

# FALL 2021 STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

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## 100 POLITICS, LAW & GOVERNMENT

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### 104: The Knowledge Gap: The Hidden Cause of America's Broken Education System—and How to Fix It

**NATALIE WEXLER**

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

**October 6**

**Online Only**

We've long been trying to improve education outcomes and narrow gaps between students from wealthy and poor families, without success. There's a basic problem that's been overlooked: elementary schools focus on supposed reading comprehension skills like "finding the main idea" rather than trying to teach kids anything substantive. Yet scientific studies show the key factor in comprehension isn't skill, it's knowledge. Children from more educated families pick up academic knowledge at home, but others rely on school for that. And in our system, they're the least likely to get it there. We'll explore how this situation came about—and how we can turn education into the engine of social mobility that it should be. ***This study group has a high class size capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Natalie Wexler is an education writer and the author of The Knowledge Gap: The Hidden Cause of America's Broken Education System—And How to Fix It. She is a senior contributor to Forbes, and her work has appeared in The Atlantic, The New York Times, and other publications. She has spoken on education before a wide variety of groups.*

### 110: Contemporary Issues in Law, Government, and Policy

**SUSAN ROLNICK, OLLI COORDINATOR**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

Topics introduced by American University's School of Public Affairs will include: The Fate of the Filibuster; Re-Envisioning the American Policing Model: What Needs to Change and How Will It

Be Accomplished?; The Heartland Table: Telling the Story of the American Midwest Through Food; Authoritarian Challenges to US Democracy; Teacher Diversity and Student Success; Cruel and Unusual: The Impact of COVID-19 on Prisoners and Immigration Detainees; Cryptocurrency and the Nexus to Terrorism; Policing in America; Rebalance to Asia: The Overlooked Role of US Territories and Small Island Nations in US Security Considerations; and Assessing Biden's Relationship with Congress. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Ranked among the top schools of its kind, American University's School of Public Affairs offers education in the fields of political science, public administration, public policy, and justice. It was founded in 1934 with a handful of graduate students.*

### 111: Reconstruction and Its Legacies: The 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments

**DAVID POMERANTZ**

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

**September 24**

**Online Only**

The era of Reconstruction lasted from the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 to the withdrawal of Federal troops after the election of Rutherford B. Hayes in 1877. In this period, America abolished slavery and tried to repair the citizenship and voting rights of African Americans before reintegrating the 11 secessionist states and the former Confederate soldiers and supporters who lived there. In the 75 years that followed, the gains of Reconstruction were largely overturned by Black codes, Jim Crow laws, and violence. The 13th, 14th and 15th amendments, however, rank among the enduring legacies of the era. We'll study how those amendments were understood when proposed and how they came to be interpreted today. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*David Pomerantz taught political philosophy at SUNY Stony Brook in the early 1980s. He then worked for the House of Representatives, the House Rules Committee, and the House Appropriations.*

## 112: Understanding Asia

RITA HADDEN

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

September 21

Online Only

Why is Asia thriving? How have China, Japan, India, and their Asian neighbors changed? What is China after? Join us for intelligent conversation on issues such as: How has Asian economic development impacted poverty, family, and gender patterns? Status of health and healthcare in Asia? Where are key Asian flash points? How is Asia dealing with disastrous pollution? What major changes could move Asia forward faster and better? Cultural Expectations: East vs. West. This study group will cover political, social, cultural, health, business, technology, and historical topics. Each week, class members receive articles via email that will be used for class discussion. Reading, class participation, and email address are required. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Rita Hadden is Chinese-American, born in Hanoi, and lived in Saigon, Phnom Penh, Hong Kong, Thailand, China, and the US. She has traveled widely in Asia and worked in China for a year. She was President of the Asian American Forum in Washington, DC, and has lectured on Asian topics at OLLI for 10 years. Rita did management consulting for 40 years.*

## 113: What Is to Be Done

STEPHEN ELKIN

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

September 29

Hybrid

In this course we will first establish that the American Republic is in serious decline. What then should be done? We will consider a variety of paths of reform running from changes in institutions to reforms of the party system. We also will consider whether our understanding of citizenship has been corrupted, and wonder whether statesmanship can save us.

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.*

## 142: Intelligence and the US Intelligence Community

MARK ROTH

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

September 23

Online Only

This course presents an overview of intelligence activities and the US Intelligence Community provided by a retired US Intelligence Community senior executive. The key objective of this course is to understand the “ground truth” about intelligence and the Intelligence Community rather than what you may know from movies, TV, fiction, and the news media. We will examine the history and evolution of the field of intelligence, intelligence functions (e.g., analysis, collection, counter-intelligence, covert action), the organizational structure of the US Intelligence Community and oversight mechanisms, and the relationship between the Intelligence Community and its decision-maker customers. The required book is available for free download here: [https://www.afio.com/publications/AFIO's\\_Intelligence\\_Study\\_Guide\\_ver1\\_for\\_public\\_release\\_2020July07.pdf](https://www.afio.com/publications/AFIO's_Intelligence_Study_Guide_ver1_for_public_release_2020July07.pdf). ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Mark Roth is a 34-year veteran and former senior executive of the US Intelligence Community. For the first half of his career he was an all-source intelligence analyst, and in the second half, he managed inter-agency analytic, collection, and strategic human capital projects.*

## 151: Middle East Institute Scholars Seminar

VIRGINIA DEROZE, OLLI COORDINATOR

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

September 27

Online Only

In one of OLLI's most popular offerings, scholars from the Middle East Institute (MEI) will present in-depth analyses on a wide-ranging set of issues. MEI Scholars include former ambassadors, university professors, journalists, and senior government officials who are experts in their fields. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Founded in 1946, the Middle East Institute is the oldest Washington-based institution dedicated solely to the study of the Middle East. Its*

founders laid out a simple mandate: "To increase knowledge of the Middle East among the citizens of the United States and to promote a better understanding between the people of these two areas."

## 160: Education Inequality and Demographic Transformation

**MARTIN BLANK**

**MICHAEL USDAN**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

The class explores challenging education issues that will influence the future of our 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 urban education; charters and choice; persistent racial and socioeconomic segregation; the school-community relationship; and student assessment beyond testing. We will scrutinize the impact of Covid-19 and racial tensions on public schools as well as the implications of President Biden's early childhood and community college proposals.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

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

*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.

