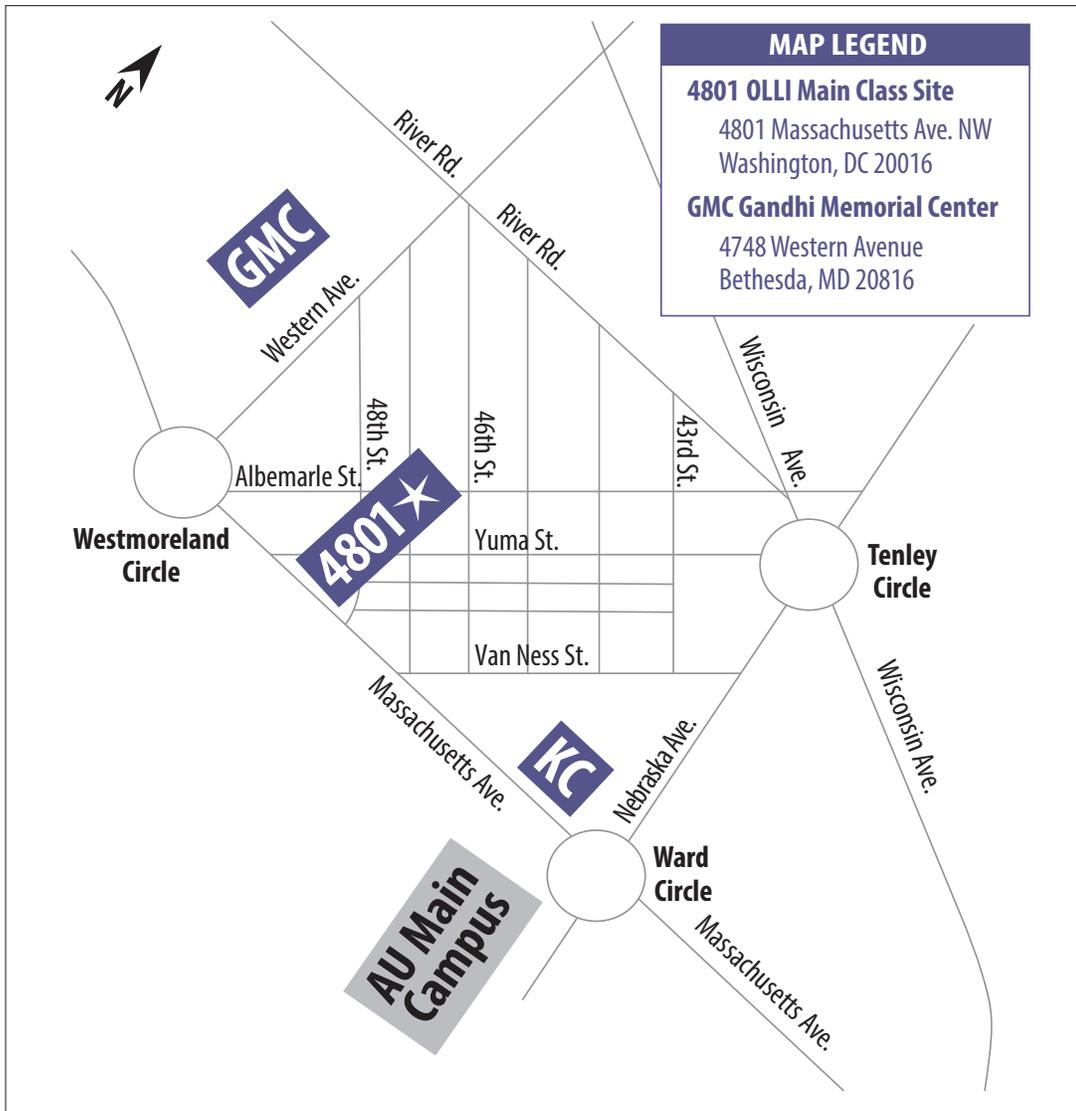
## How to Use the PayByPhone App

You can download the free "PayByPhone" app from the App Store or Google Play Store to pay for parking via your smartphone.

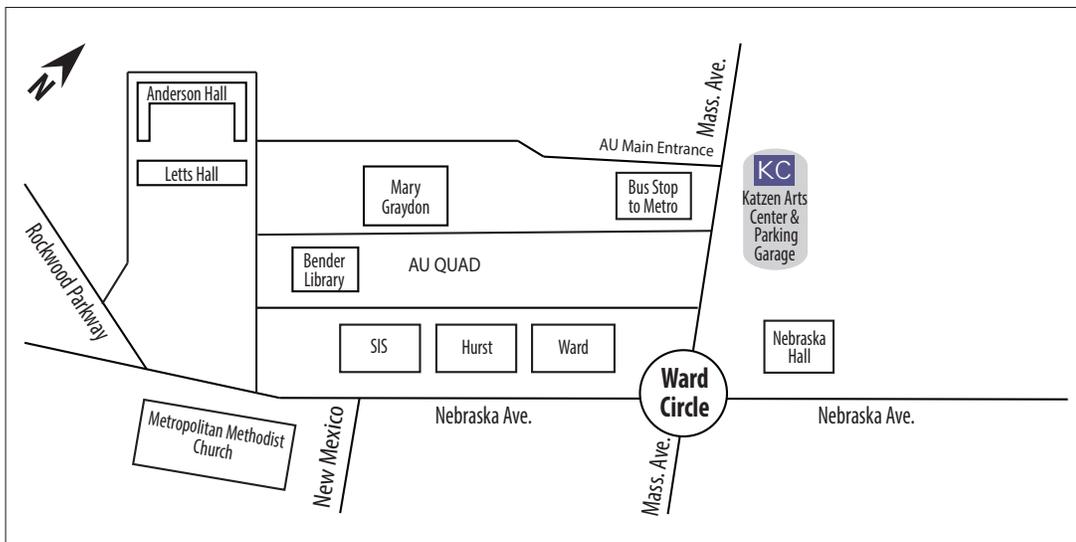
The first time you need to:

- Enter your cell phone number
- Create a 4-digit pin number
- Enter your 16-digit credit card number
- Enter your 4-digit expiration date
- Enter the 4-digit location code for Spring Valley Garage: 4889
- Enter your license plate number.
- Enter the number of hours you want to park.

# MAP OF OLLI MAIN LOCATION



# MAP OF AU CAMPUS



## REGISTRATION PROCESS

**We highly recommend that members submit their registrations by midnight Monday, Feb. 10 for the Lottery on Tuesday, Feb. 11.** 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, computerized lottery. Members who are not selected for said study group are put on a waiting list and will be emailed by the office if space becomes available.

**Registration confirmation notices and your nametag will be emailed by Thursday, February 13.** 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 cancelled will be notified immediately so that they may select an available alternate.**

## JOIN OLLI AT AU

*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>

Click on "**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 username and password. Write your username and password below. If you lose your username, the OLLI office can give it to you. You can reset your password or ask the office to do so.

**Username** \_\_\_\_\_

**Password** \_\_\_\_\_

You only need to create your username and password once. You will use the same username and password 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 6 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.

**Note:** All members have an equal chance at getting into a class. There is no restriction if a member has taken a Study Group or Study Group Leader previously.

**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, you will receive email confirmation of your **ASSIGNED** schedule with your name tag. **Please print both.**

You can change your schedule during open registration by going online or calling the office.

**Please email or call the office to register for a fourth course during the third week, March 16–20.**

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

SPRING 2020: MARCH 2 – MAY 8

4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW • Washington, DC 20016

Phone 202.895.4860 | Email: [OLLI@american.edu](mailto:OLLI@american.edu) | website: [www.OLLI-DC.org](http://www.OLLI-DC.org)

Register by midnight  
Monday, Feb. 10 for  
Lottery Day, Feb. 11.

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

## PAYMENTS

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.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\$300:** Spring 2020 Semester Membership Fee

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\$270:** Spring 2020 Semester Membership Fee with AU 10% discount

(Alum or alum spouse/current staff or spouse/current or emeriti faculty or spouse. The names of members using the AU discount is shared with the AU Alumni Office for data-tracking purposes only.)

Please also complete the other side of this form.

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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 Phone Number    My Street Address    My E-mail Address

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## PUBLICITY RELEASE

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

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## BECOME A STUDY GROUP LEADER

Check this box if you are interested in becoming a Study Group Leader at OLLI.

Topic(s) of interest for leading a study group: \_\_\_\_\_

An OLLI staff member or Curriculum Committee member will contact you shortly. Please visit the website below for more information:

[https://www.oli-dc.org/become\\_a\\_study\\_group\\_leader](https://www.oli-dc.org/become_a_study_group_leader).

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## VOLUNTEER

See the "Get Involved" page on the OLLI website, <https://www.oli-dc.org/volunteer>.

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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:**

4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW

Suite 501

Washington, DC

# SCHEDULE OF SPRING 2020 STUDY GROUPS

All study groups are held at 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW and are fully accessible, except for 237 India: Culture, Traditions, and Gandhi, which is held at the Gandhi Memorial Center, 4748 Western Ave., Bethesda, MD.

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER(S)	START DATE	SESSIONS
<b>MONDAY 9:45 AM</b>				
250	TED Talks	Mindel, L. Lewis	3/2/2020	8
444	The Quantum World	Read	3/2/2020	9
520	The Russians Are Coming, the Russians Are Coming: Composers, That Is	Bowen	3/2/2020	9
600	The Story of Language	Squitieri	3/2/2020	8
625	Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History	Lebow	3/2/2020	10
631	Understanding Families Through Plays	K.G. Lewis	3/2/2020	8
681	What's New in Short Stories?	Willens	3/2/2020	8
<b>MONDAY 11:45 AM</b>				
160	Education Inequality and Demographic Transformation	Blank, Usdan	3/2/2020	8
440	Adults Conquering Technology II (Act II)	Cahn, Friedman	3/2/2020	9
605	La BD (bande dessinée) pour les enfants ou pour les adultes?	Sandifer	3/2/2020	8
630	Little Known Louisa May Alcott: A Fresh Look at <i>Little Women</i>	Freeman	3/2/2020	8
701	The Myth and Reality of the Wild West	Vorhes	3/2/2020	10
790	Off the Beaten Path in the DC Area	R. Buglass	3/2/2020	10
834	Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation: Intermediate Level	J. Drobis	3/2/2020	10
<b>MONDAY 1:45 PM</b>				
289	Reframing the Opioid Crisis: Disease, not "Will Power"	Shaw	3/2/2020	8
292	Living Healthier and Happier in Retirement—Essential Steps	Bickford	3/9/2020	9
505	Brahms and the Schumanns—Two Giants of Romanticism and the Woman They Loved	Flaxman	3/2/2020	9
603	Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français	Férat	3/2/2020	10
685	August Wilson <i>American Century Cycle</i>	Maxwell	3/2/2020	11
690	The Novels of E.M. Forster	Moody	3/2/2020	10
703	US Foreign Policy II	Nathan	3/2/2020	10
<b>TUESDAY 9:45 AM</b>				
137	Presidential Powers Under the Constitution and the Courts	Vamvas	3/3/2020	8
212	Asian Films: Culture, History, Politics	R. Hadden, B. Hadden	3/3/2020	8
220	Exploring David Brooks: Social Commentator to Cultural Critic	C. Weichel, Wilhelm	3/3/2020	8
437	Sustainable Energy	Cheh	3/3/2020	9
480	The Ups and Downs of Weather	Brown	3/3/2020	10
620	Italian—Conversation and Culture	Mongini, Flaxman	3/3/2020	10
831	Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation	J. Drobis, S. Drobis	3/3/2020	10
<b>TUESDAY 11:45 AM</b>				
113	Politics and the Moral Life	Elkin	3/3/2020	8
373	How to Get Rich Surely, But Slowly Part 2	Cahn	3/3/2020	11
500	You Can Play EVEN MORE Appalachian Dulcimer!	K. Buglass	3/3/2020	8
515	Wagner's <i>Parsifal</i> and Some Operas from Everywhere	Eisen, Holman	3/3/2020	8
695	Italian Jewish Writing	Plotz	3/3/2020	11
728	Reflections on the Civil Rights Movement	Stewart, R. Buglass	3/3/2020	10
805	Discovering Consciousness	Reo	3/3/2020	8

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER(S)	START DATE	SESSIONS
<b>TUESDAY 1:45 PM</b>				
172	Current Events and Public Policy II	Nevins, Levine	3/3/2020	8
180	Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens	Hansen	3/3/2020	9
361	Behavioral Economics	Daney	3/3/2020	8
640	Shakespeare's <i>The Taming of The Shrew</i>	Casazza	3/3/2020	8
651	Writing Workshop: <i>Writing Down the Bones</i>	Ward, Spector	3/3/2020	8
841	Virtue Ethics: A Modern View	Taran	3/3/2020	10
<b>WEDNESDAY 9:45 AM</b>				
171	Current Events and Public Policy I	Nevins, Ringell, Porter	3/4/2020	8
184	American Social Policy: Who Is Entitled to What?	Nadel	3/4/2020	8
502	Intermediate/Advanced Folk Guitar	Siebens	3/4/2020	9
610	Intermediate French Review and Conversation Practice	Bonhomme	3/4/2020	10
635	Reading Fiction: Testing Birkerts' <i>The Gutenberg Elegies</i>	Schwartz	3/4/2020	9
646	Poetry Craftshop: Moving Through the Ruins: Galway Kinnell and Denise Levertov	Pierson	3/4/2020	10
766	The Radicalism of the American Revolution	Palmeter	3/4/2020	9
<b>WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM</b>				
230	How Our Mind's Unseen Patterns Influence Life's Decisions	C. Weichel, K. Weichel	3/4/2020	8
240	Hearing Matters	Alden	3/4/2020	8
345	Invasive Networks—Nowhere to Hide!	L. Cohen	3/4/2020	8
479	Introductory Oceanography	Hinga	3/4/2020	10
560	Creating Art Through Collage: Beginners and Advanced	Mosner	3/4/2020	10
770	A Brief History of Washington, DC	Somers	3/4/2020	10
850	The Way of Quiet Sitting: Spirituality and the Evolution of Human Consciousness	Carter	3/4/2020	9
<b>WEDNESDAY 1:45 PM</b>				
251	Recent TED Talks	D. Swan	3/4/2020	8
410	Psychopharmacology: Drug Development and Therapies	Chipkin	3/4/2020	8
490	Building a Human: From Embryos to Bioengineering	Taran	3/4/2020	10
570	Taking Artful Photographs	W. Swan	3/4/2020	10
633	British Poetry Since 1900	Coyle	3/4/2020	8
780	History of the Jews of Spain	Gorsky	3/4/2020	8
838	To Hell and Back: A Guide to the Underworld in Myth and Poetry	Croog	3/4/2020	10
<b>THURSDAY 9:45 AM</b>				
156	AU School of International Service—Foreign Policy Challenges for the Year Ahead	DeRoze	3/5/2020	8
232	Workshop: Finding Your Family History in the Digital World	Goodman	3/5/2020	8
615	Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene	Caraher	3/5/2020	9
645	What Shall We Do About the Children	M. Poole	3/5/2020	10
740	History of Slavery in America: Jamestown to the Civil War	Stewart	3/5/2020	10
744	Ten Fateful Decisions, 1940–1942	J. Poole	3/5/2020	10
768	From Rifled Muskets to Killer Robots	Wilson	3/5/2020	9

