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Where Curiosity Never Retires



OLLI NEWS — NOVEMBER 13, 2020

Letter from the Executive Director

The Board of Directors voted to hold all OLLI at AU programs online through the end of the spring semester. We are eager to return to in-person classes when it is safe, but the circumstances do not allow for it at this point. Notwithstanding, we have proven as a community that we can adapt, and even thrive, in a virtual environment. This online semester offered the same high caliber, engaging classes our members are accustomed to taking in person. You can expect much more of that engagement in the coming months.

We have our January lectures and other programs we are developing for January. And of course, we have our February Shorts and Spring 2021 semester to look forward to. We are happy for the return of our print catalog, which will be mailed in late December.

OLLI at AU is always looking forward, and we are excited for what lies ahead for us.

Please be well and take care,

Tony Long

Propose A Study Group or Short!

The OLLI Curriculum Committee is accepting study group proposals for both the upcoming February Shorts and spring semester. We welcome proposals from both new and veteran Study Group Leaders. For more information about being a study group leader at OLLI, please visit the [Become A Study Group Leader page](#). If you or someone you know is interested in leading a study group and would like to speak with someone, please email olli@american.edu and we will get in touch with you. To propose a study group, please click one of the links below. You will be prompted to login with your OLLI username/password. If you don't yet have an account, you will be able to create one.

The OLLI Board of Directors will determine study group format during its November meeting and those who have submitted a proposal will be notified afterwards. Please note that Study Group Leaders will have the option to conduct their class online regardless of the decided format. The following support will be provided for Study Group Leaders who teach over Zoom:

- Remote training sessions—both group and one-on-one as needed
- Continuous support from OLLI staff, including monitoring study groups remotely to handle troubleshooting
- Co-hosts to assist with muting and Q&A as needed
- Staff available by e-mail or phone
- Tips on remote teaching from current Study Group Leaders
- Step-by-step instructions developed specifically for OLLI
- Remote classes can utilize PowerPoints, videos, music, discussion, and guest speakers.
- Classes can require a book if it can be found for purchase on Amazon or another online retailer.
- Documents can also be sent to class members using an e-mail list OLLI provides.

February 2021 Shorts

The Feb. Shorts will be February 1-5. Shorts meet 3-5 times over the course of one week.

[Click here for the February Shorts Proposal Form](#)

Spring 2021

The spring semester will be March 1-May 7, 2021. Study groups are 8-10 weeks long and meet once a week.

[Click here for the Spring Proposal Form](#)

*****Proposal deadline for both sessions: November 29, 2020.*****

SGL Gifts

If you would like to make a gift to your SGLs, please do so on our [website](#). **SGL gifts will be accepted through Mon., Dec. 7.** Please note that you will need to make a separate contribution for each SGL. We will collect all of the donations, write a check to each SGL, and mail the check with any notes from members to the SGL. Thank you.

Final Feedback Due Dec. 6

As you finish your study group(s) for the semester, please take a few minutes to complete the final feedback form that is available on the OLLI website [here](#). **Feedback will be accepted through Sunday, December 6.**

Study Group Leaders, the Curriculum Committee, and the office staff greatly appreciate any feedback that you provide and thoroughly review all of the comments. Study Group Leaders have often told us how much they enjoy reading positive comments from their class members at the end of a session. Feedback can be words of encouragement, letting SGLs know what you most enjoyed about the course, as well constructive criticism, if any, that might be helpful for the next time.

Last Dates of Fall Courses

View a [list of Fall courses' last dates](#). If a class is not listed, please ask the SGL directly.

Friday Lecture Recordings Now Available

Recordings of **Friday Lectures** are now available on our [Lectures webpage](#). The link for the recording is below the lecture's description.

Today's Lecture: Fanchon Silberstein Art inSight: Understanding Art and Why It Matters Friday, Nov. 13 - 1:30 PM

Art inSight: Understanding Art and Why It Matters

Fanchon Silberstein

Friday, November 13 - 1:30 PM

Zoom link: <https://olli-dc-org.zoom.us/j/94149275155>

Webinar ID: 941 4927 5155

In an illustrated talk, Fanchon Silberstein will discuss ways to collaborate with artists by describing what we see. Close attention can create a dialogue that leads to insights into diverse ways of interpreting the world among individuals and across cultures. She looks forward to hearing your thoughts and questions.

Fanchon's recently published book, *Art inSight*, explores pathways to understanding art when, as beholders, we engage in direct and active observation. The book delves into art from many times and cultures to explore ways its makers saw the world and how contemporary artists see ours. An encounter with art is like meeting a stranger, and questioning strangeness can lead to greater understanding of ourselves and others.

Fanchon Silberstein is an educator and writer who designed an innovative workshop, "Art and Intercultural Communication" for international audiences. She was Director of the US Department of State's Overseas Briefing Center where she designed and taught workshops for employees and families to prepare them for service abroad. She served on the board of the National MultiCultural Institute, and was a docent for the Smithsonian Institution's Hirshhorn Museum, chairing the program during her tenure and assisting museum educators in training new docents. She holds a BA in English and Art History from the University of Michigan and a Master's in Special Education from George Washington University. She lived and worked in Southeast Asia, Pakistan and Brazil.