## 171: Current Events and Public Policy I

**JEFFREY PORTER**

**LEONARD KING**

**LOUIS NEVINS**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

Lou Nevins, Leonard King, 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.

*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.

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

*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 10 years.

## 172: Current Events and Public Policy II

**ARTHUR LEVINE**

**JEFFREY PORTER**

**LOUIS NEVINS**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

Lou Nevins, Art Levine, and Jeff 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.

*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.

*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.

*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 10 years.

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

**PENNY HANSEN**

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

**September 21**

**Hybrid**

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.

## 185: Making a Difference? The Role of Nonprofit Organizations

**JOE BELDEN**

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

**September 21**

**Hybrid**

The 1.5 million 501(c) nonprofits in the US employ more than 11 million people and take in billions a year in donations and other revenue. This study group will focus on the origins, impacts, successes, and failures of these groups. Guest speakers will include leaders and founders of prominent NGOs—both in DC and from around the US—reflecting on how they started or led

their groups, what they do, and what their work has achieved. Most nonprofits are small; over 65% have annual expenses of under \$100,000. The study group will emphasize anti-poverty, environmental, and human rights nonprofits—and also examine corporate philanthropy, private and community foundations, and nonprofit connections to government. ***The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Joe Belden** has led several OLLI study groups since 2017. He worked for affordable housing, rural poverty, and food policy nonprofits—and still writes regularly on those issues. As Deputy Executive Director of the Housing Assistance Council from 1989-2015, he led efforts in fundraising, policy, planning, management, research, grantmaking, lending, and training.

## 196: The Shocking Emmett Till Story Told Through the Lens of the Law

**RONALD COLLINS**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

Decades before there was George Floyd, there was Emmett Till. It is said that the modern civil rights movement began in earnest in the wake of the brutal murder of 14 year-old Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955, the year following the *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling. These seven lectures retell the story of that tragic event and the five-day trial of the two men (Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam) accused and acquitted of Till's murder. The trial transcript from the case was missing for decades; it was not found until 2004 and not publicly released until 2007. Drawing on that transcript and news accounts from the time, the lectures will examine the role of the two radically different sheriffs who warred over jurisdiction, the character of the judge who presided over the case, the prosecutors and how they presented their arguments and surprise witnesses, and the defense's strategies (legal, rhetorical, and racial) for swaying the all-white male jury. The lectures will center on the witnesses and the alleged victim (Carolyn Bryant). It will focus as well on the two defendants—what they said and did before, during, and after the trial. Moreover, there will be an additional focus on other unindicted actors involved in the Till kidnapping and murder. The discussion also will examine the FBI's 2004 reopening of the case to determine if other individuals were involved. The FBI investigation of the Till murder was not

completed until 2020. Finally, the Till murder is a story about a series of journalistic lies perpetuated by William Bradford Huie's *Look* magazine articles and how they defined the history of the Emmett Till tragedy for decades.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Ronald Collins** is the former Harold S. Shefelman Scholar at the University of Washington School of Law. His areas of specialty are jurisprudence and constitutional law. He has authored some eleven books including *The Death of Discourse* (1996), *The Judge: 26 Machiavellian Lessons* (2017), *Robotica: Speech Rights and Artificial Intelligence* (2018), and *People v. Ferlinghetti: The Fight to Publish Allen Ginsberg's HOWL* (2019). He is also the co-director of the *History Book Festival*, book editor for *SCOTUSblog*, and editor of *ATTENTION*, a bi-monthly online journal on the life and legacy of Simone Weil.

## 199: How Literature and Drama Can Illuminate Politics and Government

**JAMES VERDIER**

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

**September 24**

**In-Person Only**

The study group will explore and discuss how literature and drama can illuminate politics and government in ways that journalism, history, and biography often cannot. We will discuss how authors such as Ward Just, Anthony Trollope, Robert Penn Warren, C.P. Snow, Edwin O'Connor, Hilary Mantel, and William Shakespeare have provided insights into the character, incentives, motivations, and behavior of the inhabitants of the world of politics and government in a variety of different times and contexts. We will consider how much of what the authors describe depends on time and context, how much is more fundamental, and how to tell the difference.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**James Verdier** has taught at Harvard and Princeton, and has worked in the US House and Senate, the Congressional Budget Office, and state government in Michigan and Indiana. For the last three decades he has assisted states and the federal government in designing and implementing Medicaid and Medicare policies and programs.

## 200 PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, & CULTURE

### 201: The Evolution of Mind

**CATHARINE KEATLEY**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

What is consciousness? Did it evolve along with the evolution of our bodies? If yes, why and how? What are the origins of our minds and subjective experience? Do other animals have minds, feelings, consciousness? Peter Godfrey-Smith, author of *Other Minds*, has written a new book, *Metazoa*, in which he explores these questions through observations of animals from different phyla, sponges to vertebrates. He interweaves his sensitive, delightful experiences with these animals together with theories of cognitive evolution and mind. I will supplement with information from neuroscience. This new approach to the study of consciousness provides us with provocative ideas bringing together mind, evolution, and subjectivity.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Catharine Keatley** (PhD) has taught, conducted research, and administered programs related to cognition and language learning. At OLLI, she has taught a course on *Theories of Consciousness* for the past three years.

### 207: The Psychology of Parenting Adult Children

**ANNE KENDALL**

**CAROL WEISSBROD**

**Eight Wednesdays (1:45 PM - 3:00 PM)**

**September 22**

**In-Person Only**

Our children will always be our children. Yet, our children emerge as adults, and through our own aging process and their own development, different issues in need for closeness, consultation and advice, perspective, and priority emerge. Key thematic issues that inform the relationships between parents and their adult children are questions of—whose life is it?, validation, and boundaries. This course will explore these issues from the perspective of the parent and the adult-child, using information from the fields of Developmental and Clinical Psychology. The course format will involve lecture, discussion of readings, and participant sharing of parent-adult/child issues relevant to thematic course content. **This**

### **study group meets from 1:45 to 3:00 PM.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Anne Kendall** is a clinician at *The Wake Kendall Group* where she works with adolescents and adults in individual and family therapy as well as doing parenting and couples work. She co-authored, *Effective Parenting for the Hard-to-Manage Child*, with Georgia DeGangi. Anne is also a mother, in-law, and grandmother.