#	STUDY GROUP	LEADER(S)	START DATE	SESSIONS
<b>THURSDAY 11:45 AM</b>				
260	The Impact of the Great War on Western Culture and the Western Worldview	O'Connor	3/5/2020	10
545	Reading Lyrics: Understanding Popular Song	Sherman	3/5/2020	8
555	Short Form Comedic Improv—Beginnings	Bird	3/5/2020	11
621	Enjoying <i>The New Yorker</i> Together	B. Hausman	3/5/2020	8
626	Reading H.L. Mencken	Palmer	3/5/2020	10
715	Jewish History and Life: Patriarchs to Israel	Berman	3/5/2020	9
751	The American Soul: Rediscovering the Wisdom of the Founders	Boardman	3/5/2020	10
<b>THURSDAY 1:45 PM</b>				
558	Wild Minds & Disciplined Eyes	Lee	3/5/2020	10
565	Ballet Continuum	Bush	3/5/2020	8
607	Beginning-plus Spanish	Schneider	3/5/2020	10
618	The Great French Songbook	Harper	3/5/2020	10
677	Their Emily Dickinsons: Eight Women Poets Lit by Her Lamp	Heginbotham	3/5/2020	8
786	America in the Fifties	Thurman	3/5/2020	9
799	Ulysses S. Grant: In Peace and War	Kilborne	3/5/2020	9
<b>FRIDAY 9:45 AM</b>				
110	How the House of Representatives Works (or Doesn't): A History	Pomerantz	3/6/2020	9
350	Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income	Hurwitz	3/6/2020	8
671	Hamlet, His World, Shakespeare's, and Ours	White	3/6/2020	9
750	Great American Trials	Leibowitz	3/6/2020	8
867	Byzantine Philosophy	Ross	3/6/2020	10
<b>FRIDAY 11:45 AM</b>				
139	Hate Crimes in America	Thomas	3/6/2020	8
237	India: Culture, Traditions, and Gandhi	Srimati	3/6/2020	8
492	Extended Heredity: The New Science of Inheritance and Evolution	Taran	3/6/2020	10
510	A History of Rock'n Roll: A Musical Odyssey	Gondelman	3/6/2020	11
650	Writing Workshop for Memoir and Fiction	Smith	3/6/2020	8
782	European History and Ideology (1900–1940)	King	3/6/2020	10
868	Augustine	Ross	3/6/2020	10

## SPRING 2020 LECTURES

During the spring semester, lectures will be held from 1:30–2:30 PM on Fridays from, except April 3, when the Annual Meeting is held. Lectures are free but you must register on Eventbrite. On the Tuesday of the week before each lecture, all members are emailed the link to register for the upcoming lecture. On the Wednesday of the week before each lecture, the link to register is posted on our website for non-members.

# SPRING 2020 STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

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## 100 POLITICS, LAW & GOVERNMENT

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### Invasive Networks—Nowhere to Hide!

**LEWIS COHEN**

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

**March 04**

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 345.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

### 110 How the House of Representatives Works (or Doesn't): A History

**DAVID POMERANTZ**

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

**March 06**

We will examine the rules and customs that guide the House's actions. We'll start by looking at the first Congress in 1789 and examine the historical developments, and personalities, that brought forth the current House. Along the way, we will read early debates on immigration and citizenship, importation of slaves, representation and extent of territory, the census and apportionment, investigations, appropriations, and impeachment. We'll also consider where we are today on these issues and take a field trip to see the floor of the House.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*David Pomerantz worked for the House Rules Committee for 17 years and the House Appropriations Committee for 16 years. Before coming to the Hill, David taught political philosophy at SUNY, Stony Brook.*

### 113 Politics and the Moral Life

**STEPHEN ELKIN**

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

**March 03**

This course is concerned with the relation between moral character and political life. We will explore several different analyses of moral character and consider what their implications are for how we conduct and should conduct our political life.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Stephen Elkin has a PhD from Harvard and has taught at Smith College, University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland.*

### 137 Presidential Powers Under the Constitution and the Courts

**PAUL VAMVAS**

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

**March 03**

This study group will look at US presidential powers under Article II of the US Constitution and the Supreme Court decisions that have shaped and defined those powers. Among the issues explored will be whether there are inherent or only express powers of the office; the appointment and removal power; executive privilege; war powers and the war on terrorism; possible differences in presidential powers relating to domestic and foreign policy, and; presidential immunity to criminal and civil suits. Although there are definitive answers to almost none of these questions, by the end of the course our exploration should provide an idea of the debates surrounding them and the current state of analysis. **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Paul Vamvas retired in January 2019 after 20 years at the Federal Judicial Center, where he produced educational programs for federal judges and court staff. Paul has a JD from the University of Maryland Law School and an LLM focusing on constitutional law from the Georgetown Law Center.*

### 139 Hate Crimes in America

**JEFFREY THOMAS**

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

**March 06**

This study group will examine the history, present, and possible future of hate crimes in America. Topics include controversies around the definition of hate crimes, the distinction and overlap between hate crimes and terrorism, and variations in hate-crime laws at the federal and state levels. The study group also will cover the psychology of violence motivated by racism and bigotry, as well as the impact of organized hate groups and violent social movements. The study group will include a thorough examination of contemporary trends in hate crimes targeting victims because of their race/ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and gender.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Jeffrey Thomas** is a research analyst specializing in violent extremism and homeland security. He has served as an analyst at CSIS and a research fellow at CSPC. He is author of *Scapegoating Islam* and contributing author to *Islam in Russia*. He received his MA and BA from SIS at American University.

## 156 AU School of International Service— Foreign Policy Challenges for the Year Ahead

**VIRGINIA DEROZE, OLLI COORDINATOR**

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

**March 05**

Professors from American University will explore topics related to foreign policy challenges facing the Trump Administration in the final months leading up to the 2020 presidential election.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*The American University School of International Service (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 US and more than 150 countries, taught by nearly 120 full-time faculty members.*

## 160 Education Inequality and Demographic Transformation

**MARTIN BLANK**

**MICHAEL USDAN**

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

**March 02**

The class will explore challenging education issues that will influence the future of our children and grandchildren, and the country's social and economic viability. Starting with a focus on changing demographics, the purpose of public education and school finance and governance, the course will examine issues such as: the challenges of urban education; implications of charters and choice; persistent racial and socio-economic segregation in schools; the relationship between schools and their communities; assessing student performance—moving beyond testing.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Michael Usdan** is an educator with experiences as a public school and college teacher, state higher education commissioner, and president of a college, national non-profit, and city school board.

**Martin Blank** was Director of the Coalition for Community Schools and a consultant on numerous education and social policy issues.

## 171 Current Events and Public Policy I

**LOUIS NEVINS**

**RICHARD RINGELL**

**JEFFREY PORTER**

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

**March 04**

Lou Nevins, Richard Ringell, and Jeffrey Porter 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, suggested readings (if any), and questions will be furnished in advance, and participants are expected to follow the news closely. It is emphasized that this is a discussion class. Thus, participants are expected to take an active role in the conversations.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

**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 a New York law firm. He was the CEO of one of the two trade associations and a partner in the law firm for ten years.

**Richard Ringell** was a sole practitioner in DC for 29 years as a trial lawyer who handled a variety of cases. In August, 1999, he was appointed by the Honorable Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to the position of Magistrate Judge. He retired in December of 2013.

**Jeff Porter** is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin where he earned both bachelor's and master's degrees. After moving to Washington, DC, he owned his own businesses for nearly 20 years. Following that, Jeff worked in the catering business at Whole Foods on P Street.

## 172 Current Events and Public Policy II

**ARTHUR LEVINE**

**LOUIS NEVINS**

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

March 03

Lou Nevins and Art Levine will lead lively discussions and debates on current events and public policy issues, focusing largely, but not exclusively, on politics, law, economics, and foreign affairs. Discussion topics, outlines, suggested readings (if any) and questions will be furnished in advance, and participants are expected to follow the news closely. It is emphasized that this is a discussion class. Thus participants are expected to take an active role in the conversations.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

*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 a New York law firm. He was the CEO of one of the two trade associations and a partner in the law firm for ten years.

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

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

**PENNY HANSEN**

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

March 03

This study group will explore the important cases and decisions that continue to be made by the Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Roberts. Presentation material and discussion will focus on the major Constitutional issues being decided by a clearly activist and divided court on: elections, 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 more recent cases and other supplementary material.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*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 was educated at Skidmore College, Johns Hopkins University, and the Kennedy School at Harvard.

## 184 American Social Policy: Who is Entitled to What?

**MARK NADEL**

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

March 04

Attacks on public-benefit programs from Social Security to Medicaid have focused not only on cost but on their moral failings. Policy proposals restricting eligibility for food stamps and other benefits reflect the view that without coercion, welfare benefits lead people to forgo work in favor of idleness. Recently, restrictions have been intended as disincentives to immigration. We will explore two broad areas of social policy: income support for the poor and for retirees (e.g., Social Security) and health insurance including Medicare, drawing from a variety of sources, we will discuss issues of fairness, adequacy, impact, and cost. Before the course starts, participants will be emailed the syllabus together with the material that should be read for the first class.

**Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Mark Nadel* taught social policy at Georgetown's McCourt School of Public Policy and the University of Maryland. Previously, he spent 20 years at the Government Accountability Office (GAO) with lead responsibility for its reports on health and welfare programs. He also was an Associate Commissioner of Social Security.

# 200 PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, & CULTURE

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## Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

**SUSAN DROBIS**

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

**March 03**

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 831.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

## Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation: Intermediate Level

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

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

**March 02**

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 834.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

## Virtue Ethics: A Modern View

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**March 03**

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 841.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

## 212 Asian Films: Culture, History, Politics

**RITA HADDEN**

**BILL HADDEN**

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

**March 03**

Asian films often reflect the culture, history, or politics of these countries. They give us rarely seen glimpses of realities in some of those nations. The Japan of cherry blossoms and beautiful kimonos is not all we see in *Shoplifters!* In this study group, we will watch key excerpts of eight films about eight Asian countries, and discuss what is exposed by these films, and why they matter in shaping our views of these countries. Possible films include: Hong Kong: *In the Mood for Love*; South Korea: TBD; Singapore: *Crazy Rich Asians*; China: *Coming Home*; Vietnam: *The Scent of Green Papaya*; India/Pakistan: *Viceroy's House*; Japan: *Shoplifters!*; Thailand: *Bad Genius*.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Rita Hadden** is Chinese-American, born in Hanoi, lived in Saigon, Phnom Penh, Hong Kong, Thailand, China. She leads study groups on Asia at OLLI.

**Bill Hadden** is a medical sociologist with a career at the CDC and NIH. Rita and Bill have lived and traveled widely in Asia. They love films, thrive in different cultures, and speak multiple languages.

## 220 Exploring David Brooks: Social Commentator to Cultural Critic

**CARL WEICHEL**

**VERA WILHELM**

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

**March 03**

For many decades David Brooks has been writing about politics from a centrist-perspective and pinpointing the "magnetic center" of America's moral compass. He's also become one of our sharpest minds in anticipating the complex, changing social norms affecting our country. In his *New York Times'* opinion columns, Brooks has been encouraging us to take active roles in our communities and to think about the civil rules that should govern ethical thinking and feelings. To help stimulate our class discussion, we'll review passages from Kenan Malik's *The Quest for a Moral Compass* that will expand our moral scholarship, so we can better weigh in on key public issues such as social cohesion, income inequality, healthcare, and more. **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Carl Weichel** has held various positions over his career in marketing, design, and advertising in Australia, South Africa, Canada, and San Francisco, and continues to consult. Carl has led OLLI study groups on *Political Polarization*, *The 1960s*, *Eastern Religions and Philosophies*, and *Our Hidden Brain*.

**Vera Wilhelm** has held various positions at the World Bank as a senior economist and program manager and is now working as a transition and leadership coach. She has led an OLLI study group on *transitioning into a fulfilled retirement*.

## 230 How Our Mind's Unseen Patterns Influence Life's Decisions

CARL WEICHEL

KIM WEICHEL

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

March 04

What lies beneath our actions that we think we've taken rationally? How does our "hidden brain" make important decisions in our lives without our awareness? We'll explore topics ranging from roles of social conformity to snapshots of our prejudices. Data-driven research has shown that most human decisions are triggered unconsciously through over 135 emotions, from falling in love to following a career path to nations going to war. The book and NPR radio series "The Hidden Brain" by Shankar Vedantam draws intriguing arcs from social psychology to our embedded cultural norms. And while social cues influence interactions, they also can create hazards. We'll listen to radio shows, review key research findings, and discuss. **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Carl Weichel has held various positions over his career in marketing, design, and advertising in Australia, South Africa, Canada, and San Francisco, and continues to consult. Carl has led OLLI study groups on Political Polarization, The 1960s, Eastern Thought, and David Brooks' Writings.*

*Kimberly Weichel is a social entrepreneur and nonprofit leader in the fields of women's leadership, cross-cultural dialogue, citizen diplomacy, and peace-building. She has co-led OLLI courses on The UN and The 1960s.*

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

SUSAN GOODMAN

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

March 05

This study group aims to help members get started finding and recording basic genealogy data (birth, death, and census material); using free resources in libraries and archives as well as the internet; contacting other researchers working on related families; posting information on the web; and determining a "confidence level" for the data. Members may opt to give the SGL access to their trees for help during class and by email during (and after) the eight-week course. **Format change:** As requested by former members who want to continue researching their ancestry, this study

group will be run as a workshop. New members are welcome. An [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) membership is suggested although not required.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*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.*

## 237 India: Culture, Traditions, and Gandhi

KARUNA SRIMATI

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

March 06

Join us for an exploration of the rich cultural diversity of India. Each week we will engage in interactive sessions with guest presenters including musicians, dancers, artists, and scholars from the Indian sub-continent. Come listen to musicians trained in the classical and folk music traditions of India and see classical Indian dance such as Bharatanatyam. Specially invited artists will provide demonstrations to add to your appreciation of these art forms. Other speakers will introduce the lives of Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore, as well as bring an understanding of the origins of Indian languages, which vary from state to state, and even village to village. Class members also will be offered tastes of India with food samples. Each session will add a new layer of culture and tradition. **This study group will take place at the Gandhi Memorial Center, 4748 Western Ave. NW, Bethesda, MD 20816.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Srimati Karuna is Director of the Gandhi Memorial Center. She works to bring the message of Mahatma Gandhi to academic, professional, social, and religious groups throughout the year. For this study group, she will invite speakers of various disciplines to share the cultural heritage that nourished the life of Mahatma Gandhi.*

## 240 Hearing Matters

JUDY ALDEN

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

March 04

Is your quality of life—or that of a friend or loved one—compromised because of hearing loss? In this study group we discuss hearing health and loss with a focus on its impact on well-being, including various hearing assistive technologies that make it possible for millions with hearing loss to more effectively communicate and live more fulfilling lives. About 15 percent of

the US population has hearing loss. Among seniors, 35 percent of those 65–74 and 50 percent of those 75-plus years of age have hearing loss. Treating hearing problems early is important for cognitive health, making it a public health concern for all ages. Only 20 percent of those who could benefit use hearing aids (National Institutes of Health). Do you benefit from OLLI's classroom loops? Use various apps such as GalaPro at live theaters? Attend Open Caption movies? Use voice-to-text apps on your smartphone? Understand how "over-the-counter" hearing aids can help those with mild to moderate hearing loss? Recognize communications strategies to help hear in noisy venues, such as restaurants? Join us to learn about these and other resources. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Judy Alden has severe, age-related hearing loss. She is on the Hearing Loss Association of America DC Chapter Executive Board. She volunteers with Network of Consumer Hearing Assistive Technology Trainers to support her passion to support those with hearing loss. She has a BS, MA, MBA, and is a former American University Kogod adjunct lecturer.*