Lecture: Dorothy B. Gilliam Thoughts on Journalism and Diversity Friday, Nov. 20 - 1:30 PM

Thoughts on Journalism and Diversity: A Conversation with Judy Havemann
Dorothy B. Gilliam
Friday, November 20 - 1:30 PM

During her distinguished career, Dorothy Gilliam has become a revered icon in American journalism, a fierce advocate for women's rights, a fervent civil rights activist, and a renowned author.

“Journalism took me places that I would not normally go,” Gilliam says. She began her career in the segregated South, as a reporter for the Memphis Tri-State Defender, a black-owned newspaper. There, she covered major civil rights events, including the Little Rock Nine, the federally enforced integration of Arkansas’ public schools. In 1961, she became The Washington Post’s first female black reporter. An early assignment was covering James Meredith’s integration of Ole Miss. At the time, Mississippi was infamously known in American black circles as “The Land of Black Death.” On the assignment, skirting Klu Klux Klan members, Gilliam literally “slept with the dead,” catching a few hours of rest nightly in a black funeral parlor.

Over 30 years at The Post, Gilliam moved from reporter to editor to columnist. She also served as president of the National Association of Black Journalists and founding director of the Young Journalists Development Project, The Post’s long-term initiative to educate, cultivate, and hire aspiring young minority journalists. Gilliam’s most recent book is her memoir, Trailblazer: A Pioneering Journalist’s Fight to Make the Media Look More like America. She earned her bachelor’s in journalism from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo., and her master’s at Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism.

No Registration is required to receive a Zoom invitation. Zoom links for the day's lecture will be included in every Friday's (morning) newsletter. Please save your newsletter.

OLLI's Second Online Happy Hour Thursday, Nov. 19 - 4:30 PM

Join your friends at OLLI, for our second virtual OLLI Happy Hour on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 4:30 pm. Jeff Porter, Chair of OLLI’s Social Committee, will host a discussion on the election results. OLLI’s Happy Hour online forum is an informal event intended for members to gather socially and share their thoughts and insights on designated topics.

Registration is required in order to receive a Zoom link. [Register](#) by Wed., Nov. 18, at 3:00 PM. Registrants will be e-mailed the Zoom link the morning of the Happy Hour.

Serendipity! Joe Snyder Genghis Khan: The Man Who Conquered Eurasia Wednesday, Dec. 2 - 3:30 PM

Genghis Khan: The Man Who Conquered Eurasia

Joe Snyder

Wednesday, Dec. 2 - 3:30 PM

Genghis Khan, who conquered a huge part of the Eurasian continent, has a reputation as a fierce warrior and a cruel ruler. He was both, but he was also an exceptional administrator whose rule facilitated long-range trade and eventually led to the European colonial penetration of Asia.

Joe Snyder was a State Department Foreign Service Officer for thirty years, serving in Thailand, Iran, Taiwan, Malaysia and Austria, as well as Washington. After retirement from government service he was President of the American Australian Association in New York, Executive Director of the Asia Society’s Washington Center and Director of Asia Programs at the Atlantic Council. For the past eleven years he has been a lecturer on cruise ships, private jet tours and Smithsonian Journeys land tours.

Registration is required in order to receive a Zoom invitation. [Register](#) by Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 8:00 AM. Registrants will be e-mailed the Zoom invitation the morning of the Serendipity.

Eisenhower Museum Virtual Tour Wednesday, Dec. 7 - 1:00 PM

The Eisenhower museum, is pleased to offer a complimentary, virtual tour for OLLI members. Designed by world-renowned architect Frank Gehry, the **Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial** encapsulates Eisenhower's legacy in a four-acre urban park at the base of Capitol Hill. The memorial features a one-of-a-kind stainless steel tapestry depicting beaches of D-Day, heroic-sized bronze sculptures, and stone bas reliefs. This memorial was many years in the planning and opened in September of this year.

Rich in design and symbolism, we are fortunate to have with us **Victoria Tigwell, the Deputy Executive Director of the Eisenhower Memorial Commission**, to tell us in depth about the planning, design and building of the memorial. Join us for this fascinating look into Washington's new memorial.

[Register](#) by Friday, Dec. 4 at 3:00 PM. Zoom links will be emailed to registrants the morning of Monday, Dec. 7.

Hamlet, Wed., Dec. 9, 4:00 PM

You are invited to tea at Elsinore. No actual tea but a recorded performance of Hamlet by William Shakespeare will be open to OLLI members on Wed., Dec. 9, at 4:00 pm via Zoom. Which Hamlet? To be decided by popular vote of the Shakespeare in Performance Study Group from among more than 10 contenders the group has been enjoying and discussing all semester. *Come find out what all the buzz has been about.* **No registration required. Zoom link will be included in the Fri., Dec. 4, newsletter.**

Invitation to Participate in Research

A group of academic researchers (from [Wichita State](#) and [George Mason Universities](#)) are currently recruiting healthy, older people for a series of studies and focus groups, all conducted remotely. We are investigating a range of topics related to cognitive aging, specifically social isolation and interventions aimed at reducing the effects of social isolation and promoting well-being. As with all approved research, participants can withdraw at any time.