**Carol Weissbrod** is Associate Professor Emeritus in the American University Department of Psychology, where during her tenure she was, at different times, Director of Clinical Training for the Clinical Psychology doctoral program and Department Chair. Currently, she is in Clinical Psychology practice in DC. She is also a mother, step-mother, in-law, and grandmother.

## **232: Workshop: Finding Your Family History**

**SUSAN GOODMAN**

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

**September 24**

**Online Only**

This workshop aims to help members begin finding and recording basic genealogy data (birth, death, and census material); using free resources in libraries and archives as well as the internet; and contacting other researchers working on related families. Members discuss user-friendly ways to share what they have found with their own families and others by creating DIY-printed booklets, as well as digital online photo albums, blogs, and audio recordings. Membership to **Ancestry.com** is suggested although not required. Members may opt to give the SGL access to their trees for help during class and by email after the end of the course.

This study group is a repeat.

**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**

**SRIMATI KARUNA**

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

**September 24**

**In-Person Only at the Gandhi Memorial Center**

Join us for an exploration of the rich cultural diversity of India. Each week we will engage in interactive sessions with presentations

by musicians, dancers, artists, and scholars from the Indian sub-continent. Come engage with performers of Indian classical music and dance. Enjoy subjects by guest speakers such as Indian art, architecture, textiles, Gandhian philosophy, and the spiritual heritage of India. Each session will add new layers of perspective of the culture and tradition. **This study group will take place at the Gandhi Memorial Center, 4748 Western Ave., 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.

## **242: Marketing II**

**MONICA BATRA**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

This class is a continuation of Marketing from the spring—what makes a big brand succeed? The focus will continue to be on consumer packaged-goods companies and will include some service industries where we will explore how these brands disrupted the industry, or have stayed relevant, while learning about marketing concepts that have helped these brands succeed. The class will have the same format of lecture, TED talk videos, and commercials as Marketing I. We will explore different brands from the spring course and continue to learn about marketing concepts not presented in the earlier course. Class will follow the same case-study approach as the Spring where marketing concepts will be integrated into a case study where examples will illustrate the concept being discussed. Both previous and new class members welcome!

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Monica Batra** is a market research consultant who has worked at CPG companies including Procter & Gamble, Clorox, and Andrew Jergens, and a variety of technology start ups and B2B firms. Monica has taught and guest lectured at various graduate and undergraduate marketing courses at UC Berkeley, UCLA, University of San Francisco, and Kent State.

## 244: Survivors and Descendants of the Holocaust: A Search for Meaning

**EDWARD FEINBERG**

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

**September 27**

**In-Person Only**

This study group focuses on the lives of Holocaust Survivors and their descendants. Overarching question: What is the legacy of immeasurable loss? This highly interactive class will feature presentations, review of articles, and discussion.

1. Catastrophe and Survival: 1939-1945
2. Concept of trauma and its application to Survivor families
3. Early post-war Survivor experiences: Silence, disbelief
4. Later post-war experiences: Eichmann Trial, Aging of Survivors
5. Existential angst: Faith after Auschwitz
6. Inter-generational transmission of trauma
7. Resilience: Holocaust commemoration, grandchildren
8. What is the legacy of immeasurable loss?

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Edward Feinberg, PhD, has been an OLLI participant since 2017. He is a retired psychologist who devoted his professional career to the management of programs and provision of services to children with disabilities and their families. A volunteer at the US Holocaust Museum for five years, he has been a docent since 2018.*

## 250: TED Talks

**CAROLINE MINDEL**

**LYNN LEWIS**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

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 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 several 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. TED Talks are available on the Internet and public radio, among other outlets. **Please note that both TED Talks classes will view and discuss similar subjects.**

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: TED Talks

**CAROLINE MINDEL**

**DIANE SWAN**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

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 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 several 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. TED Talks are available on the Internet and public radio, among other outlets. **Please note that both TED Talks classes will view and discuss similar subjects.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**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.*

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

## 252: Exploring Our Hidden Brain: How Emotions Shape Our Decisions

**CARL WEICHEL**

**KIM WEICHEL**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

How do our emotions influence our behavior and life choices? How does our "hidden brain" make important decisions in our lives without our awareness? In this course 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 draw 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 podcasts, review research, and have interactive discussions.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** Less than 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. Carl has led OLLI study groups on *Political Polarization, The 1960s Decade, Eastern Thought, The New York Times Book Review, Cultural Complexities, and David Brooks’ Writings.*

**Kim Weichel** is a social entrepreneur and nonprofit leader in the fields of women’s leadership, cross-cultural dialogue, citizen diplomacy, and peacebuilding, and is a published author. In addition to *The Hidden Brain*, she has co-led OLLI courses on *The UN, The 1960s Decade, and Exploring Our Cultural Complexities.*

## 289: Understanding Addiction

**ROGER MEYER**

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

**September 29**

**In-Person Only**

This course will commence with a brief history of addiction and its consequences, including efforts to confront the problems of alcohol and opioid addictions in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. We will include segments of films that highlight problems with alcohol in men and women, opioid addiction, and other substance-use disorders. We plan to amplify these stories through personal testimony by active members of Alcoholics Anonymous during one of the classes. We will review the neurobiology underlying addiction, as well as the political and socioeconomic factors that contribute to the risk of drug/alcohol use and addiction; and, we will review successful and failed national, community, and personal efforts to address drug and alcohol use, as well as epidemics. We will review extant approaches to treatment, as well as a novel approach to the prevention of substance use among the young. In the final session, we will be joined by the first White House Drug Czar, whose work has been captured in the book, *The Fix*, by Michael Massing.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Commencing at the NIH, Roger Meyer has had a long career in academic medicine, leading NIH-funded clinical research on cannabis in heavy and casual smokers at Harvard, on opioid addiction at Harvard and more recently at Penn State, and on alcoholism at the University of Connecticut, where he also served as Chair of Psychiatry. Dr. Meyer also served as consultant to three White House Offices on Addiction.*

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

**BRAD BICKFORD**

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

**September 20**

**In-Person Only**

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. ***This study group may have a copied materials fee between \$5-20. If this is the case, class members will be sent more information after the lottery.***

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, 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, Sierra Club, and Widowed Persons Outreach at Sibley Hospital.