## 250 TED Talks

**CAROLINE MINDEL**

**LYNN LEWIS**

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

**March 02**

TED Talks feature speakers who expose audiences to cutting-edge work across diverse fields: in short, ideas worth spreading. This study group will focus on 16 talks related to issues that matter, from personal growth, aging, humanity, and innovation to society, community, and more. During our highly interactive sessions, the class will view and discuss two talks weekly. Participants are encouraged to preview the talks in advance. Individual members will be asked (on a volunteer basis) to prepare brief background and discussion points for each presenter. Although this study group is a repeat, all talks will be new. TED Talks are available on the Internet and public radio, among other outlets. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

*Lynn Lewis received an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and has an MA in journalism from Ohio State University.*

*She has been a writer and an editor for more than four decades.*

## 251 Recent TED Talks

**DIANE SWAN**

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

**March 04**

TED (Technology, Entertainment, and Design) conferences feature a range of speakers who present "Ideas Worth Spreading." Since 2007, an ever-expanding body of TED Talk videos has been available on the internet. Each class will feature excerpts from three recent talks, with ample time left for discussion. Common themes have been society, science, climate change, medicine, technology, and individual development and potential. Class members may volunteer to prepare background information and discussion points for speakers.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

## 260 The Impact of the Great War on Western Culture and the Western Worldview

**CHARLES O'CONNOR**

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

**March 05**

Intellectual and cultural historians generally consider World War I the turning point in modern Western civilization. This disastrous war shattered Enlightenment confidence in human reason, exposed the 19th-century myth of inevitable progress, challenged traditional belief in a divinely ordered universe, and fostered a postwar cosmic pessimism and materialist cosmology. To understand the war's effect on Western culture, we will compare prewar and postwar philosophy, theology, literature, art, and music, focusing on the evolving Western view of reality. We will end with a discussion of the course's cultural themes and the continuing postwar science-religion debate.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*After more than 40 years of environmental law practice, Charles O'Connor earned a Doctor of Liberal Studies from Georgetown, focusing on modern Western culture, including the cultural impact of World War I. He has served as a lecturer in the Georgetown Graduate Liberal Studies Program and has taught at OLLI since 2014.*

## 289 Reframing the Opioid Crisis: Disease, Not “Will Power”

**DENNIS SHAW**

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

**March 02**

Last year, more Americans died of opioid addiction than the total deaths in Vietnam! If we cannot identify the problem correctly, then we are unable to find a solution. But if we see this public health crisis as a disease, then we can explore a new model to foster treatment and enhance recovery. Dr. Benjamin Rush proposed this model as he signed the Declaration of Independence. This course honors him and examines his modern counterparts, including Drs. Silkworth, Millam, and Karpman. This course strives to answer: What’s the problem?

What caused it? What can we do about it?

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Dennis Shaw, Returned Peace Corps Volunteer and Vietnam Combat Veteran, has been clean and sober since he voted for Jimmy Carter. He has worked extensively with various groups living with chronic conditions, and he has taught writing and literature at Johns Hopkins (Master’s), American University, community colleges, and OLLI.*

## 292 Living Healthier and Happier in Retirement—Essential Steps

**BRAD BICKFORD**

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

**March 09**

Do you want to live longer and experience life to its fullest? Do you want to have more energy and find fulfillment in retirement? Learn how exercise, a healthy diet, and socializing will impact your brain and body to prevent or slow down the onset of dementia, depression, or high blood pressure. Find out how drinking water first thing in the morning is critical for the brain. Do you want to get healthier by learning what common household products such as the soap, lotion, or deodorant you use daily can negatively impact your body? The course not only identifies the essential element of what makes us the most happy, but examines the critical role of laughter and play in our well being. The course also will cover topics like the mind/body connection, nature bathing, what bacteria found outside is good for us, spirituality, how men and women are different biochemically and physically, and how to enhance your family and personal relationships. We will use lecture, TED talks, discussion, fun exercises, a Tibetan singing bowl, and laughter. **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Brad Bickford is a semi-retired therapist and grandpa, who has studied improv, stand-up comedy, fly fishing, and the hammer dulcimer. He has taught classes in healthy living, sex education, grief work, and fly fishing. Brad enjoys playing pickleball, gardening, painting, and carpentry. He volunteers with EcoAction of Arlington.*

## 300 ECONOMICS & PERSONAL FINANCE

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### 345 Invasive Networks—Nowhere to Hide!

**LEWIS COHEN**

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

**March 04**

Well-defined political, economic, and personal boundaries are rapidly blurring under the pressure of an invasive wave of technology-driven disruption. Twentieth-century norms of government and politics, business and finance, education and health are proving vulnerable to this wave. Joshua Cooper Ramo looks at both the risks and opportunities fostered by the rise of networks in his book *The Seventh Sense*. Using this provocative book, we will explore the tensions between networks, governments and individuals. We also will draw on related elements of Yuval Noah Harari’s *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** 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 in Tunisia, a Foreign Service Officer and Trade Negotiator with the Office of the US Trade Representative, and a consultant on international trade for a DC law firm.*

### 350 Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income

**DAVID HURWITZ**

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

**March 06**

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

planning, long-term care, social security planning, and how to utilize various investment vehicles. **OLLI does not endorse particular products or financial advice from Study Group Leaders.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*David Hurwitz is a Certified Financial Planner Practitioner™ as well as a Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor®, Chartered Retirement Plan Specialist®, Retirement Income Certified Professional®, and Accredited Portfolio Management Advisor®. David has been named “Best Financial Advisor” by the readers of Bethesda Magazine.*

## 361 Behavioral Economics

**WILLIAM DANEY**

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

**March 03**

Coupling discoveries in human psychology with studies of market behavior, the development of behavioral economics over the last 50 years has opened up new ways to look at decision-making. Drawing on books, writings, and videos by several of the most well-known behavioral economists, this study group will examine this new twist to “the dismal science.” Behavioral economics is the study of human biases and departures from the rational assumptions inherent in most classical economic thinking. Several prevalent themes include heuristics (mental shortcuts), framing, and market inefficiencies. A better understanding may help us make smarter investment and consumer decisions.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Bill Daney has a background in science and engineering and a lifelong interest in the social sciences. He has taught economics, political science, and other classes at OLLI and other senior programs in the metropolitan area since 2007.*

## 373 How to Get Rich Surely, But Slowly Part 2

**GARY CAHN**

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

**March 03**

Part 2 of the course builds on what you learned in Part 1. The goal this semester is to enable you to manage your portfolio without any help from a financial adviser. Topics include:

- 1) How to choose an asset allocation that is appropriate for your age, risk tolerance, and when you need your money, while balancing risk vs. return;

- 2) Which investments belong in taxable accounts and which belong in tax-deferred accounts (retirement accounts);
- 3) What new investing issues confront you when you retire;
- 4) Learn why you should not follow most financial advice you see on TV, the internet, magazines, and newspapers; and
- 5) How much money can you spend and still be confident you won't run out of money.

**OLLI does not endorse particular products or financial advice from Study Group Leaders.**

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Gary Cahn was a Chief Financial Officer for two Washington companies. He has been teaching investing courses for 15-plus years. He received a BA from Tufts University and an MBA from Dartmouth College.*

## 400 STEM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

### 410 Psychopharmacology: Drug Development and Therapies

**RICHARD CHIPKIN**

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

**March 04**

Drugs affecting the central nervous system have become ubiquitous in our society. What are they? Where do they come from? How do they work? This course will discuss basic concepts of drug action, drug development, and the classes of drugs that are used to treat psychiatric diseases. **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Richard Chipkin has worked in psychopharmacology for over 25 years, developing novel drugs for central nervous system diseases at both large pharmaceutical companies and small biotechs. He is the author of 60-plus, peer-reviewed publications and six issued patents. He received his doctorate from the Virginia Commonwealth University/MCV.*

## 437 Sustainable Energy

**ALBERT CHEH**

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

**March 03**

Global temperature rise needs to be kept below 1.5°C by the end of this century. This requires a massive shift from fossil fuels to non-carbon-emitting renewable energy, plus substantial gains in energy efficiency. We will examine the current status and future prospects of solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, hydroelectric, and nuclear technologies. We also will explore means of reducing energy consumption in buildings and transportation, and attempt to rank the most effective means of reducing carbon emissions. No scientific background is required.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Albert Cheh has a BA in Chemistry from Columbia and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of California at Berkeley. He joined the American University Chemistry Department in 1980 and the Environmental Science Department in 2009, retiring as Professor Emeritus in both in fall 2017. This course is adapted from one he continues to teach at AU to non-science majors.*

## 440 Adults Conquering Technology II (Act II)

**GARY CAHN**

**LISA FRIEDMAN**

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

**March 02**

Trying to get your digital act together? This nine-session study group includes an assortment of computer topics that can help you upgrade your existing technology skills and learn some new ones! We'll be discussing 11 Google programs other than the Google search engine and Gmail (Google Maps, Google Earth, and more); buying a new computer; organizing all your electronic "stuff" using Microsoft OneNote; advanced features in the Chrome web browser; working with PDF files; and making mail-merge mailing labels and business cards with easy-to-use free software. ( More detailed descriptions of these topics at <https://tinyurl.com/y5uxkd49> ). Come to whichever sessions interest you! **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Lisa Friedman is a retired EPA lawyer who has taught computer skills to older adults for almost 15 years.*

*Gary Cahn has been working with computers since 1979. He teaches adult education classes in the DC area on a wide variety of topics.*

## 444 The Quantum World

**JACQUES READ**

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

**March 02**

The laws of nature explained by Isaac Newton in the 17th century served mankind for 200 years. But in the last decades of the 19th century, they were unable to explain an array of new discoveries, and a totally new mechanics based on an inexplicable set of seemingly absurd propositions was found necessary, largely developed during meetings in Belgium during 1924 to 1928.

This study group attempts to impart an appreciation of modern quantum mechanics and its consequences to everyday life.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Jacques Read has taught at Fairleigh Dickinson University and the University of California, performed research at Oak Ridge and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, and been employed by the Atomic Energy Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Energy. He has been a study group leader since 2013.*

## 475 The Stories Behind the Vaccines

**PHILIP BRUNELL**

**March 03**

**Among the stories to be examined:**

- Small pox—the first vaccine: the first protests;
- Pertussis-DTP—the parent's rebellion against vaccines and the vaccine injury compensation law;
- Polio—a long awaited vaccine and the concerns about injury from polio vaccine, the problem of global eradication;
- Influenza vaccine—the grim reaper, why the vaccine still is imperfect;
- Pneumococcal vaccine—initially for the prevention of pneumonia and the key to vaccines to prevent meningitis;
- Hepatitis vaccine—the first anticancer vaccine, human papilloma vaccine—the second anti-cancer vaccine;
- Measles and German measles—the faux autism link; and
- Zoster, chickenpox, and herpes—the challenges of latent viruses.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Philip Brunell, MD, is the former Chair, Committee on Infectious Diseases of the Academy of Pediatrics and member of the CDC advisory committee on infectious diseases. He worked at the CDC,*

NIH, and held professorships at NYU, UCLA, and UT at San Antonio Schools of Medicine. He developed the first preventative for chicken pox and studied numerous vaccines.

## 479 Introductory Oceanography

**KENNETH HINGA**

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

**March 04**

We will take a look at the ocean. We will start with the geology of the ocean basins and how they have changed over time. We will examine the chemistry of the ocean waters and look at the geological and biological processes that control ocean chemistry. Then we will look at ocean circulation and waves. All this will then be tied together to explain the general distribution of ocean plants and animals, especially fisheries. We will look at some important impacts on the ocean including dead zones, overfishing, oil pollution, and effects of climate change.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Kenneth Hinga, PhD, is a retired oceanographer. He was a research scientist and assistant dean at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography. He has participated in 19 deep-sea research cruises and published 48 original research papers on a variety of topics in marine ecology.*

## 480 The Ups and Downs of Weather

**PAUL BROWN**

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

**March 03**

This is a beginner's guide to weather and climate, for which at least a rudimentary familiarity with science will be helpful, but not necessary. The first half of the course will focus on the principal elements that underlie weather—heat, wind, and water—and the second half will show how they interact to produce the major types of “bad” weather: frontal storms, thunderstorms, supercells, tornadoes, derechos, and hurricanes. The course will conclude with single sessions devoted to the environment (especially global warming) and to atmospheric optics (blue sky, rainbows, halos, auroras, etc.). Out-of-class forecasting instruction will be available for any interested class members, including real-time forecasts for the DC area. A profusely illustrated spiral-bound booklet written for the course can be purchased in the office or classroom at or before the first session for the printing cost of \$35 (optional but highly recommended both as a guide to the lectures and as a useful work of reference).

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

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

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

## 490 Building A Human: From Embryos to Bioengineering

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**March 04**

Scientists have achieved a detailed understanding of the intertwined biological processes that lead from a single cell, the fertilized egg, to a complete human being. This knowledge has led to new biotechnologies that are being used to grow replacement body parts in vitro, to edit genes to correct defects, and to develop therapies to fight cancer. This knowledge also has led to new questions being raised about what constitutes a self. We will explore these processes, technologies, and questions using Philip Ball's new book, *How To Grow A Human*, as our guide. I will be supplementing this book with additional material, graphics, and videos.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Al Taran has a BA in philosophy but spent his working career in Information Technology. He has had a lifelong interest in the sciences and mathematics, and has led several study groups in the sciences at OLLI. This will be the tenth study group that Al has led.*

## 492 Extended Heredity: The New Science of Inheritance and Evolution

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**March 06**

There is more to heredity than DNA sequences (genes), and recognizing this non-genetic dimension of heredity can provide us with new insights into how heredity works. It's now clear that a variety of non-genetic factors, such as epigenetic and cultural factors, are transmitted across generations alongside genes. These non-genetic factors have a profound impact on the theory of evolution. We will explore the scientific details of this concept through a close reading of *Extended Heredity: A New Understanding of Inheritance and Evolution* by Russell Bonduriansky and Troy Day. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Al Taran has a BA in philosophy but spent his working career in Information Technology. He has had a lifelong interest in the sciences and mathematics. This will be the eleventh study group that Al has led.*

## 500 MUSIC & THE ARTS

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### 500 You Can Play EVEN MORE Appalachian Dulcimer!