Volunteers will be benefiting their peers as well as the greater scientific community and the researchers are happy to make a small donation to the preferred charity of any one who recruits five or more people for our studies.

Contact: Pam Greenwood, Associate Professor of Psychology, George Mason University, phone 703-993-4268 or email gmuarglab@gmail.com.

American University News & Events

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

AU EVENTS [Events Calendar](#)

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Autonomous Vehicle Policy Forum

Nov. 17-18, 1:30-5:00 PM ET

Autonomous vehicles are becoming a reality, and as more “connected” cars take to the road, the implications for policy – from transportation to public safety – are numerous. Join the School of Public Affairs at American University on November 17-18 for two half-days of panel discussions on what the emergence of AVs means for the policy and regulatory landscape of the United States. Panels include:

- NOVEMBER 17, 1:30 PM ET
Moving America with Autonomous Freight Vehicles: A Discussion with Robert Brown (TuSimple), Çetin Meriçli (Locomation), Monika Darwish (Embark), and Daniel Goff (Kodiak)
- NOVEMBER 17, 3:30 PM ET
How Are Cities and States Preparing for AVs? Featuring DC, MD, and VA representatives
- NOVEMBER 18, 1:30 PM ET
Last Mile Delivery: The Emergence of Delivery Bots during COVID-19 featuring Nuro, Kiwibot, and Starship
- NOVEMBER 18, 3:30 PM ET
Fireside Chat with Michelle Peacock, Head of Global Policy, Waymo, and Selika Talbott, Professorial Lecturer, SPA

RSVP at <https://American.swoogo.com/autonomous>

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Examining Antisemitism

This fall, AU is bringing together distinguished scholars of Israeli, American, and European history to examine antisemitism over the past seventy-five years in a series of conversations. [Learn more.](#)

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Join American University Library as we begin our **2020-2021 Exploring Social Justice** series! This series, co-sponsored by the American University Library, the Center for Diversity & Inclusion, and the Kay Spiritual Life Center, brings exemplary leaders from diverse backgrounds who have advocated for various human rights and social justice issues. [Register today!](#)

CENTER FOR ISRAEL STUDIES

American University students are learning online this fall and the AU [Center for Israel Studies](#) invites you to learn along with them during our many [virtual webinars](#). To receive notices about our online events [sign up for our event newsletter here](#). To receive notices about our online events sign up for our event newsletter here and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#). We'd love you to join us!

Israel in the Shadow of COVID-19 Just the Facts

Maryland Israel Development Center

Tuesday, November 17, 12:00 - 1:00 PM EST, Zoom

The coronavirus crisis has affected nearly all aspects of Israeli society, from the healthcare and education systems, to the labor market and economy, at large. This panel presentation by Israeli and US experts will provide an assessment of Israel's response to the pandemic. [Click Here to RSVP](#)

The 21%: The Lives of Arab Citizens of Israel

Breaking Bread, Film Screening and Discussion

Thursday, November 19, 1:00 - 2:00 PM EST

The event will include a screening of Breaking Bread, an inspiring documentary about Dr. Nof Atamna-Ismaeel- the first Muslim Arab to win Israel's MasterChef- who is on a quest to make social change through food. [Click here to learn more and RSVP.](#)

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

- Big World" **podcasts** shine a spotlight on complex ideas and issues that matter. Each podcast features an expert from the School of International Service breaking down a big, important topic into small bite sizes. [Listen.](#)
- [Watch](#) videos of past SIS Events
- **Transatlantic Dialogue on Race**
Streams online at 10 a.m. EST, November 16
SIS and the Antiracist Research and Policy Center welcome Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Maryland, and two European Parliament members to discuss approaches to social and racial justice. [Learn more and Register.](#)
- **International Education Week 2020 Social Lunch**
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm, EST, Tuesday, November 17
This virtual 'social lunch' is a chance for students to meet others with an interest in experiencing life in another country. Students will meet in a small group discussion format with several changes of groups to allow the opportunity to mix and mingle. Open to students who have studied abroad, students interested in study abroad, international students, and AU community members interested in international education. [Learn More and Register.](#)

AU MUSEUM

During the museum's closure, [AU Museum](#) is bringing you exhibition highlights and selections from its permanent collection on its digital platforms. Until the museum reopens, connect at [Museum@Home](#) and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#). You'll find e-book catalogs, artist-inspired children's art activities, playlists inspired by exhibiting artists, information on virtual events, and more.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MISSION

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

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

Website www.oli-dc.org | Phone 202-895-4860 | E-mail oli@american.edu

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