# 300 ECONOMICS & PERSONAL FINANCE

## 350: Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income

**DAVID HURWITZ**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

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 DANAY**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

Coupling discoveries in human psychology with studies of consumer and market behavior, the development of behavioral economics over the last 50 years has opened up new ways to look at decisionmaking. 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 investments 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 at AU and other senior programs in the metropolitan area since retirement in 2007.*

## 370: Climate Change: Some Major Health and Economic Aspects

**JEROME PAULSON**

**RONALD RIDKER**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

This will be a two-part, eight-week course. The first four sessions, to be led by Jerry Paulson, will cover the impacts of climate change with an emphasis on the health consequences, environmental justice, and how one might get involved (based on presentations by leaders of local organizations). Reading materials will be provided by email. The second four sessions, to be led by Ronald Ridker, will focus on two other dimensions: Decarbonization (is it necessary; can it be done; what policies would be needed) and what the international community has done so far and plans to do. Readings will include Bill Gates' new book, *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster*, and materials to be sent by email. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Jerome A. Paulson, MD, FAAP, is Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics and Emeritus Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health at the George Washington University Schools of Medicine and of Public Health. He created the American Academy of Pediatrics Program on Climate Change and Health.*

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

## 377: Understanding Trade Issues

**P. LANCE GRAEF**

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

**September 20**

**Hybrid**

The World Trade Organization was once the baseline for world

trade but was sidelined by the former US Administration. Is it still relevant, especially in the context of US/China economic and trade competition? The unresolved “trade war” between the two only has heightened the differences in the two systems of economic organization. Will other trade agreements—CFTPP, RCEP, USMCA—play an important role in the competition? What about US discussions with Japan, EU, and the UK? Were TPP and NAFTA the worst trade agreements ever negotiated? Previous participants are not only welcome but encouraged to attend the discussions. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Lance Graef** was part of the USTR negotiations team at the Tokyo and Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. He has consulted on international trade issues, trade agreements, trade policy analysis and negotiation, and regional trade agreements. He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Somalia and Peace Corps staff in Washington and the Philippines.

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

### Climate Change: Some Major Health and Economic Aspects

**JEROME PAULSON**

**RONALD RIDKER**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

For study group description and Study Group Leader’s bio, see 370.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

### 403: Drinking Water from A to Z. What You Should Know. Is It Safe?

**JOSEPH COTRUVO**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

The class will overview drinking water history, composition, chemical and microbial quality, treatment, and safety regulations.

Is drinking water in the US and the DC area safe? What should you know before you buy bottled water and home treatment devices? It will address water shortages, desalination and water recycling, water DNA analyses, and also coronavirus tracking in sewage. It will review several publicized drinking water issues including: Flint and lead (what really happened), Chrome VI (Erin Brockovich), perfluorochemicals (PFAS), algal blooms and toxins, perchlorate, microplastic particles in food and water, legionellosis, and disinfection by-products.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Joseph Cotruvo** was Director of EPA’s Drinking Water Standards Division after passage of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and retired former Director of EPA’s Risk Assessment Division. He is a Water, Environment and Public Health Consultant, holds a PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry, and is Board Certified in Environmental Science.

## 415: Science and Public Policy

**ARTHUR KATZ**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

Precision medicine, climate change, artificial intelligence/machine learning, cybersecurity, the microbial world/Covid 19, and the challenge of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons are topics that epitomize the intersection of science and public policy. These topics and others will be examined as emblematic of the critical role science plays in almost every aspect of our world, and the opportunities and challenges it poses for society. The course will provide a balanced examination of both the underlying science, and how those advances pose public-policy challenges and, in some cases, very real personal choices. In a world that increasingly sidelines fact-based science understanding these connections is important.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Arthur Katz**, PhD (chemistry) and MS (meteorology), worked almost 40 years with science and public policy in the US Department of Energy and predecessor agencies, dealing with areas such as international collaboration for fusion energy and the Human Genome Project. He is also the author of the book *Life After Nuclear War*.

## 426: The Human Body

**MARJORIE SHAW**

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

**September 20**

**Hybrid**

The best way to partner with your physician in guarding your health is to understand the basic workings of your body. So many well-educated people know little about their own insides! This course will be inspired by readings from Bill Bryson's book *The Body: A Guide For Occupants*. Class sessions will supplement the readings with deeper explanations of how major organs function, using images and videos to convey structure/function relationships. This course is for beginners; no prior knowledge is assumed and the reading is easy.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Marjorie D. Shaw, PhD, is retired from teaching anatomy at Howard University College of Medicine. She received the freshman teaching award for her last six years of instruction.*

## 440: Adults Conquering Technology IV (ACT IV)

**GARY CAHN**

**LISA FRIEDMAN**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

This study group includes five computer topics, one of which is not applicable to owners of Mac computers. Feel free to come to any or all sessions. We will discuss:

- Organizing your computer files so you can find them in a New York minute;
- Working with your home wireless network and Bluetooth;
- Streaming Internet audio and video to your computer, mobile devices, and TV;
- Improving your proficiency with the Windows 10 operating system;
- Creating your own website for free, e.g., for your book club, extended family reunion, community group, etc.

Much more detailed descriptions of the five topics are available at <https://tinyurl.com/5hdfxmdf>

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

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

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

## 444: The Quantum World

**JACQUES READ**

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

**September 24**

**Online Only**

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 from 1924 to 1928.