**KAREN BUGLASS**

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

**March 03**

Build your repertoire and polish your skills! This study group will introduce players to additional musical selections from multiple genres. Options include fiddle tunes, waltzes, classical pieces, and music from around the world. We'll address alternative tunings, additional right- and left-hand techniques, and chording options. After a quick review of dulcimer basics—including reading tablature—we'll play a couple of standards to warm up. Then it's on to new musical adventures! This study group is open to anyone who has taken at least one class in beginning dulcimer or has experience playing a fretted instrument. Participants are encouraged to bring a lightweight music stand; loaner instruments are available.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Karen Buglass was a city planner and utility manager before finding her passion for elementary education. Since retiring, she's pursued a longstanding interest in Appalachian dulcimer. She teaches regularly at House of Musical Traditions and recently offered a workshop series at the Nonsuch Festival in England.*

### 502 Intermediate/Advanced Folk Guitar

**ARTHUR SIEBENS**

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

**March 04**

This is a course is for those who already have basic guitar skills. This course is a follow-up to the Beginning Folk Guitar courses taught last year and for those who already have basic guitar skills. More advanced guitar techniques will be taught in the first half hour of the class. We will then play and sing songs selected by the class, joined by guitarists who are already proficient and other string players capable of playing off of a guitar lead sheet (mandolin?

banjo? bass guitar/string bass?). Singers interested in singing folk songs and 20th-century rock and popular songs are also welcome. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Art Siebens, aka Dr. Art the Singing Scientist, used songs to teach biology and AP biology at Woodrow Wilson High School in DC for about 20 years after doing doctoral and post-doctoral research at NIH and Yale. His PhD is in human physiology.*

### 505 Brahms and the Schumanns— Two Giants of Romanticism and the Woman They Loved

**DAVID FLAXMAN**

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

**March 02**

Robert and Clara Schumann were two brilliant German musicians of the mid-19th century. Robert was a leading composer of the Romantic movement. Robert and Clara were among the first to recognize the genius of the young Johannes Brahms and Robert's declaration to the world that Brahms was the likely successor to Beethoven probably delayed the completion of his first symphony by many years. Brahms was also deeply in love with Robert's wife, Clara. This complicated relationship and the music the two men created are fascinating to contemplate. We will review many of the important facts of their biographies and listen to excerpts from many performances of their music. We will have some wonderful guest speakers as well.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*David Flaxman is a largely retired computer scientist who spends most of his time now studying and performing music or reading French or Italian literature. He sings tenor with the Choral Arts Society of Washington, The City Choir of Washington, and the Georgetown Chorale, and plays the piano in his spare time.*

### 510 A History of Rock 'n Roll: A Musical Odyssey

**LARRY GONDELMAN**

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

**March 06**

The class will explore the history of Rock 'n Roll from the 1950s to the present day. After examining the roots of Rock 'n Roll and the key factors in its creation/discovery, we will learn how the electric

guitar came to be and how it fundamentally changed what rock could do. There will be separate classes on the 1960s and each decade since, with a focus on the key artists in each. Songs will be played and videos watched. One class will focus on Rock 'n Roll in the Springsteen style with exposure to many lesser known Springsteen-style rockers. We will then explore and explain the changing economics of the music industry and end the class with a conversation with a musician for an insider's view of the industry. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Larry Gondelman**, a lawyer, has loved Rock 'n Roll his entire life. His first concert was *The Beatles*, who he also got to meet. He is a prolific concert-goer, having attended 43 shows in 2018. He has given his son a classical education, taking him to see Springsteen, Dylan, Clapton, and Young. He loves to spread the gospel of rock.

## 515 Wagner's *Parsifal* and Some Operas from Everywhere

**BRUCE EISEN**

**JIM HOLMAN**

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

**March 03**

Jim Holman will take on Wagner's final opera, "*Parsifal*." Jim will present three lectures, one on each act, leading the class through the opera with audio and visual excerpts and discussing the controversies surrounding the opera for the past 135 years. Bruce Eisen will discuss and present four operas from diverse eras and countries: *Samson and Delilah* (Saint Saens), *Bluebeard's Castle* (Bartók), *Il Tabaro* (Puccini), and *The Medium* (Menotti). We will view DVDs of each opera.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Jim Holman** has written and edited various books on the life and music of Richard Wagner. Jim has lectured throughout the country and has conducted OLLI classes on Wagner for several years.

**Bruce Eisen** has been an OLLI study group leader for a number of semesters and has served as Washington National Opera general counsel.

## 520 The Russians are Coming, the Russians Are Coming: Composers, That Is

**JOHN BOWEN**

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

**March 02**

A study of the lives, times, and music of major Russian classical composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. Romanticism and the influence of the West and the East. "The Five." Music under the Tsars. Resisting, accommodating, and escaping in the Soviet era. Composing after Stalin.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

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

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

## 545 Reading Lyrics: Understanding Popular Song

**DAN SHERMAN**

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

**March 05**

Songs may have beautiful music, but it is their lyrics that convey meaning and help elicit our response. This course will sample lyrics from many sources, including operetta, stage shows, and movies. The focus will primarily be on writers who contributed lyrics to the "Great American Songbook," to include Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Lorenz Hart, Ira Gershwin, Dorothy Fields, and Johnny Mercer. Later writers will be sampled, including Stephen Sondheim in honor of his 90th birthday. The course will include biographical background on lyricists, discussion of what makes good lyrics, as well as review and discussion of the lyrics of select songs (with alternate versions of lyrics when available). The course will include many chances to hear and see great performances of songs discussed in the class through recordings and film clips.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

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

## 555 Short Form Comedic Improv— Beginnings

**BARBARA BIRD**

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

**March 05**

Short form comedic improv is like “Whose line is it anyway” where “games” are built from suggestions from the rest of the class (audience). Each game lasts 3-6 minutes usually. We will go through fundamentals of listening, accepting, and building on our improv partners’ offer. We will work on character development and scenes. There is some repetition from class to class so skills can be built. There are no props in improv and we will learn to use imaginary ones, in imaginary places. The class will involve considerable standing and some movement. A sense of humor is important. If the class wants, an end-of-term performance for friends and family (and OLLI members) might be arranged.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Barbara Bird is a retired American University professor of business management. Her teaching was in leadership, creativity, and organizational behavior; her research was in the area of entrepreneurship. She started and leads an improv troupe which has performed in DMV venues for the past three years. She has taught an improv mini at OLLI.*

## 558 Wild Minds & Disciplined Eyes

**DAVID LEE**

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

**March 05**

With abundant opportunities for participant interaction, we will touch on much of the history of our world from prehistoric eras to the times of contemporary arts, especially film/video. We will utilize internet links and gems from the study group leader’s private collection. For example, we will start with a video that begins with the Big Bang and then takes us through the entire length of Earth’s history in only 88 seconds. Close to the end the course, we will discuss cinema/video that attempts to free us from the mental prison of the frame line.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*David Lee is a visionary artist and healthcare worker. A multidisciplinary artist, he does not promote his work. Yet, a major archive is preserving his efforts.*

## 560 Creating Art Through Collage: Beginners and Advanced

**ROSE MOSNER**

**Ten Wednesdays (11:30 AM - 1:15 PM)**

**March 04**

Collage is the perfect medium for getting your creative juices flowing. Using a variety of materials, we will immerse ourselves in creativity: color, composition, imagery, and texture. This class is designed for beginners and seasoned artists. Bring scissors, glue, pencils, background cardboard, old photos, fabric scraps, ribbons, textured papers, string, pieces of plastic, colored pencils, paints, markers, pens, or whatever comes to mind. This class starts at 11:30 AM to allow for more work time.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Rose Mosner taught art in New York City schools for 22 years. With budgets for supplies very low, she canvassed neighborhood stores for fabric scraps, leftover 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.*

## 565 Ballet Continuum

**ILSA BUSH**

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

**March 05**

We will explore the evolution of ballet from 16th-century court dance to contemporary ballet. We will view examples of traditional and neoclassical ballet as well as classical modern, postmodern, jazz, and street dance, examining how these different dance genres vary in elements such as technique, use of music, expression of emotion, and storytelling. We will look at how choreographers in the late 20th and early 21st centuries incorporate distinctive features and style of various dance genres into work for ballet dancers, what remains of traditional ballet when they do, and what new dance artistry emerges.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ilsa Bush studied dance, performed with New England Civic Ballet (predecessor to Boston Ballet), received credentials from American Ballet Theatre’s teacher training program, and wrote successful funding*

proposals for dance record preservation. She has taught ballet and dance history at area universities and studios for over 20 years.

## 570 Taking Artful Photographs

**WENDEL SWAN**

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

**March 04**

Members will learn traditional skills of composition, foster photographic vision, and move beyond ordinary snapshots to taking images that are “frame-worthy.” Each week members will be assigned to replicate outstanding sample photographs of a given subject; those submissions will be discussed and evaluated in class. Throughout, the emphasis will be on training the eye rather than camera technicalities, but members must still learn certain basic camera functions (e.g., focusing, aperture, and shutter speed) and the importance of lighting and perspective. Members should expect to spend at least 2-4 hours per week on the assignments, with satisfaction and achievement being in direct proportion to the time spent.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*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 this class in photography.*

## 600 LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

### 600 The Story of Language

**RAY SQUITIERI**

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

**March 02**

The earliest humans spoke just one or a few languages. Modern humans speak over 6000. How is it that humans now speak languages as diverse as German, Navajo, and Chinese? Like animals and plants, languages evolve. They split into separate branches. They borrow words from one another. They can even trade grammar, as when Viking settlers lived alongside English farmers in pre-1066 Britain, and had to find ways to communicate. In this course, we will examine the common features of languages, how languages change, how the brain processes language, how children learn languages. Along the way, we will look in some detail at the history of our own language.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Ray Squitieri, a retired economist, has led courses at OLLI for nine years; these include instrumental music, opera and art song, European history, Chinese history, economic history, personal finance, and acoustics.*

### 603 Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français

**ELAINE FÉRAT**

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

**March 02**

Ce cours est conçu pour les participants qui possèdent les compétences avancées dans la compréhension et expression orale. La discussion des actualités et questions socio-économique, ainsi que des présentations orales et débats, contribuent à l'enrichissement du vocabulaire spécialisé et à l'amélioration de prononciation. Les devoirs et articles de journaux hebdomadaires sont transmis par courriel. Les membres qui s'inscrivent pour la première fois à ce cours sont priés de bien vouloir me contacter avant la loterie: [ecferat1@gmail.com](mailto:ecferat1@gmail.com)

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Elaine Férat has over 25 years experience in teaching French. She is a retired member of the language faculty at The Johns Hopkins University SAIS, offers private lessons, tutors all levels, and is a freelance translator.*

### 605 La BD (bande dessinée) pour les enfants ou pour les adultes?

**CATHERINE SANDIFER**

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

**March 02**

Connaissez vous la BD? Savez vous la lire? Ce cours propose de remonter aux prémices de la BD, dans les grottes de Lascaux ou en regardant les hiéroglyphes égyptiens sans oublier les Mangas japonais. Que raconte la BD? Genre politique, économique historique ou biographique parfois terriblement humoristique, venez revivre vos lectures d'enfance et porter un regard nouveau sur ce genre qui ne fait que croître et présente plusieurs niveaux de lecture. This class will be in French.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Catherine Sandifer has an MA from La Sorbonne Paris and an advanced degree in teaching English and French. She taught in Paris for 42 years at the “College Stanislas” and partly at “Sciences-Po.”*

## 607 Beginning-plus Spanish

SUSAN SCHNEIDER

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

March 05

This conversational study group enables students with some exposure to Spanish to improve their pronunciation and fluency. The course stresses listening and speaking more than reading and writing. The class will be challenging for true beginners, pero bienvenidos a todos! It focuses on everyday vocabulary and “street” Spanish. The study group uses the book, *Spanish for Dummies*, 2nd edition. There is one hour of homework for each class. Those who practice each day will find it easier to learn greetings, directions, and how to communicate with their Hispanic neighbors.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

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

## 610 Intermediate French Review and Conversation Practice

EVELYNE BONHOMME

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

March 04

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry wrote that, “It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.” If this statement resonates with you and you wish to review the basic and more complex structures of the French language in order to improve your conversation skills, this study group may be for you. We will polish your pronunciation (as needed), increase your comprehension, expand your vocabulary as well as enhance your syntax and style through grammar and writing exercises and the reading and discussion of selected news articles and texts by Saint-Exupéry and other Francophone writers. All classes are in French.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

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

## 615 Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene

HANNE CARAHER

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

March 05

Können Sie sich auf deutsch unterhalten? Beherrschen Sie die Grundregeln der deutschen Grammatik? Wenn ja, dann sind Sie ein guter Kandidat fuer diese Klasse. Wir werden Kurzgeschichten lesen und uebersetzen, uns auf deutsch unterhalten, Audios hoeren und ein bisschen Grammatik ueben. Hausaufgaben jede Woche eine oder zwei Stunden. Neue Teilnehmer werden vor der Lotterie ein telefonisches Interview untergehen; deshalb ist es wichtig, sich rechtzeitig zu registrieren.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

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

## 618 The Great French Songbook

LISA HARPER

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

March 05

This course will explore the great French songs of the 1950s and 1960s through videos, audiotapes, and class presentations. The class will focus on such artists as Edith Piaf, Charles Aznavour, and Juliette Greco, and the poetic songs they interpreted. Students will practice speaking, listening, and singing (optional) in French. Members of the class, who so desire, will make oral presentations about their favorite French singer. An intermediate knowledge of French is required for full participation in the class. Those who wish to revive their French through listening are also welcome. This is a French conversation class with a specialized focus, not a music appreciation or social history class.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Lisa Harper has spoken French for 68 years and taught the language off and on for 54 years. She grew up in Paris in the 1950s listening to French popular songs. After a career mostly in Francophone countries, she became an adult educator. Now retired, she divides her time between Maryland and Morocco.*

## 620 Italian—Conversation and Culture

**ARRIGO MONGINI**

**DAVID FLAXMAN**

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

**March 03**

David Flaxman and Arrigo Mongini will continue with the style of class that was presented in the Fall of 2019. We will read Italian language short stories by great Italian writers; we will discuss these stories, we will have class members give short presentations in Italian after which we will have discussion; we will have pre-determined scenarios acted out by class members in pairs; we will have some short grammar lessons; and we will read articles from Italian language newspapers together. The goal is to increase reading comprehension, refine pronunciation, improve understanding of the spoken word and develop a more advanced ability to converse in Italian.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Arrigo Mongini is a retired engineer fluent in Italian with strong ties to Italian culture.*

*David Flaxman is a computer scientist and musician who speaks French and Italian and is deeply interested in French and Italian literature.*

## 621 Enjoying *The New Yorker* Together

**BOB HAUSMAN**

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

**March 05**

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

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Bob Hausman has been an attorney in all three branches of the federal government and in private practice. He has enjoyed reading and discussing *New Yorker* articles for most of his adult life.*

## 625 Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History

**IRWIN LEBOW**

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

**March 02**

We will read Deuteronomy, the fifth of the Five Books of Moses. It is strikingly different from the others, written mostly as the orations of Moses just before his death on the threshold of the Israelites' entry into the Promised Land. The book contains the first expression of monotheism as we know it today. Modern scholars believe that Deuteronomy's authors, the prophet, Jeremiah together with his scribe, who lived from mid-7th to early-6th-century BCE were also the editors of the books that follow: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings that trace the history of the Israelites for six centuries, giving them the name Deuteronomic History, and we will see how the editing influenced this history. Only one of the two "required" books is required, since the two are identical.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

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

## 626 Reading H.L. Mencken

**RICHARD PALMER**

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

**March 05**

H.L. Mencken was as a great American stylist, critic, scholar, and reporter in the first half of the 20th century. After touching on his biography, we will find and share readings, mostly from his collection, *A Mencken Chrestomathy*, but also from handouts, online citations, and members' favorites or search results; to enhance exchanges we will share email addresses. We will chew over some of his great and pithy quotes. The study group is intended to be highly participatory, and we will work to appreciate and absorb the power of his style and analysis, doing our best to bypass or tolerate his notorious prejudices and wrongheaded politics.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Richard R. Palmer is a retired Washington psychiatrist with an interest in fine writing; he has led several OLLI study groups.*

## 630 Little Known Louisa May Alcott: A Fresh Look at *Little Women*

LINDA FREEMAN

Eight Mondays (11:45 AM - 1:15 PM)

March 02

Who knew? Long esteemed as the staid author of *Little Women* and related novels for girls, Louisa May Alcott actually had a most unusual upbringing and under a pen name wrote blood-and-thunder gothic novels. A competent journalist as well, she wrote *Hospital Sketches*, an account of her time as a nurse in Washington, DC during the Civil War. We will read the sketches, one of the gothic novels and (re)read *Little Women*, looking at its context, its critical reception over the years and what today's feminist have to say about it. And yes, we will consider film versions too. Not for girls, this class is for mature adults only!

This study group is not 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 Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)

March 02

The four plays we will read this time start with *The Subject Was Roses*, by Frank Gilroy, about a young man caught in his parents' turbulent relationship. Our second play is *Another Part of the Forest* by Lillian Hellman, the prequel to *Little Foxes*. The third play, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, by Eugene O'Neill, looks at parents with two grown sons, all suffering from lost dreams. We'll conclude with *Her Portmanteau*, by Mfoniso Udofia, about a Nigerian mother and her two children. In this course, 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. We consider what happens to the family after the play is over. This is an entertaining, interactive class. Reading each play beforehand will enrich participation.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Karen Gail Lewis has been a family therapist for more than four decades. She has published numerous books and articles about family relationships. She has taught at OLLI for over a decade.*

## 633 British Poetry Since 1900

DANIEL COYLE

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

March 04

This study group will examine the works of modern poets from the four corners of Britain: English poets W.H. Auden, Phillip Larkin, Stevie Smith; Welshmen R.S. Thomas and Dylan Thomas; Scottish poets Kathleen Jamie and Hugh MacDiarmid; and Northern Ireland's Seamus Heaney. Texts of the poems and links to video recordings of the poets reading their poems will be distributed before each session. Each poet will be paired with a British visual artist whose paintings are thematically similar to the poems. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Dan Coyle has a PhD in English and American literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Although he spent 40 years in the publishing industry, teaching literature had been his original career goal. Retirement has its rewards. This will be his sixth OLLI study group on modern poetry.*

## 635 Reading Fiction: Testing Birkerts' *The Gutenberg Elegies*

HELEN SCHWARTZ

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

March 04

In *The Gutenberg Elegies*, Sven Birkerts hypothesizes about what happens in us when we read, how we change as readers as we age, and the effects of deep reading (think of a household with only the Bible as library) versus wide reading (think Amazon pre-paid credit card). We will consider Birkerts' ideas in light of our own experiences as readers and what we know or can discover about our children's or grandchildren's reading. Required books: Sven Birkerts' *The Gutenberg Elegies* and Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* to test Birkerts' theories on a book that most of us will not have read and which is available as a TV series, a graphic novel, and an audio book.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Helen Schwartz, an early reader, went on to teach literature and writing at Oakland University and Indiana University; in the Netherlands, China, Hungary, and Turkey. She now writes mysteries and short stories. Her OLLI classes have been on Shakespeare, minority and immigrant American literature, fateful documents, and the Internet.*

## 640 Shakespeare's *The Taming of The Shrew*

JOSEPH CASAZZA

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

March 03

Is *The Taming of the Shrew* a rollicking battle of the sexes? If so, why would Shakespeare write such a play in the 1590s? Is it a play about the psychological abuse of women? Why write that in the 1590s, and why do we keep performing it in the 21st century? Why is the Induction, about 20 percent of the text, omitted in many performances, and if it is easy to dispense with, why is it there at all? What is the point of the double plot, the double marriage of Kate and Bianca? What are we to make of Kate's capitulation? Is it real, or a ploy? We will consider these and other questions as we watch performances of the play.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Joseph Casazza* received his AB from Harvard University and his MA from the University of Texas at Austin in Latin and Greek Classics. He is certified and taught in private schools for 12 years, and worked at the Harvard University libraries, the Library of Congress, and the Congressional Research Service. He is retired.

## 645 What Shall We Do About the Children

MARY POOLE

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

March 05

It is an age-old question but one that seems especially relevant today. This study group will read and discuss five novels that deal with the various decisions adults make in the handling of children, their own or others. Though these stories are concerned mainly with the theme of loss, there are other themes in each novel that enlarge their scope, and we will explore those too. As usual, we will pay attention to the lives of the authors and the way their works are written.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading 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.

## 646 Poetry Craftshop: Moving Through the Ruins: Galway Kinnell and Denise Levertov

JENNY PIERSON

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

March 04

We will be reading the works of Galway Kinnell and Denise Levertov as they bear witness to the ambiguities of an engaged life. In poems and essays, their distinctive voices (on war and love, on political engagement, on the mystery of the spirit world beneath this natural world) will guide us toward the poet's true purpose. Weekly assignments model their work to help us write original poems. The class requires that you critique the works of your classmates and engage in discussions about language, form, and deep meaning.

This class is for serious poets willing to work hard.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** More than 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.

## 650 Writing Workshop for Memoir and Fiction

MARILYN SMITH

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

March 06

The workshop is a highly interactive course for all OLLI members interested in sharing their writing with classmates in a supportive environment. Whether you're writing memoir or fiction, drama or humor, finishing or just beginning, the Writing Workshop will provide numerous opportunities for small group discussion and feedback among colleagues. During the first two sessions, the class will examine the Narrative Arc and Smart Guidelines for Writers. Subsequent meetings will offer ample time for reading aloud, reviewing the work of others, and receiving constructive feedback from peers. Weekly at-home writing is required!

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Marilyn W. Smith*, PhD, has taught a variety of writing classes for OLLI at AU for many years. Marilyn earned a PhD from the University of Maryland, and an MA in Reading from the Ohio State University. She authored two published books, a manual, and numerous academic journal articles. She is excited about the Writing Workshop!

## 651 Writing Workshop: *Writing Down the Bones*

EDWARD WARD

PATRICIA SPECTOR

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

March 03

This workshop (study group) is for people who like to write or think they might like to write, but who need a setting or stimulus to spur them to practice. Each session consists of two or more spells of writing in response to a short prompt. After writing for 10-15 minutes, participants have an opportunity to share what they have written, if they desire. Positive feedback is encouraged, critical feedback can be requested. This format was created by Brock Hansen, who led the workshop in earlier years. The class draws on ideas about the practice of writing in Natalie Goldberg's book, *Writing Down the Bones*. The common prompts lead workshop participants in surprisingly diverse directions.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

Both **Patricia Spector** and **Edward (Pat) Ward** participated in the workshop several times with Brock Hansen. They enjoyed it so much that, when Brock was unable to continue, they offered to co-lead the workshop on an informal basis for a semester, and now, as a regular OLLI offering.

## 671 Hamlet, His World, Shakespeare's, and Ours

ANDREW WHITE

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

March 06

From his radical beginnings as a trickster figure in Danish legend, Hamlet of Denmark has captivated our imagination for much of the last millennium. This semester we will explore the origins of Amleth/Hamlet in ancient and medieval texts, his reincarnation as a Renaissance tragic hero, and his later, strange incarnations as proxies for our sexual and political anxieties. Join us!

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Andrew Walker White** has been teaching at OLLI for a few years now—quite a few. He is an actor, playwright, theatre critic, and a scholar of theatre history as well—ask him about Byzantium, too, when you get the chance!

## 677 Their Emily Dickinsons: Eight Women Poets Lit by Her Lamp

ELEANOR HEGINBOTHAM

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

March 05

"I think I was enchanted," said Emily Dickinson of one of her writing models. As she was influenced by Barrett-Browning, so were most next-century women poets by her. This class will focus on eight modern writers who acknowledged the debt in their own experimental energy and profound questions, often echoing the Amherst genius. Using Dickinson's *Complete Poems* and one other text, we will consider xeroxed samples of the work of Marianne Moore, Sylvia Plath, Elizabeth Bishop, Adrienne Rich, Muriel Rukeyser, and May Swenson (with nods to Millay, Wylie, and Teasdale) in a Dickinson context. Light lectures on prosody and Dickinson, yes, but we will spend most of our time reading aloud the day's sample poems.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Author of two books and many articles on Dickinson (and others), Eleanor Heginbotham, Emerita Professor of Literature, Concordia University St. Paul, has spent the 14 years since her retirement leading and learning in OLLI's opportunities. Unlike Dickinson, she traveled and taught around the world, including on a Fulbright to Hong Kong.*

## 681 What's New in Short Stories?

SUSAN WILLENS

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

March 02

As our society changes, so do the stories we tell. Language alters, events burst upon us, terrors increase, as do joys. Storytellers are alert to all this, so they change too. In this course, new stories will show us how these changes affect new fiction.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

**Susan Willens** has taught at OLLI for several years and looks forward to a new year with new works to investigate.

## 685 August Wilson *American Century Cycle*

**RAYMOND MAXWELL**

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

**March 02**

The study group will read and discuss all 10 August Wilson plays in the *American Century Cycle*. We will explore the structure of the plays and the themes that recur in the plays throughout the 20th century. The Spring 2020 term will coincide with a series of lectures and presentations at Arena Stage on Wilson's works, culminating in the presentation of one of his plays, *Seven Guitars*. Each week we will focus on one play working our way through the decades. Previous students have remarked about the universality of the plays and the richness of our discussions. The texts of the plays, where available, will be provided. Otherwise, participants will be expected to borrow plays from the library or purchase them.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Raymond Maxwell* is a retired Foreign Service Officer and, post-retirement, a librarian and archivist. He has an undergraduate degree from Florida A&M University and graduate degrees from University of London (SOAS) and Catholic University. He currently works as a librarian and archivist, volunteers as a docent, and is an occasional poet.

## 690 The Novels of E.M. Forster

**ELLEN MOODY**

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

**March 02**

In this course we will read Forster's best-known fiction, *A Room with a View*, *Howards End*, and *A Passage to India*. We'll discuss what makes them such distinctive literary masterpieces capable of delivering such pleasure while delineating the realities, tragedies, comedy, and consolations of human life. We'll place them in the context of his life, other works, Bloomsbury connections, and era. We'll also see clips from some of the brilliant films made from them. I ask that before class begins everyone read his short and delightful *Aspects of the Novel*.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Ellen Moody* holds a PhD in British literature, taught in colleges for over 30 years, and here at OLLI for several years. She has long loved the writing of E.M. Forster, and that of all the Bloomsbury group, and the film adaptations made from their books. She has published on a wide variety of literature and film.

## 695 Italian Jewish Writing

**JUDITH PLOTZ**

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

**March 03**

This course will focus on the literature of Jewish life in 20th-century Italy. We will read works of the Fascist period by three major writers from Turin (Carlo Levi, Primo Levi, Natalia Levi Ginzburg); a selection of poems by Umberto Saba of Trieste; a novel by Giorgio Bassani, the Faulknerian chronicler of Ferrara; and memoirs (with recipes) by Edda Servi Maclin of Pitigliano and Clara Sereni of Rome. Our principal themes: Community, Family, Politics, and History. This will be primarily a discussion class framed by brief lectures offering historical and cultural context.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Judith Plotz*, Professor Emerita of English, taught for 50 years at George Washington University. In recent years, she has taught OLLI courses in colonial literature, metaphysical fiction, Kipling, Canadian literature, and—emerging from her recent study of Italian—modern Italian writers.

## 700 HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

### How the House of Representatives Works (or Doesn't): A History

**DAVID POMERANTZ**

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

**March 06**

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 110.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

### Presidential Powers Under the Constitution and the Courts

**PAUL VAMVAS**

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

**March 03**

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 137.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

## 701 The Myth and Reality of the Wild West

**JOHN VORHES**

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

**March 02**

Many Americans are nostalgic for the mythic period known as the “Wild West” (1865–1895) when we boldly settled the Great Plains and the Far West. But the idea of moving the frontier from the Appalachians west into the heartland and beyond took root much earlier, after our independence and our successes over rival European powers that had laid claim to the land. The concept of Manifest Destiny gained popularity before the Civil War and then after, when trails were crowded with adventurers and entrepreneurs. The way we spread our civilization is an arguable achievement, especially when you take into account the Native Americans who were the original residents. In 1893, we celebrated the end of the frontier with a grand exposition in Chicago where the frontier was declared “ended.” The entire saga is now a beloved blur to many of us, shaded by the myth that has often colored the reality. Here we study the reality and maybe discover the birth of what some think is our national character.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*John Vorhes is a retired industrial and architectural designer with a love affair with the American West. Born in New York City, his family roots go back to frontier Kansas and his personal research expanded his interest. His 50-year design career includes SOM, architects in NY, and USIA's Cultural Exchange Program in Washington.*

## 703 US Foreign Policy II

**JAMES NATHAN**

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

**March 02**

This is the second of a two-part class. The first part, during the fall semester, covered the international context of the rise of American power and policymaking through the start of the Cold War, largely framed in terms of the great contest between Russia and the United States, and concluded with a discussion of the Vietnam War. This second part of the class will cover the period from the end of the Vietnam War through the present, reviewing the impact of domestic politics and other “sources of American conduct.”

The purpose of this course, in both parts, is to understand policy largely from the standpoint of American policymakers at the time and to evaluate their decisions in light of their consequences.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*James A. Nathan is a former Foreign Service Officer and the Khalid Bin Sultan Inaugural Eminent Scholar Emeritus at Auburn University. He is currently Senior Adjunct Professorial Lecturer at the School of International Service at American University. He is the author of seven books and is widely published in Foreign Affairs, The Washington Post, and The New York Times. He has won several literary prizes, a number of Senior Distinguished Fulbrights, was a NATO Fellow, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.*

## 715 Jewish History and Life: Patriarchs to Israel

**JOSH (JONATHAN) BERMAN**

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

**March 05**

Judaism has been present for 4,000 years. We will survey Judaism from the Patriarchs to the State of Israel, with the aim of understanding how Judaism was able to survive 40 centuries and be part of our present world. Equal emphasis will be placed on historic events and Jewish life during those periods of history. The two texts—Scheindlin which is short and clear, and Johnson which is longer and more provocative—will be supplemented by original source handouts, some of which are excellent, and videos from Ori Soltes’ “Jewish Art” series. This overview of a vast swath of history is intended for Jews who wish to have a firmer understanding of their heritage and non-Jews interested in the Jewish story.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Jonathan (Josh) Berman, MD, PhD, FASTMH, is not a professional historian, rather is a Jewish-American with a lifelong interest in his religious heritage.*

## 728 Reflections on the Civil Rights Movement

**KAREN STEWART**

**RALPH BUGLASS**

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

**March 03**

A review of the Civil Rights Movement, 1954–1968, (the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision to Martin Luther King’s assassination) with an update to the present day in the final session. Each session will consist of video excerpts (usually from the award-winning PBS documentary *Eyes on the Prize*) with discussion of about one hour. The goal of the class is to use the historical review of the Civil Rights Movement to provide a

framework for personal reflection on race and its centrality in our country's history and still today. Required reading: companion text to the PBS video by Juan Williams; a more extensive optional reading list provided.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Both Karen Stewart and Ralph Buglass individually have led OLLI courses; Karen on slavery and Ralph on school segregation. While neither has first-hand knowledge of the Civil Rights Movement, both have a deep interest in race-related history topics and see their role in the course primarily as facilitators for discussion and fostering awareness.*

## 740 History of Slavery in America: Jamestown to the Civil War

**KAREN STEWART**

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

**March 05**

From the landing of the first African captives at Jamestown, the existence of slavery has been a central contradiction of our history. We live with its legacy today. In this class we will look at the Atlantic world from which chattel slavery developed. We will trace the changes in the laws, economies, social mores, and politics that impacted the lives of the enslaved Africans through the almost 250 years of slavery in America. The struggle, resilience, and survival of these Africans in America was too often missing from the history we learned in school. This is a chance to catch up on modern scholarship and become informed participants in the ongoing national conversation on race.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Karen Stewart is a retired epidemiologist with a new and consuming interest in the history of slavery in America. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi. Karen has taught OLLI courses since 2017.*

## 744 Ten Fateful Decisions, 1940–1942

**JOHN POOLE**

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

**March 05**

The eminent British historian and author, Ian Kershaw, became an expert and writer on German social history, Fascism, and Nazism. He is author of a highly-regarded two-volume biography of Adolph Hitler. The class will read his book, *Fateful Choices*, which describes

a string of decisions made in an 18-month period in 1940–41 by Churchill, Hitler, Stalin, FDR, Mussolini, and Japanese military that shaped the course and outcome of World War II with class lectures on the book and related topics and class discussion invited. We will consider additional sources and points of view.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*John Poole majored in British History and Literature, focus on 19th century, in college. He was a lawyer in the Justice Department's Antitrust Division for 40 years.*

## 750 Great American Trials

**ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ**

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

**March 06**

This course will present a series of lectures on eight major trials. The cases include five that are new to OLLI and three that are repeats. The lectures will place the trial in historical and political context so the importance of the case can be seen more clearly. We will discuss the legal tactics and the personalities of the lawyer, prosecutors, and defendants. Trials discussed in this seminar will include: the Assassination of President McKinley, the Assassination of President Garfield, the Ulysses Book Custody trial, Hahn vs. Duveen (Leonardo de Vinci painting), the Infanticide Trial of Nancy Randolph, the Aaron Burr trial, the trial of John Service, and the Lindberg Kidnapping case.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

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

## 751 The American Soul: Rediscovering the Wisdom of the Founders

**RICHARD BOARDMAN**

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

**March 05**

"I found almost everywhere that the men and women who carved out the ideals of America were driven by the same transcendent questions that had always been my own as well." With these words, professor of philosophy and religion, Jacob Needleman, begins his landmark book, *The American Soul*, which takes the reader on a journey toward understanding the deeper purposes of America's founders as they struggled to launch a new nation. The class will provide an engaging framework in which participants

can explore with each other the questions that motivated the Founding Fathers and that drove Jacob Needleman to write this book. We will discuss approximately 35 pages in the book each class session.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Rick Boardman** was a human resources administrator for the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia for 30 years. He taught at the Joan Baez Institute for the Study of Nonviolence in Palo Alto in the late 1960s, followed by 18 months in federal prison for draft resistance in 1970–71 and directed *Clergy and Laity Concerned*, New York City, in the 1970s.