This study group attempts to impart an appreciation of modern quantum mechanics and its consequences to everyday life. **This study group has a large capacity.**

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.*

## 460: Exponential Organizations in our Changing World

**ROBERT KOLODNEY**

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

**September 22**

**In-Person Only**

We will look at a new management approach, Exponential Organizations, that has been developed in order to cope with and take advantage of the rapid changes that are taking place throughout our economy and society. The changes are due to numerous exponentially-developing technologies (such as Artificial Intelligence, Nanotechnology, Quantum Computing, Robotics, 3D Printing, Blockchain, and Biotechnology) that are transforming every aspect of human existence. The objective of the ExO approach is to enable startups and diversifications based on disruptive innovation to succeed and to develop 10 times faster than is the case with traditional organizations. This course gives

us the opportunity to look at a world where disruptive change is the new norm, and to understand what is being done to optimize activities, and realize potential benefits.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Bob Kolodney is currently an OLLI Study Group Leader, after having been a serial entrepreneur, a manager, a consultant, a lawyer, and a graduate school teaching assistant (educated at Harvard/Columbia Law School/INSEAD).*

## 479: Understanding Environmental Issues: Making Choices

**KENNETH HINGA**

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

**October 06**

**Hybrid**

This class examines the basics behind selected environmental issues that we may face. These will include climate change, genetically modified organisms, marine dead zones, nuclear radiation and wastes, persistent organic pollutants, crude oil, and pesticides. It is intended to give the participant a foundation for making informed decisions in their daily lives. Along the way, we will look at some of the workings of scientific endeavors to help the participant identify credible information sources. The course materials are aimed at the non-scientist, so no scientific background is required. ***The online format of this hybrid study group has a high class size capacity; in-person is limited.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Kenneth R. Hinga, PhD, was a research scientist and assistant dean at URI's Graduate School of Oceanography. His research addressed a variety of environmental issues. He served as a science advisor for USDA on environmental and food safety issues during international negotiations. He has taught classes for OLLI since 2016.*

## 480: The Ups and Downs of Weather

**PAUL BROWN**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

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 for the printing cost of \$35 (optional but highly recommended both as a guide to the lectures and as a useful work of reference). Class members will receive more information about when and where to purchase the book. 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.*

## 489: Mathematics in Fiction

**GRAHAM ATKINSON**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

This course will examine the role that mathematics has played in works of fiction, and to a lesser extent, the way it has inspired artists and poets. It also will explain some of the major mathematical concepts that recur in fiction and point you to works that make use of these ideas. It also will discuss some works of art that have a clear mathematical inspiration. No prior mathematical knowledge will be required, and there will be no required reading, but I hope the course will inspire you to explore some of the books discussed. Themes will include mathematics in: science fiction, the works of Lewis Carroll, *Flatland* and its successors, fictional biographies, murder mysteries, art, and poetry. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Graham Atkinson has a bachelors degree in mathematics from St. Andrews University and a doctorate in mathematics from Oxford University. He has taught several courses for OLLI on mathematics and the ancient Maya language and culture.*

## 492: The Human Immune System

**ALBERT TARAN**

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

**September 21**

**Hybrid**

The human immune system is a remarkably complex, resilient, and powerful biological mechanism for protecting us against infection and disease. It can distinguish between alien invaders of our body (bacteria and viruses), and the body's own cells and microbiome—eliminating the former and protecting the latter. However, it can at times misfire and attack the body's own cells, leading to autoimmune diseases. In this study group, we will explore in some detail the operation and components of both the innate and adaptive immune systems. New therapies to fight cancer have resulted from our expanded understanding of the immune system, as well as novel techniques to fight viral infections such as the coronavirus.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 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 twelfth study group that Al has led.*

## 500 VISUAL ARTS & MUSIC

### 500: Jazz 101

**MARK STEVENS**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

Are you ready to swing? Join us in Jazz 101 and have fun exploring America's one true original art form. Whether you're looking for a great introduction or already listening to jazz and want to discover more, this course is for you. From Dixieland to Bebop, Swing to Cool, Fusion to Smooth, we'll have fun exploring the many artists, styles, songs, and rich history jazz has to offer. We'll hear Louis Armstrong, John Coltrane, Duke Ellington, Herbie Hancock, Charlie Parker, Ella Fitzgerald, and more. Plus, we'll discuss many of the most popular albums and songs, like the classic *Kind of Blue* from Miles Davis or Dave Brubeck's breakthrough, *Take 5*. Class sessions will include plenty of listening and videos of the artists. We'll discuss how to

listen, too. You'll learn where to discover new and classic recordings, and where to experience live performances. Come away with a whole new appreciation and enthusiasm for this constantly evolving art and get ready to share your knowledge and interest with others.

***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Mark Stevens has been listening to and performing Jazz for over 50 years. He spent his entire career in the entertainment industry, including many years as President of Time Life Music. A graduate of Syracuse and Columbia Universities, Mark still performs with various bands around the DC and New York areas.*

### 501: Appalachian Dulcimer: More Tunes and Techniques

**KAREN BUGLASS**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

Take your playing to the next level! We'll tackle new tunes from several genres and incorporate techniques that enable you to add variety and interest to any music. This study group is open to anyone who has an Appalachian dulcimer and is comfortable reading tablature.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Karen Buglass found her passion as a fourth grade teacher. Since retiring, she's pursued a long-standing interest in Appalachian dulcimer. She's offered workshops locally at OLLI and House of Musical Traditions. Overseas, she's a popular instructor for the Nonsuch Dulcimer Club in the UK. Learn more at [www.sweetstrings.biz](http://www.sweetstrings.biz).*

### 505: Mozart—One of the Wonders of the World!

**DAVID FLAXMAN**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, one of the greatest musical geniuses of all time, left us a huge body of work when he was taken from us at the tender age of 35. He was an incredible child prodigy who developed into a magnificent composer of music in all the genres

available to him: symphony, opera, sonatas, concertos, masses, and perhaps the greatest of all, requiems. We will explore his vast oeuvre as we also explore some of what is known about the man, his life, and times. The format, as always, will be some presentation of this information as a way to frame a largely chronological discovery of his works through extracts from performances on video. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

**David Flaxman** is a largely retired computer scientist who now spends most of his time studying music and languages. He plays the piano (not particularly well) and sings with the Choral Arts Society of Washington, the City Choir of Washington, and the Georgetown Chorale.