## 766 *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*

**DAVID PALMETER**

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

**March 04**

The American Revolution was not a revolution of social upheaval. It was led not by a Robespierre, a Lenin, or a Mao, but by Washington, Adams, Jefferson, and others like them. They were not an oppressed class. Yet historian Gordon Wood argues that, measured by the social change brought about by a revolution, the American Revolution “was as radical and social as any revolution in history.” We will discuss Wood’s Pulitzer Prize winning *The Radicalism of the American Revolution* which describes the rapid social evolution of the country over a few decades, from a colonial culture of Monarchy first to Civic Republicanism, and then to Democracy.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

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

## 768 *From Rifled Muskets to Killer Robots*

**PETER WILSON**

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

**March 05**

This study group will consider, from the perspective of the two centuries that followed the Industrial Revolution, the effects of scientific and technological change on the global national security environment. Specifically, this study group will examine the hypothesis that there have been several “revolutions in military affairs” in both the 19th and 20th centuries that emerged

as competitive ways of war that profoundly altered the global security environment. Particular emphasis will be given to how the United States has or has not successfully adapted to the periods of rapid military technological change that emerged during the 20th century and how these lessons might be applied to our current 21st-century security challenges. **Note:** This study group has a copied materials fee between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Peter A. Wilson** is currently an adjunct senior researcher at the Rand Corporation and an adjunct professor at the Security Studies program at Georgetown University. He also gives classes and runs strategic planning exercises at the Eisenhower School at the National Defense University.

## 770 *A Brief History of Washington, DC*

**ROBERT SOMERS**

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

**March 04**

Born out of compromise, Washington, DC, was envisioned as a grand capital city and commercial center for the new American republic. Burned by the British in 1814, bitterly divided by the Civil War, and overshadowed by larger cities, Washington gradually began to come into its own by the turn of the 20th century. The city remains a work in progress as it deals with its unique political status and serves as the center stage for American history. This study group will highlight the history of the city, from its visionary origins to its current dual status as the capital of the free world and a place that more than half a million people call home.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Robert Somers** is a retired Federal government attorney and has been a licensed Washington, DC tour guide since 1989. He is a history buff and has been a docent with the Historical Society of Washington, DC; the National Building Museum; and the National Park Service. He has taught four previous DC history study groups at OLLI.

## 780 *History of the Jews of Spain*

**JEFFREY GORSKY**

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

**March 04**

Using the book, *Exiles in Sepharad*, the group will study the one-thousand-year history of Jews in Spain from the Visigoth era and Muslim Spain to the Spanish Inquisition and the Expulsion of 1492,

and the aftermath in Portugal, Holland, and the New World. We also will study significant works in religion, literature, science, and philosophy, including poets, the great Jewish philosopher Moses Maimonides, and Moses de Leon, author of *The Zohar*, the core text of the Kabbalah.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Jeffrey Gorsky is retired from the Department of State, where he worked as Vice-Consul in Bilbao, Spain, and as an Iberian Intelligence Analyst. He is Senior Counsel for a law firm that is nationally recognized in immigration law. He is the author of Exiles in Sepharad: The Jewish Millennium in Spain.*

## 782 European History and Ideology (1900–1940)

**LEONARD KING**

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

**March 06**

The early 20th Century saw both the culmination and destruction of the 19th-century power of Europe, the promise of European hegemony over the world, and the hope for peace and progress. World War I, a war without a rational cause and with unforeseen consequences, destroyed the confidence in progress and spurred on the Russian Revolution and Nazism. After establishing the basis of European power in the ideologies of capitalism and liberalism, this study group will introduce the reactions to World War I: socialism and communism, the Russian Revolution, Weimar Germany, Freudian psychology, existentialism, and Nazism. Given the limits of time, this study group will just be a survey of these major issues.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Leonard King taught at the Maret School for 43 years, including a year long course on 20th Century Europe, which is the basis of this study group. At OLLI, he has taught courses on Film, Nonviolence, and Moral Dilemmas.*

## 786 America in the Fifties

**CANDACE THURMAN**

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

**March 05**

Many OLLI members came of age in 1950s America. This study group reviews that decade's significant historical events and trends, popular culture, politics, and fads. The approach in

weekly sessions is thematic and augmented with lots of optional material—selected readings, and audio and video of the period. This study group is highly participatory. Members compare different experiences and perspectives of the decade; with this in mind, we ask each member to provide his/her age and living situation on October 4, 1957—the date of the Sputnik launch. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Candace Thurman is a retired social studies teacher in the Montgomery County Public Schools; she was born in Pennsylvania soon after Sputnik. This is her second OLLI study group.*

## 790 Off the Beaten Path in the DC Area

**RALPH BUGLASS**

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

**March 02**

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 and spots worth visiting—or at least knowing about. Come hear about—and experience through lavishly illustrated slides—some of these little-known gems and the fascinating stories behind them. Examples include presidential monuments and commemoratives in unexpected places; reminders of World War II and the area's rich African American history; Gilded Age mansions around DuPont Circle; buildings by Frank Lloyd Wright and other noted architects; early mills that still work; cemeteries that come to life with stories of those interred; and more.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ralph Buglass is a Washington-area native and lifelong history buff who enjoys sharing lesser-known aspects of the wonderful area we call home. A frequent speaker for Montgomery History, the neighboring Maryland County historical society, he is a retired communications professional with a history BA from Cornell and a journalism MA from American University.*

## 799 Ulysses S. Grant: In Peace and War

**ALLERTON KILBORNE**

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

**March 05**

This study group will follow the life and times of Ulysses S. Grant, “that quiet little feller,” as Lincoln described him. Grant's early years were plagued by bad luck, alcoholism, and failure. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was working as a junior clerk in his father's leather-

goods store. Nevertheless, he ended up as Lincoln's choice to lead Union armies to victory in the Civil War. Subsequently, as president, he championed civil rights and in so doing, broke the power of the Ku Klux Klan. His courage, resilience, and deep-seated humility remained unshaken throughout his ups and downs.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

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

## 800 PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

### 805 Discovering Consciousness

**JOSEPH REO**

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

**March 03**

When the alarm goes off, do we wake up, or is that the time we go back to sleep. In this vast, ever-changing infinite expanse of time and space, how conscious are you of this mystery called life. How aware are you, of yourself? What is Consciousness? What is it to be conscious? How conscious are you? How would, or could you become more conscious if you so desired? If our brains control our bodies, and our minds manage our brains, who or what manages our minds? How much choice, control, perhaps responsibility, do we have, are we endowed with, or even aware of, or capable of in determining not just how we are, but how we might consciously learn to Be. In this class we'll explore the myriad ways science, religion, philosophy, psychology, spirituality, creativity, (and one more essential quality), combine with the energy each of us brings to the Alchemical mix as The Observers, to create the fluid experience we call reality. **Note:** There will be some meditation practice in each class.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Joseph Reo is a graduate of Arizona State University and completed the Landmark Forum adult education curriculum. He is a graduate of the Pathways Institute, a program of personal growth and consciousness work, and is currently a student in the Pathways graduate studies program. As an adjunct, he taught over ten years in George Washington University's Exercise Science department,*

*instructing classes in meditation, massage, and sports massage. As a voice-over actor he has recorded various meditation tracts and currently teaches meditation and massage at various adult-education companies. He is a licensed, massage therapist with an active, 20-year practice, and currently serves on DC's Department of Health's Massage Therapy Board.*

### 831 Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

**SUSAN DROBIS**

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

**March 03**

In this study group you will learn mindfulness skills to rewire your brain to help make you a happier and more compassionate person. Mindfulness enhances our capacity for managing anxiety, stress, intense emotions, and uncertainty, and increases our capacity to experience deep fulfillment. We will primarily practice techniques that we have learned from Shinzen Young to use both in sitting meditation practice and in ordinary life. Sessions will include instruction, guided meditations, and group discussion. Although there is no required reading, participants should plan to practice meditation on their own for at least 10 minutes on most days. This study group is appropriate for both beginners and experienced meditators.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Susan Drobis, a psychotherapist, and Jeffrey Drobis, a retired MD, have practiced meditation for over 25 years. Their teacher Shinzen Young draws on traditional Asian practices but is consciously secular and contemporary. Susan has been teaching mindfulness for 20 years and Jeffrey has led meditation study groups at OLLI since 2015.*

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

**JEFFREY DROBIS**

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

**March 02**

This study session is similar to another offering, Mastering the Skills of Mindful Awareness Practice. It is intended for persons who have taken other study groups with me. If you have not worked with me but have significant experience with meditation and are interested in this offering, please contact me at [jeffdrobis@gmail.com](mailto:jeffdrobis@gmail.com). Classes will include instruction, extensive guided meditations, and discussions. In addition, we will devote about 10 minutes to discuss a

book related to mindfulness practice (to be determined).

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

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

## 838 To Hell and Back: A Guide to the Underworld in Myth and Poetry

**ROBERT CROOG**

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

**March 04**

The underworld, the afterlife, what lies beyond this earthly experience—these have been the subject for storytellers, priests, and poets over millennia. This course explores how various underworlds have been imagined, their geography, organization, residents, and what happens there, as recounted in the mythology and literature of certain cultures. We will review myths from Asia, Europe, and Meso-America. Readings include excerpts from the *Odyssey*, the *Aeneid*, and Dante's *Inferno*. The format will be primarily lecture with some discussion of those three works.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Robert Croog:** Education: BA cum laude in English from Harvard College (1966); JD cum laude from Columbia University (1969). Intellectual property lawyer (Trademark, Copyright Director, Eastman Kodak Co., retired); Professor of ethics, communication, and writing, Rochester Institute of Technology, Trinity Washington University (DC).

## 841 Virtue Ethics: A Modern View

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**March 03**

There are three major theories of normative ethics: one emphasizes rules or duties (deontology); one emphasizes consequences of actions (consequentialism); and one emphasizes virtue or moral character (virtue ethics). Since the Enlightenment, virtue ethics was overshadowed by the others, but has seen a revitalization since the 1950s. We will be engaged in a detailed study of virtue ethics, using Alasdair MacIntyre's modern classic, *After Virtue: A Study In Moral Theory*, as our guide. I also will include brief consideration of Aristotle's views, as well as other modern philosophers.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

**Al Taran** has a BA in philosophy but spent his working career in Information Technology. He has had a lifelong interest in philosophy, and welcomes the opportunity provided at OLLI to re-engage with the philosophers (and their writings) that so enthralled him in his youth. This will be Al's fifth study group in Philosophy.

## 850 The Way of Quiet Sitting: Spirituality and the Evolution of Human Consciousness

**WOODY CARTER**

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

**March 04**

The aim of this study group is to critically examine the concept of "spirituality," defined in this course as a total process of integration, growth, development, and fulfillment of one's potential in relation to others, to the ultimate purpose of life, and to the Ultimate. Although the principles presented are universal in scope, this offering is "culturally-rooted" and geared to participants living out a western worldview. Through cognitive and experiential learning, these will be highly interactive sessions including open discussion, video screenings, guided meditation, and selected readings. This course is appropriate for beginners and those with some meditation experience.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

**Woody Carter** is a narrative theologian and writer with a doctorate in theology, religion, and the arts from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. He was an associate professor in the Bachelor of Arts Completion Program at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco and a theater arts instructor.