## 510: Songs of Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n Roll (and More!)

**LARRY GONDELMAN**

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

**September 22**

**Hybrid**

Sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll are common themes in Rock 'n Roll songs. In this class, each week we'll focus on one subject about which rockers often sing and watch videos of 15 to 20 songs. While we will discover interesting facts about the songs and the artists, the emphasis will be on simply rockin' out to songs that are about the same topic. Other categories will include God and the Devil; Time; Death; Dreams; Magic; Freedom; and Home. Most of the artists and songs will be from the 1960s and 1970s (such as Jerry Lee Lewis, The Beatles, Bob Dylan, The Rolling Stones, The Animals, The Who, The Rascals, The Doors, Stevie Wonder, Simon & Garfunkel, Carole King, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Seger, and many more), although a couple of songs each week will introduce the class to great songs by lesser known and more contemporary artists. ***The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Larry Gondelman**, a former trial attorney, has loved rock 'n roll his entire life. His first concert was by The Beatles, who he also got to meet. He is (or at least was before the pandemic) a prolific concert-goer. Larry has previously taught *A History of Rock 'n Roll and Iconic Albums—1960 to 2000* at OLLI.

## 511: Looking at Architecture

**JOHN VORHES**

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

**September 22**

**Hybrid**

A building is part of history and, by really looking, we can see details that illuminate the culture and technology of its time. When describing a house or an office building, we often use terms like "Colonial," "Victorian," or "Modern," yet these don't accurately define the style or suggest the reasons for it. Spotting details you may have never noticed before will give you a vocabulary—a quick understanding of basic structure from load-bearing walls to steel skeleton skyscrapers. The class's visual survey of historic to current architecture might inspire you to explore your neighborhood to find examples of great (and sometimes not so great) architecture. We'll establish an email conversation with photos and you can practice your skill as a design critic. We end with a "Fun Final," a review exam to test your design recall. ***The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**John Vorhes** is a retired industrial designer and former project director for USIA Exhibition Services for worldwide cultural-exchange programs. He has 40 years of experience in art direction, architectural design, landscape design, graphics, and television-production design.

## 515: Operas in Four Languages

**BRUCE EISEN**

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

**September 23**

**In-Person Only**

We will discuss and view the following operas on DVD: *La Traviata* (Verdi), *Carmen* (Bizet), *Vanessa* (Barber), *Die Frau ohne Schatten* (Strauss). The class will be encouraged to address opera experiences they may have had as opera houses begin to open worldwide.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

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

**Bruce Eisen** has been a study group leader in both opera and literature for a number of years at OLLI.

## 516: Best Ballet Performances

IRIS LIPKOWITZ

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

October 07

Hybrid

Join me in watching/discussing my selection of quality ballet performances. See what makes these performances special in my eyes. Also, learn about the dancers and choreographers involved in these performances. My ballet selections will be drawn from a variety of 19th- and 20th-century periods: *La Sylphide*, *Spectre de la Rose*, *Push Come to Shove*, *Monotones*, *The Judas Tree*, *The Bolt*, and *Agon* and companies including NYC Ballet, ABT, Royal and Bolshoi. Study group participants are invited to suggest recordings of ballets they own and wish to share with the class. No dance background is required. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

## 530: Curtain Up, Light the Lights: Broadway Musicals About Broadway Musicals

DANIEL MOSKOWITZ

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

September 23

Online Only

At least since George M. Cohan's *The Man Who Owns Broadway* in 1909, Broadway composers, lyricists, and librettists have taken the hoary advice to write about what you know, and have created shows about the pleasures and (mostly) the pains of putting on a Broadway musical. Sigmund Romberg, Jerome Kern, George and Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, Jule Styne, John Kander and Fred Ebb, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, and Marvin Hamlisch all wrote such shows. We'll hear the songs and look at the plots of hits (*Kiss Me, Kate*; *Chorus Line*; *The Producers*), modest successes (*Say, Darling*; *Me and Juliet*), and some real flops, and try to extract what they say about how Broadway really works. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Daniel B. Moskowitz is a journalist with an avocational interest in Broadway shows and popular music who has led a number of study groups on related subjects at the OLLIs at both AU and George Mason.*

## 560: Doing Art with Collage

ROSE MOSNER

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

September 22

In-Person Only

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. In this class you will have a weekly assignment to be done at home. We will meet via the computer to look at the work, share, and learn.

A background in art/collage is helpful.

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.*

## 579: New Art Movements of the Late 18th Century Through the 19th Century

LISA LEINBERGER

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

September 23

In-Person Only

The rise of new art movements in the late 18th through the 19th centuries were varied. We will explore and discuss Romanticism, The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, the Arts and Crafts Movement, and Orientalism.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Lisa Leinberger has an MA in Art History and has been a study group leader previously. She has been a co-host of a film review show on television in New Mexico. She worked at the Phillips Collection and has co-written articles on the influence of movies and television on Urbanism.*

## 591: This Is Your Brain on Architecture: Neuroscience in the Trenches

MILTON SHINBERG

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

September 24

Online Only

This course is a series of talks that reconsiders traditional architectural thinking and design approaches in light of insights from cognitive neuroscience, perception, art, and evolution. The thesis of the course is that architecture can be seen through the lens of how our brains apprehend and process environmental information and cognitive/aesthetic processing. The approach helps explain certain aesthetic biases in art as well as architecture, along with specific perceptual mechanisms that are foundational in perceiving architecture. The course also looks at incorporating emotional (limbic) and body-specific (kinesthetic) aspects that are significant aspects of architectural experience. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Milton Shinberg, AIA**, is principal emeritus, retired in 2019, of Shinberg Levinas Architects, focusing on the design of schools in DC for the last 25 years. He has taught architecture at The Catholic University of America for over 40 years, leading design studios and theses with emphasis on the cognition and design of architecture.

## 598: Foreign Films

LEONARD KING

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

September 24

Online Only

Cinema is international. This study group will focus on classic and more modern foreign films including: *The 400 Blows*, *Small Change*, *King of Hearts*, *8½*, *Persona*, *Queen of Katwe*, *The Year of Living Dangerously*, *Pan's Labyrinth*, *The Farewell*, and *Cinema Paradiso*. Members will see each week's film before the study group meets so that we can devote time to discussions and my PowerPoint lectures. These films are available for streaming or rental through YouTube, Vudu, Google Play, Amazon, On Demand, Netflix, Kanopy, or other sources. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Leonard King** taught at Maret School for 43 years, introducing a History and Aesthetics of Film course in 1973. At OLLI, he has taught classes in film, European Ideology, and History, Nonviolence, and Moral Dilemmas.

## 600 LITERATURE & LANGUAGE

### How Literature and Drama Can Illuminate Politics and Government

JAMES VERDIER

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

September 24

In-Person Only

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 199.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

### Mathematics in Fiction

GRAHAM ATKINSON

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

September 21

Online Only

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 489.

***This study group has a large capacity.***

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

### 603: Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français

ELAINE FÉRAT

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

September 20

In-Person Only

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-économiques, 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: ecferrat1@gmail.com***

This study group is 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.

## 607: Beginning-plus Spanish

**SUSAN SCHNEIDER**

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

**September 23**

**In-Person Only**

This conversational study group enables students with some exposure to Spanish to improve their fluency, pronunciation, and language skills. 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. One hour of homework is required for each class. Those who practice daily will find it easier to learn greetings, directions, and how to communicate with their Hispanic neighbors. In addition to the required book, class members also can download SpanishDict at <https://www.spanishdict.com>. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**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, improving her Spanish in the barrio. She has a PhD in linguistics and an MA in education.

## 615: Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene

**HANNE CARAHER**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

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 ausgesuchte Texte uebersetzen, uns auf deutsch unterhalten, Audios hoeren und auch 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 master’s degree in conference interpreting and translation.

## 616: Hablemos en Español-Curso Intermedio/Avanzado

**MINERVA KELLER**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

El español—cuyo uso se acrecienta a diario—es el lenguaje oficial de 19 países. El objetivo de este curso es que cada participante adquiera fluidez y un mejor dominio del idioma participando activamente en cada sesión. La conversación girará en torno de charlas, videos, artículos de la prensa internacional sobre eventos de actualidad, además de cuentos ó lecturas que se asignarán semanalmente por medio de un correo electrónico ó en forma impresa. Después de una breve introducción, cada tema merecerá una animada conversación culminando, si así lo desean, en un breve resumen escrito, para así incrementar la capacidad de expresión, no solo hablada, sino escrita.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Minerva Keller* has an MA in Language/Foreign Studies from American University. She was a Lecturer and Adjunct Professor of Spanish, French, and Translation at college-level area institutions, and is a freelance translator. She has worked for international organizations as a translator/interpreter in Chile, Switzerland, Belgium, and Washington, DC.

## 617: The Great French Songbook

**LISA HARPER**

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

**September 20**

**In-Person Only**

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 popular French songs. After a career mostly in Francophone countries, she became an adult educator. Now retired, she divides her time between Maryland and Morocco.*

## 618: La Vuelta al Mundo con Cuentos Cortos —Tertulias

**LIZ REILLY**

**MONICA GRIGERA**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

Curso Virtual de conversación en español. Este Grupo de Estudio ofrece a los 15 participantes de la clase la oportunidad de aprender, trabajar, y perfeccionar sus habilidades orales en español. Leeremos cuentos cortos que nos permitirán viajar con la literatura.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

*Liz Reilly is a fluent Spanish speaker with a passion for Spain and Latin America. She spent her early childhood in Latin America, worked in Madrid for five years, and most recently led the Latin America program for an education-based nonprofit in Washington, DC.*

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

## 619: Latin for Curious Beginners

**DIANA SMITH**

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

**September 23**

**Hybrid**

If you always have wanted to learn Latin, now is your chance!

This will be a traditional approach to learning the Latin language, with more emphasis on grammar and translation, and less on speaking. We will learn the building blocks of the language and start to translate some original works. All language learning is a challenge, but this language lends itself to those who like its puzzle and architecture.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

Register online at [www.oli-dc.org](http://www.oli-dc.org)

*Diana Smith worked as a teacher and administrator for 35 years in secondary schools. Most recently, she served as the principal of Washington Latin Public Charter School since 2008. She has a BA in Classics from Princeton and a PhD in English from UVa.*

## 620: Italian Conversation and Culture

**ARRIGO MONGINI**

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

**September 21**

**In-Person Only**

At home, we will read selections from the Italian website EasyItalianNews.com and literature by Moravia, Severgnini, Canilleri, and others. Classes will be devoted to recitation from these sources and discussion among class members. In addition, two volunteers will each recount an event or incident from her/his experience and engage in conversation with other students. Students should be at least at the level of "intermediate Italian." Members are advised to consult Arrigo Mongini at 301-906-1653 before registering.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Arrigo Mongini earned an SB in Engineering and an SM in Civil Engineering from MIT. He learned Italian as a child and is fluent. He was president of the Italian Cultural Society of Washington, DC, and visited many parts of Italy more than 15 times over 60 years.*

## 621: Enjoying *The New Yorker* Together

**DELBERT SPURLOCK**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

*The New Yorker's* audience beyond New York enjoys reportage, commentary, essays, short stories, satire, poetry, and cartoons, with provocative covers, book, theater, and movie reviews, and articles on medicine and law, world politics, and social issues. For 40 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. Each class member will register a date for her/his presentation for the semester at the first class.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

**Delbert Spurlock** has spent many years in government service and from 1993 to 2010 was Associate Publisher/Executive Vice President of the New York Daily News.