## 867 Byzantine Philosophy

**DONALD ROSS**

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

**March 06**

The purpose of this course is to explore the philosophical schools of the Byzantine world, from its origins in Alexandria to its final flourishing in the Hesychast period. This course will cover the Christian Platonism of the Eastern Christian Church.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Donald Ross** received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake

*Forest University in 1970, his master's from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include articles on ancient and medieval philosophy. He also has done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.*

## **868 Augustine**

**DONALD ROSS**

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

**March 06**

The purpose of this course is to explore the thought of Augustine of Hippo, the principal expositor of Western Christian theology.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Donald Ross received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his master's from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include articles on ancient and medieval philosophy. He has also done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.*

# ASSIGNED BOOKS FOR SPRING 2020

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
113	Politics and the Moral Life	<i>The Moral Sense</i>	James Q. Wilson			Required
		<i>Ordinary Vices</i>	Judith Shklar			Required
		<i>After Virtue</i>	Alistair McIntyre			Required
		<i>The Prince</i>	Niccolo Machiavelli		University of Chicago, Translated by Mansfield	Required
180	Today's Supreme Court: A Course for Citizens	<i>The Oath: The Obama White House and the Supreme Court</i>	Jeffrey Toobin	978-0-307-39071-4	Anchor Books, Random House	Required
		<i>The US Supreme Court: A Very Short Introduction</i>	Linda Greenhouse	978-0199754540	Oxford University Press	Required
220	Exploring David Brooks: Social Commentator to Cultural Critic	<i>The Quest for a Moral Compass: A Global History of Ethics</i>	Kenan Malik	978-161219-483-7	Melville House	Recommended
260	The Impact of the Great War on Western Culture and the Western Worldview	<i>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</i>	Charles A. O'Connor III	978-0-989-9169-9-8	New Academia Publishing	Required
289	Reframing the Opioid Crisis: Disease, Not "Will Power"	<i>Under the Influence: A Guide to the Myths and Realities of Alcoholism</i>	Milam & Ketcham	0-553-27487-2	Bantam	Required
345	Invasive Networks—Nowhere to Hide!	<i>The Seventh Sense</i>	Joshua Cooper Ramo	978-0-316-28504-9	Little Brown and Company	Required
		<i>21 Lessons for the 21st Century</i>	Yoav Noah Harari	978-0-5255-1219-6	Spiegel and Grau	Recommended
373	How to Get Rich Surely, But Slowly Part 2	<i>How to Get Rich Surely, But Slowly</i>	Gary Cahn	1477429190	Amazon	Recommended
444	The Quantum World	<i>The Quantum World, Quantum Physics for Everyone</i>	Kenneth W. Ford	0-674-01342-5	Harvard University Press	Recommended
475	The Stories Behind the Vaccines	<i>Weekly Morbidity Mortality Reports</i>	Numerous		Centers for Disease Control	Recommended
490	Building A Human: From Embryos to Bioengineering	<i>How To Grow a Human: Adventures in How We Are Made and Who We Are</i>	Philip Ball	978-0-226-65480-5	University of Chicago Press	Required
492	Extended Heredity: The New Science of Inheritance and Evolution	<i>Extended Inheritance: A New Understanding of Inheritance and Evolution</i>	Russell Bonduriansky and Troy Day	978-0-691-15767-2	Princeton University Press	Required
545	Reading Lyrics: Understanding Popular Song	<i>Reading Lyrics: More Than 1,000 of the Century's Finest Lyrics</i>	Robert Gottlieb and Robert Kimball			Recommended

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
600	The Story of Language	<i>The Power of Babel</i>	John McWhorter	ISBN-13: 978-0060520854	Perennial—Harper Collins	Recommended
607	Beginning-plus Spanish	<i>Spanish for Dummies</i> , 2nd edition	Susana Wald			Required
610	Intermediate French Review and Conversation Practice	<i>Intermediate French Grammar</i> , 1st edition	Eliane Kurberov	978-0071775380	McGraw-Hill Education	Required
620	Italian—Conversation and Culture	<i>Undici Novelle</i>	Luigi Pirandello		Translated and edited by Stanley Applebaum	Required
		<i>Racconti Romani</i>	Alberto Moravia			Required
625	Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History	<i>The Five Books of Moses</i>	Robert Alter	0-393-01955-1	W.W. Norton	Required
		<i>The Hebrew Bible</i>	Robert Alter	978-0-393-29249-7	W. W. Norton	Required
630	Little Known Louisa May Alcott: A Fresh Look at <i>Little Women</i>	<i>Hospital Sketches</i>	Louisa May Alcott	978-0-918222-78-7	Applewood Books, Bedford, MA	Recommended
		<i>A Long Fatal Love Chase</i>	Louisa May Alcott	978-0-440-22301-6	Dell Books	Recommended
		<i>Little Women</i>	Louisa May Alcott	978-0-393-97614-4	Norton Critical Edition	Recommended
631	Understanding Families Through Plays	<i>Another Part of the Forest</i>	Lillian Hellman			Required
		<i>The Subject Was Roses</i>	Frank Gilroy			Required
		<i>Her Portmanteau</i>	Mfoniso Udofoia			Required
		<i>Long Day's Journey into Night</i>	Eugene O'Neill			Required
635	Reading Fiction: Testing Birkerts' <i>The Gutenberg Elegies</i>	<i>The Gutenberg Elegies</i>	Sven Birkerts	9780865479579	Farrar Strauss Giroux	Required
		<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	Margaret Atwood	038549081X	Anchor Books	Required
640	Shakespeare's <i>The Taming of The Shrew</i>	<i>The Taming of The Shrew</i> : Third Series (Arden Shakespeare)	Shakespeare, William; Edited by Barbara Hodgdon	978-1903436936	Methuen Drama	Required
645	What Shall We Do About the Children	<i>Lost Children Archive</i>	Valeria Luiselli	978-1-5247-1150-4	Knopf	Required
		<i>The Lost Daughter</i>	Elena Ferrante	978-1-933372-42-6	Europa Editions	Required
		<i>Revolutionary Road</i>	Richard Yates	978-0-375-70844-2	Vintage Books	Required
		<i>Unless</i>	Carol Shields	0-00-713769-9	Harper Collins Fourth Estate	Required
		<i>The Children Act</i>	Ian McEwan	978-1-101-87287-1	Anchor Books	Required
646	Poetry Craftshop: Moving Through the Ruins: Galway Kinnell and Denise Levertov	<i>A New Selected Poems</i>	Galway Kinnell	0901/6-88047	Houghton Mifflin Books	Required
		<i>Selected Poems</i>	Denise Levertov	978-1-852-24653-2	New Directions	Required
671	Hamlet, His World, Shakespeare's, and Ours	<i>Hamlet</i>	Shakespeare			Required

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
677	Their Emily Dickinsons: Eight Women Poets Lit by Her Lamp	<i>The Poems of Emily Dickinson</i>	Emily Dickinson (Ed. Ralph Franklin)	0-674-67624-6	The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press	Required
		<i>Our Emily Dickinsons: American Women Poets and the Intimacies of Difference</i>	Vivian R. Pollak	978-0-8122-4844-9	University of Pennsylvania Press	Recommended
681	What's New in Short Stories?	<i>The O. Henry Prize Stories 100th Anniversary Edition</i>	Laura Furman	978-0525565536	Anchor Books	Required
690	The Novels of E.M. Forster	<i>A Room with a View</i>	Forster, E.M.	978-0679724766	Penguin	Required
		<i>Howards End</i>	Forster, E.M.	978-0393970111	Norton Critical	Required
		<i>A Passage to India</i>	Forster, E.M.	978-0141441160	Penguin Classic	Required
		<i>Aspects of the Novel</i>	Forster, E.M.	978-0141441696	Penguin Classic	Recommended
695	Italian Jewish Writing	<i>The Garden of the Finzi-Continis</i>	Giorgio Bassani		Penguin Modern Classics	Required
		<i>Family Lexicon</i>	Natalia Ginsburg		New York Review of Books Classics	Required
		<i>Christ Stopped at Eboli</i>	Carlo Levi		Farrar, Straus and Giroux Classics	Required
		<i>The Periodic Table</i>	Primo Levi		Everyman's Library Contemporary Classics	Required
		<i>Keeping House</i>	Clara Sereni		SUNY Women Writers in Translation	Required
715	Jewish History and Life: Patriarchs to Israel	<i>A Short History of the Jewish People</i>	R.P. Scheindlin			Required
		<i>A History of the Jews</i>	P Johnson			Required
728	Reflections on the Civil Rights Movement	<i>Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965</i>	Juan Williams	0-670-81412-1	Viking	Required
740	History of Slavery in America: Jamestown to the Civil War	<i>Many Thousands Gone</i>	Berlin, Ira	0-674-81092-9	The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press	Required
744	Ten Fateful Decisions, 1940-1942	<i>Fateful Choices: Ten Decisions That Changed the World, 1940-1941</i>	Ian Kershaw	978-0-14-311172-0	Penguin	Required
751	<i>The American Soul: Rediscovering the Wisdom of the Founders</i>	<i>The American Soul, Rediscovering the Wisdom of the Founders</i>	Jacob Needleman	1-58542-138-3	Tarcher/Putnam	Required

#	Study Group	Book Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	Notes
766	<i>The Radicalism of the American Revolution</i>	<i>The Radicalism of the American Revolution</i>	Gordon S. Wood	978-0679736882	Vintage	Required
768	From Rifled Muskets to Killer Robots	<i>One Minute to Midnight, Kennedy, Khrushchev and Castro on the Brink of Nuclear War</i>	Michael Dobbs		Vintage	Required
		<i>Downfall</i>	Richard B. Frank		Penguin Books	Recommended
		<i>Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow</i>	Yuval Noah Harari		Harper Collins Publisher	Required
780	History of the Jews of Spain	<i>Exiles in Sepharad</i>	Jeffrey Gorsky	978-0-8276-1251-8	University Nebraska Press	Required
799	Ulysses S. Grant: In Peace and War	<i>Grant</i>	Jean Edward Smith	978-0684-84927-5	Simon and Schuster	Recommended
		<i>Grant</i>	Ron Chernow	9781594204876	Penguin Random House LLC	Recommended
		<i>Ulysses S. Grant</i>	Josiah Bunting III	0-8050-6949-6	Henry Holt and Company LLC	Recommended
		<i>American Ulysses</i>	Ronald White	9780812981254	Random House	Recommended
		<i>The Man Who Saved the Union</i>	H.W. Brands	978-0-307-47515-2	Anchor Books	Recommended
841	Virtue Ethics: A Modern View	<i>After Virtue: A Study In Moral Theory, 3rd Edition</i>	Alasdair MacIntyre	978-0-268-08692-3	University of Notre Dame Press	Required
850	The Way of Quiet Sitting: Spirituality and the Evolution of Human Consciousness	<i>The Autobiography of a Yogi</i>	Paramahansa Yogananda	0-87612-083-4	Self-Realization Fellowship	Required
		<i>Narada's Children: A Visionary Tale of Two Cities</i>	Woody Carter	982730713	Sleepingman's Books	Required
867	Byzantine Philosophy	<i>On First Principles</i>	Origen	978-0870612794	Christian Classics	Required
		<i>Complete Works</i>	Pseudo-Dionysius	978-0809128389	Paulist Press	Required
868	Augustine	<i>Confessions</i>	Augustine	978-0199537822	Oxford	Required
		<i>City of God</i>	Augustine	978-0140400229	Penguin	Required
		<i>Enchiridion</i>	Augustine	978-0895267030	Gateway	Required

# 2020 FEBRUARY SHORTS

## 910 American Democracy: Theory and Reality

**MARK NADEL**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

A recent edition of The Federalist Papers noted that this collection by Jay, Hamilton, and Madison was “accepted as the best guide . . . to how the framers had understood the Constitution.” The papers assert that the Constitution would maximize the twin goals of protecting liberty while establishing an effective national government. This study group will read some of the 85 Federalist Papers together with contemporary material in order to assess how the assumptions about the proper structure of government, the political process they designed, and human nature held up in recent years.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*Mark Nadel is a political scientist who taught American government and public policy at Cornell, Georgetown, and the University of Maryland. He is the co-author of two American government textbooks. Between stints in academia, he has held senior positions at the Government Accountability Office and the Social Security Administration.*

## 911 All Consumer Products Are Not Safe, Why?

**DAVID CALLET**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM**

You might ask: “Doesn’t the government regulate all products to ensure that they are safe?” The answer is: “Yes, but only to a limited extent.” Topics for this course will include: What is the governments’ authority to tell product manufacturers how to make their products? Why are some products regulated more than others? Why does the “law” require some, but not all, products to be “tested” before sale? How does consumers’ demand for inexpensive products adversely affect the safety of the products that we buy? What should happen when a manufacturer becomes aware that its product does not meet all mandatory product safety requirements? What happens during a “product recall?” What “hazardous chemicals” are in the consumer products we buy, and do we have a “right to know” about the presence of these chemicals?

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*David Callet practices product liability and consumer product safety law. He graduated from George Washington University Law School in 1973. After working as a federal government attorney, David was a partner in one DC law firm and then in a second firm. In 2015, David established CalletLaw and has been enjoying the practice of law ever*

*since. David provides comprehensive client representation on all aspects of consumer product safety compliance and is committed to educating the product safety community so that they can understand and comply with their product safety compliance obligations.*

## 920 Deconstructing the News

**WHITNEY FISHBURN**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

Against the backdrop of “fake news” and an exploded marketplace of news and other information outlets, how can we be sure we are accurately informed? Class participants will learn skills, online tools, and newsgathering techniques journalists use to discern fact from fiction in today’s news and non-news environment. Also covered is how to spot important trends; find underreported or unnoticed reports that matter; and understand and boost the role of local news now facing an existential, democracy-destabilizing threat. The primary objective is for participants to feel confident they are forming opinions about their world based on quality information paired with their own observations. This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hour/session

*Prior to publishing the online journal, Documental: Mapping the American States of Mind, Whitney Fishburn was an award-winning reporter and editor of healthcare policy, practice, and economics, for several titles, including Frontline/Medscape and Mergermarket. She also reviews opera and classical music for DC Metro Theater Arts.*

## 921 Coney Island in Fact, Fiction and Film

**JOHN PARASCANDOLA**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM**

This study group will examine the history and depictions of Coney Island from its early origins until the present day. Coney has an iconic place in America’s cultural legacy. From its humble origins as an undeveloped parcel of land, it emerged as the Nation’s playground, initially a vacation paradise for the wealthy and increasingly for the middle and working classes. Its democratic nature made it the amusement park of the masses. After its glory years, Coney fell into a steep decline. Recent years, however, have presaged a revitalization of this once vibrant community. We will explore Coney’s rich and diverse legacy by examination of cultural history, literature, and film. This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*John Parascandola has a PhD in the history of science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has taught at the Universities of Wisconsin and Maryland and served for over 20 years as a historian in the Federal government. He is the coeditor of a book of readings on Coney Island, and has taught three previous classes at OLLI.*

## 922 Understanding Addiction

**ROGER MEYER**

**Feb. 3-6, 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM & Feb. 7, 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM**

The course will start with a brief history of addiction and its consequences, as well as efforts to confront the problems starting in the 19th and 20th centuries. We will include segments of films that highlight problems with alcohol in men and women and opioid addiction, as well as tobacco and cannabis use. We will review the neurobiology underlying addiction, as well the political and socioeconomic factors that contribute to risk of drug/alcohol use and addiction. We will review successful national and community efforts to curtail drug and alcohol use epidemics through prevention; and we will review extant approaches to treatment. In the last session, we will be joined by the first White House Drug Czar. His work has been captured in the book, *The Fix* by Michael Massing.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Commencing at the NIH, Roger Meyer has had a long career in academic medicine, leading NIH-funded clinical research on opioid addiction (at Harvard and more recently at Pennsylvania State) and on alcoholism at the University of Connecticut, while also Chair of Psychiatry. He also served as consultant to three White House offices on addiction.*

## 923 Breaking Baseball's Color Line: From Jackie Robinson to Pumpsie Green

**STEPHEN KLATSKY**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM**

The unwritten rule that prevented blacks from playing major league baseball ended in 1947 with Jackie Robinson playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers. It took the original 16 major league baseball teams 12 years to integrate, culminating with Pumpsie Green debuting with the Boston Red Sox in 1959. This short will examine the lives and careers of the 15 players who were the first for each team (yes, there was one man who was the first for two teams). The players include four members of the Hall of Fame, and several who had the proverbial cup of coffee.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Stephen Klatsky was born in the Bronx and grew up 11 blocks from Yankee Stadium. He has been a lifelong baseball fan. A frequent OLLI study group leader on baseball. Klatsky was a vendor at Shea Stadium, home of the Mets, during high school, sold tickets for the Potomac Nationals, and attended the first ever Nationals spring training game.*

## 924 Nats World Series Before Last October

**BEN BOLEY**

**February 3, 4, 6, and 7, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

The course will, I hope, rekindle your love of the game despite the cold weather. We will consider in relative detail the World Series of 1933, 1925, and 1924, the pennant races that led up to them, and

the players who played in them. Comparisons with the current World Champions will be unavoidable and encouraged.

This short course is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Ben Boley has led several OLLI study groups looking at various facets of our national pastime. His interest in baseball goes back a long way: he grew up in the shadow of Ebbets Field. He is now a passionate Nats fan.*

## 930 The Rise of Digital Money

**NOLVIA SACA**

**February 3-7, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM**

Digital forms of money (Libra, AliPay, M-Pesa, Paxos, Stablecoins, Swish, WeChat Pay, Zelle) are transforming monetary systems, commerce, and banking. They are increasingly in our wallets as well as in the minds of policymakers. Consumers are beginning to benefit from greater convenience, higher speed, and lower costs in making and receiving payments. But how should we think of these new digital forms of money? Are they money at all, and does that matter? Will they really benefit from rapid adoption? If so, what might their implications be, on the banking sector to start with—where money is customarily created and managed today? And how might central banks react?

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*Nolvia N. Saca is a professor of Banking Analysis and Public Policy at the Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocios. She is an economist with strong background on financial issues, working in senior positions at the International Monetary Fund, the Pacific Investment Management Company (PIMCO), and the Central Bank of El Salvador.*

## 940A Introduction to the Cloud

**VICTOR REZMOVIC**

**February 3-5, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

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

This short course is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Victor Rezmovic, PhD, is a technology educator who has spent the last 30 years in academic, corporate, and government settings as a technology trainer and systems consultant. He currently teaches Cyber Security at Montgomery College.*

## 940B Introduction to the Cloud

**VICTOR REZMOVIC**

**February 3-5, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

See course description and study group leader bio for 940A. **This section of the class will use video presentation software from Zoom to broadcast the live class from OLLI over the Internet.**

All you need is a PC or Mac with speakers. A reliable Internet connection will enhance your experience. If you join the class via Zoom you still will be able to submit questions for the instructor via the Zoom chat feature.

This short course is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

## 941 Environmental Challenges and How You Can Help

**HEATHER HECKEL**

**February 3, 4, and 6, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

Our study group will consider some core challenges facing the environment including: wildlife and biodiversity loss, plastic pollution, and climate change. With each challenge we will focus on how we personally can make a difference through individual action, community engagement, and effective activism strategies to influence decision-makers. Participants will be asked to thoughtfully consider our personal “environmental footprints” and our capacity to make a difference. We will focus on broad overviews of environmental issues, sustainable living, and advocacy, and I will provide optional resources for those interested in learning more. This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Heather Heckel, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at American University where she teaches classes on conservation, effective activism, and sustainable development. She is also the volunteer director of a small non-profit organization, Engage Globally, that supports community-led sustainable development in rural Ghana and Costa Rica.*

## 942 SLIME: How Algae Made Our Planet and May Help Save It

**ELIZABETH SEASTRUM**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

Algae transformed the earth before we were even a gleam in evolution’s eye; they oxygenated the oceans and atmosphere, created our fossil fuels, and now feed us as well as much of the marine life we eat. We have transformed them into biofuels and put them in industrial products. But algae can choke our rivers, lakes, and oceans, creating huge dead zones and emitting poisonous toxins. In her book, *SLIME: How Algae Created Us, Plague Us, and Just Might Save Us*, author Ruth Kassinger tackles these issues and takes us on travel and diving expeditions around the world. She concludes with ways that algae may help save us from ourselves. We

will read and discuss the book, and enjoy some visuals on the way.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*Betsy Seastrum is a retired lawyer who worked as a volunteer at the Smithsonian’s Natural History Museum, Department of Paleobiology, Graphics and FossilLabs, from 2005 to 2019. She has led many study groups in the field of evolution and paleobiology.*

## 943 Relativity

**JACQUES READ**

**February 3-5, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

Isaac Newton’s view of the universe was of a fixed space obeying all of Euclid’s ancient propositions, in which clocks could be synchronized at any point desired by conveying a standard clock anywhere needed. When 19th-century experiments yielded results not explainable by Newton’s laws, great efforts were taken by the best physicists of the time to save Newton’s construction. This course will describe those efforts and the response by Einstein in his Special Theory (1905) and General Relativity (1915), and discuss the consequences of those theories.

This short course is a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Jacques Read has taught at Fairleigh Dickinson University and the University of California, performed research at Oak Ridge and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, and been employed by the Atomic Energy Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Energy. He has been a study group leader since 2013.*

## 950 Violin Virtuosos from Paganini to the 21st Century

**ROUMENA GEORGIEVA**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

The art of violin playing has existed for 300 years. Violinists can be categorized in many ways: by nationality, birth date, national “school” pedagogical lineage, or even alphabetically. The violin virtuosos in this course will be presented by birth date, as well as in the historical perspective of women violinists, and in the historical lineage of two groups of American and Russian violinists. The outstanding young Asian violinists at the end of 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century also will be mentioned briefly in this study.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*Roumena Georgieva is an accomplished violinist and a distinguished professor. She is an innovative educator with a 40-year teaching career; an internationally recognized performer with a career spanning several decades as soloist, orchestra member, and concertmaster; a researcher/publisher; and an experienced administrator.*

## 951 The Greatest Performances in Figure Skating History: 1968–2020

GARY CAHN

February 4, 5, and 7, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM

During this class, we'll watch the greatest figure skating performances from the past 52 years. We'll discuss what makes each of these performances among the best of all time. This is your chance to compare these great champions with those who will skate at this year's World Championships, which will be televised March 18–22. You will see performances by Torvill and Dean, Michelle Kwan, Paul Wylie, Peggy Fleming, Scott Hamilton, Kurt Browning, Gordeeva and Grinkov, John Curry, YuNa Kim, Nathan Chen, Alysia Liu, and 20 others. Figure skating history was changed forever by these brilliant champions. Come to this class to hear and see why. This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Gary Cahn has been an avid figure skating fan since he was 18, and has an enormous collection of figure skating videos. He teaches courses on figure skating as well as investing, bridge, digital photography, gardening, and computers.*

## 952 American Art and Film 1900–1950

LISA LEINBERGER

February 3-5, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM

This short will try to show the link and cross pollination of American art and film. It is not necessarily a one-to-one capture of moving image to art nor from art to moving image. It is more of a spirit of the age or zeitgeist as reflected in both urban and rural contexts. The trends of where we choose to live informs our values as well. Movie clips and examples of visual art will be presented in context. This short course is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Lisa Leinberger has an MA in art history and has led other OLLI study groups. She has been a television movie reviewer. She recently worked at the Phillips Collection and has co-written articles on the influence of movies and television on urbanism.*

## 953 Glue, Paper, Scissors: Exploring Paper Collage

SUSAN COLE

February 3-5, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM

A hands-on studio course for art makers of all levels. Using a variety of papers as our medium, we will explore and create three different pieces of finished work, focusing on one project each class. Projects may include:

- **Grab Bag Collage:** Students choose from a carefully curated collection of imagery, paper, and color to create a finished abstract artwork.

- **Valentine Mandala:** Create a charming keepsake for someone you love using the mandala as your guiding design inspiration.
- **Paper Self Portrait:** Using magazines, colored, and patterned papers, enjoy constructing a collage in your own image.
- **Paper Quilt:** Following a quilt-like grid, cut and paste colorful papers into a handsome geometric piece of art.
- **Notan (Expansion of the Square):** The art of Notan is based on the ancient symbol Yin and Yang. Beginning with a simple square, we will cut and create a unique design of mirror imagery with black and white paper.

All materials are included. This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No reading

*Susan Cole was a collage and watercolor artist and teacher from 2005 to April of 2019 at The American University Museum at the Katzen Art Center. Susan has worked as a Co-chair of the Kids@Katzen outreach program since 2013. She has hosted in studio "Pop Up" art classes.*

## 960 French Conversation

EVELYNE BONHOMME

February 3-6, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM

Parlez français et apprenez à surmonter les défis de la langue.

Une bonne connaissance du français vous permettra de suivre les actualités quotidiennes et d'en discuter librement. Vous pourrez aussi participer à des conversations informelles et à des débats animés sur d'autres sujets de votre choix, y compris vos activités sportives et vos films préférés. Tous les cours seront en français.

This short course is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Type:** Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hour/session

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

## 961 Hebrew Conversation Plus

ANAT GELB-PRICE

February 3-7, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM

This conversational study group enables students with previous exposure to Hebrew to improve their ability to conduct conversations. The course stresses speaking and listening. The class will be conducted in Hebrew only, challenging for true beginners, but there will be a lot of repetition and will incorporate finding ways to communicate lacking proper vocabulary. It focuses on everyday vocabulary, street Hebrew, popular songs, and slang. The study group does not use a text book. There is optional homework for each class and those who practice at home will find it easier to speak and understand, especially when traveling to Israel.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hour/session

*A native Hebrew speaker, Anat Gelb-Price has taught Hebrew and English conversation to all ages, in various countries, and in various settings. She has lived in many countries and has learned several foreign languages. She holds two language degrees from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.*

## 962 Seamus Heaney

**DAVID PALMETER**

**February 4-6, 2019 from 1:45 PM to 3:15 PM**

Irish Nobel Prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney (1939–2013) was, at his death, the most revered poet in the “Conqueror’s” language. His gifts for the telling detail describe the lives of people living through civil strife as well as the everyday things of ordinary life. We will read and discuss about 15 poems written between 1966 and 1996. Participants are invited to suggest others as well.

This short course is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Type:** Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hour/session

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

## 963 Jump Start Your Creative Writing

**BARTON VERET**

**February 3-7, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

A lot of us are “wannabe” writers, but find it hard to figure out how to begin. One way is to apply our imagination to our own memories and make them into stories which go far beyond a random personal experience. In this class, we will explore how each of us might try to do something like that. We will first think about interesting people or experiences in our lives and then consider how we can imaginatively turn those memories into a tale that might, just might, become a page turner! Or at least make for a fascinating personal adventure! Hopefully, our discussions will help us to grasp a tale by the tail and start writing!

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hour/session

*Barry Veret worked for USAID and as an international development consultant. He is a lawyer and was an undergraduate philosophy major. In retirement, he has taken up creative writing, publishing a novel, writing short stories and essays, and is currently working on a novella. He has been an OLLI member for many years.*

## 964 American Originals: How World War II Affected the Work of JD Salinger and Kurt Vonnegut

**BRUCE EISEN**

**February 3-5, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

Salinger and Vonnegut were two of our greatest postmodern authors. Both had intense and life-changing experiences in the War that are reflected in their writing. This short course will address the experiences themselves and trace them to the novels and stories

that best incorporate them. In particular, we will focus on Salinger’s short stories “For Esme—with Love and Squalor” and “A Perfect Day for Bananafish,” both of which are found in the paperback volume entitled *Nine Stories*. We will also consider Vonnegut’s *Slaughterhouse-Five* as well as parts of his other novels.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

*Bruce Eisen, a retired attorney, has been a study group leader for many semesters concentrating on opera. He has been deeply interested in American literature since college and has taken and participated in a number of writing and literature courses.*

## 965 Dramatic Readings: Dickens and Others

**LESLIE FRANTZ**

**RICHARD PALMER**

**February 3-7, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

Charles Dickens loved to participate in amateur theatricals and made a fortune doing dramatic readings of his novels. We also think his works, and the works of other 19th-century authors, lend themselves to readings aloud by the Victorian father for the evening entertainment and moral education of his wife and children. In this short, the co-leaders and willing members will recreate the experience of dramatic reading of scenes from Dickens (and others) and analyze the “drama” and “moral” rendered, as the audience encounters the story afresh. Prospective members should plan to choose a favorite mid-19th century, 10-20-minute reading to rehearse for their own reading exercise during the week (or we can supply). Participatory dramatic readings.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1-2 hours/session

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

*Richard R. Palmer is a retired psychiatrist with an interest in theater and culture; he has led several OLLI study groups.*

## 966 On Golden Pond: Understanding Family Relationships

**KAREN GAIL LEWIS**

**February 3-6, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

Using the movie, *On Golden Pond*, we will meet the Thayer family—a husband, wife, and grown (partially estranged) daughter struggling with her hypercritical father. We’ll come to understand the range of family emotions of love, anger, ambivalence. As this family struggles with old hurts, conflicts, and aging, we’ll see how the mother is caught in the gender trap of trying to mediate between the two people she loves the most. We will see excerpts of the film that demonstrate the themes of gender roles, changing parent/adult child roles, and aging/failing health. You will be warmed, charmed, and may shed a few tears.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Dr. Karen Gail Lewis has been a family therapist for more than four decades. She has published numerous books and articles about family relationships. She has taught at OLLI for over a decade.*

## 970 Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and the Progressive Era

**ALAN KOGAN**

**February 3-7, 2019 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM**

After briefly reviewing the post-Reconstruction history that led to the first Progressive Era, 1901–1920, this short will follow the lives and careers of Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, the towering figures of the period. Their contributions to the reforms of the era, political rivalry, and clash over American entry into the Great War will be the subject of the following three sessions. In the final session, Roosevelt and Wilson's wartime roles on the world stage, as well as contributions to the Progressive Era, will be discussed. Along the way, we will meet other figures of the era including William Jennings Bryan, Henry Cabot Lodge, and William Howard Taft.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 1 hour/session

*Alan O. Kogan is a retired psychiatrist who is a history buff. He has taught previous courses on American historical figures including Presidents Wilson and Truman. He enjoys adding psychological history to his presentations.*

## 980 Indian and Late Roman Philosophy Technical Details

**DONALD ROSS**

**February 3-5, 2019 from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM**

The issue of possible influence of Indian philosophical traditions on philosophers of the Late Roman Empire has been debated for many decades. Last semester, OLLI offered a course on Indian and Late Roman philosophy, but that survey could cover only the most general parallels between the two traditions. In this short, we will examine two things: 1) where things stand in the secondary literature, and 2) linguistic connections between Indian and Late Roman material. The latter will involve at least some discussion of the pertinent languages (Sanskrit and Greek) and their interrelationships.

This short course is not a repeat.

**Class Type:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No reading

*Donald Ross received his bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his master's from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include articles on ancient and medieval philosophy. He also has done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.*

# BOOKLIST AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

**Books should be purchased after the member receives the final class assignment letter.** Books will be available at Politics and Prose Bookstore. Order online at [www.politics-prose.com](http://www.politics-prose.com) or visit the store at 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC. 202-364-1919. Politics and Prose is offering OLLI members a 10% discount on books for study groups.

**If a short has no assigned reading, it is not listed below.**

### 910: American Democracy: Theory and Reality

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay, *The Federalist Papers*. Signet Classics, 1961, ISBN: 978-0-451-52881-0.

### 911: All Consumer Products Are Not Safe, Why?

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

### 920: Deconstructing the News

Reading: Less than 1 hour/session

### 921: Coney Island in Fact, Fiction and Film

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

Louis J. Parascandola and John Parascandola, *A Coney Island Reader: Through Dizzy Gates of Illusion*. Columbia University Press, 2015, ISBN: 978-0-231-16573-0.

### 930: The Rise of Digital Money

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

### 942: SLIME: How Algae Made Our Planet and May Help Save It

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

Ruth Kassinger, *SLIME: How Algae Created Us, Plague Us, and Just Might Save Us*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019, ISBN: 9780544432932.

### 950: Violin Virtuosos from Paganini to the 21st Century

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

### 960: French Conversation

Reading: Less than 1 hour/session

### 961: Hebrew Conversation Plus

Reading: Less than 1 hour/session

### 962: Seamus Heaney

Reading: Less than 1 hour/session

Seamus Heaney, *Opened Ground: Selected Poems 1966–1996*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998, ISBN: 978-0-374-52678-8.

### 963: Jump Start Your Creative Writing

Reading: Less than 1 hour/session

### 964: American Originals: How World War II Affected the Work of JD Salinger and Kurt Vonnegut

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

JD Salinger, *Nine Stories*. Little Brown (paper) 1991, 1948, ISBN: 10-0-316-769509.

Kurt Vonnegut, *Slaughterhouse-Five*. Dial Press Trade, Date Unknown, ISBN: 10-0182988523.

### 965: Dramatic Readings: Dickens and Others

Reading: 1-2 hours/session

### 970: Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and the Progressive Era

Reading: Less than 1 hour/session

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**FEBRUARY SHORTS: MONDAY, FEB. 3 – FRIDAY, FEB. 7, 2020**

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