### 630: Then and Now: Daring to Rewrite Bronte and Gaskell

**LINDA FREEMAN**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

We will read four novels, two masterpieces from the 19th century and two 20th-century versions of the same stories. Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* will be paired with Jean Rhys's powerful and haunting *Wide Sargasso Sea*; Elizabeth Gaskell's *North and South* will be read with David Lodge's slyly hilarious *Nice Work*. We will consider author biographies, historical contexts, and why any writer would want to risk creating a new version of a celebrated novel. Spoiler alerts: Mr. Rochester will never seem quite the same after Rhys is through with him, and *North and South* is NOT a novel about the American Civil War.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

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

### 631: Understanding Families Through Plays

**KAREN GAIL LEWIS**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

We start with *The Deer and the Antelope Play*, by Mark Dunn. This is a story of three generations of women, stuck in their lives. Staying with females, our second play is *Sisters Rosensweig*, by Wendy Wasserman, about three very different siblings. Next, we'll read *Moon for the Misbegotten*, by Eugene O'Neill, the sequel to *Long Day's Journey*. We'll conclude with *Other Desert Cities*, by Jon Robin Baitz, in which a sister is publishing a memoir exposing a tragic family event. We discuss each play for two weeks, focusing on themes, i.e., family/sibling relationships, gender roles, multi-generational patterns, and gender issues. This is an entertaining, interactive class. Reading each play beforehand will enrich participation.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

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

### 640: Bible Story, Your Story: Poetry Reveals Scripture

**GERRY HENDERSHOT**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

We will read stories from the Hebrew bible, elucidations of the stories by Scott Cairns in his poem series, *The Recovered Midrashim of Rabbi Sab*, and additional modern poems that struggle with the same moral and ethical issues. Through discussion and writing, we will relate the stories and poems to our own lives. Biblical stories will include Adam and Eve, Jonah and the Whale, the Sacrifice of Isaac, and others. Among our poets will be Walt Whitman, James Weldon Johnson, Natalie Diaz, and others. Group members are expected to write and share in discussion an original poem (or two) based on scripture and their lives. No prior experience in reading, writing, or discussing poetry (or scripture) is assumed. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Discussion

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

*Gerry Hendershot has studied and taught both Hebrew scripture and modern poetry, including OLLI study groups on Famous Poems About Famous Paintings and African-American Poetry, and is the author of a number of published poems. He was on the faculties of several universities and retired from the Centers for Disease Control.*

### 646: Poetry Craftshop: Between My Eyes Is Always the Rain, the Migrant Rain

**JENNY PIERSON**

**Ten Tuesdays (9:45 AM - 12:30 PM)**

**September 21**

**In-Person Only**

For serious poets who wish to strengthen their skills and heart, this semester we will study the lineage from the Chinese T'ang Dynasty poet, Li Po (ce 712-760), through the contemporary poets Li-young Lee (b.1957) and Ocean Vuong (b.1989). As Asian immigrant poets, Lee and Vuong bring a specific, shared literary history to their work. Both poetry and memoir will offer us ways to examine loss and identity from their perspective. Reading specific works on weekly assignment will teach us how to shape our own original poems. Deep discussion on technique and voice, as well as analysis of each other's work constitute the course.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

**Jennifer 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.

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

**EDWARD WARD**

**PATRICIA SPECTOR**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

This workshop is for people who like to write or think they might like to write and who find it helpful to have a setting or stimulus to actually sit down and write. Each session consists of two or more spells of writing in response to a short prompt. After writing for 10-15 minutes, participants have the opportunity—but are not required—to share what they have written. Positive feedback is encouraged; critical feedback can be requested. The common prompts lead participants in surprisingly different directions. The format was established by Brock Hansen, who led the workshop in earlier years. It draws on ideas about writing practice presented in Natalie Goldberg's book, *Writing Down the Bones*.

This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Appreciation

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Patricia Spector and Edward Ward** participated in the workshop several times with Brock Hansen. When Brock was unable to continue the workshop, they agreed to co-lead it on an informal basis during the Spring 2018 semester and have continued it as a regular OLLI offering since then.

## 653: Plagues We Have Known

**SUSAN UROFSKY**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

Looking back in time we can discover what major upheavals such as Covid-19 require of individuals and cultures. Even in the Bible, there were plagues. Through active discussion, this study group will explore what scared people, the nature of the damage, and the

impact of attempted solutions. We will read and discuss fiction and nonfiction to better understand the story of our current pandemic, note parallels with past pandemics, and reach toward the future. Two required books are listed for the course. Others are optional. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

**Susan Urofsky** enjoys OLLI as a participant and as a study group leader. An English major, her later career emphasized effective and efficient governance and service delivery in the nonprofit and government sectors. She held leadership positions with JLARC and the Health and Human Services Secretariat in Virginia.

## 655: Tennessee Williams and the Golden Age of American Theater

**RONALD PARLATO**

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

**September 20**

**Hybrid**

The course will study six major works of Tennessee Williams, two of Arthur Miller, and one of Eugene O'Neill. The purpose of the course is to describe, define, and illustrate Williams's particular lyricism, poetic genius, and dramatic personal insights; and to compare and contrast them with the morality plays of Miller and the emotional realism of O'Neill's mature work. The Williams plays have been selected for their individual character and common themes; and because they express the range of his dramatic talents. Those of Miller and O'Neill have been chosen for their power and their representation of the playwrights' major dramatic concerns.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Ronald Parlato** has been teaching literature at OLLI for more than five years. He is a retired International Development Consultant with experience in over 60 countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe. He holds a BA in English Literature from Yale and an advanced degree in Public Administration and Urban Affairs.

## 657: *Middlemarch*, by George Eliot

**LESLIE FRANTZ**

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

**September 30**

**In-Person Only**

George Eliot's *Middlemarch* is considered by some to be the ultimate Great Big Victorian Novel. Of the handful of contenders

for this honor, Eliot's great work may be the wisest and the most intellectually informed. The novel is divided into eight books. We will study it one book at a time, with an eye to characterization, social and historical background, and the carefully woven plot. This study group is a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Leslie Frantz** has a Master's degree in English literature from Georgetown University and taught in the Georgetown University Continuing Education Department for over 20 years. She has taught many courses on English literature for OLLI.

## 658: Reviewing *The New York Times Book Review*

**BARBARA MOLDAUER**

**CARL WEICHEL**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

Since 1896, the weekly *New York Times Book Review* (NYTBR) has helped America's curious, general-interest readers stay informed about new books and numerous interesting topics. Over time, the book industry has evolved with self-publishing, audio books, printless digital formats, and now, radio podcasts. One of the highlights of NYTBR is how it selects 20-30 books from emerging and seasoned authors that are reviewed by freelance literary critics, novelists, and academics. A lure of the "Book Review Podcast" is how host Pamela Paul's interviewing style probes nuanced views from authors. During each class, we'll hear 2-4 podcasts, have volunteers summarize featured print reviews, then enjoy class conversations and become knowledgeable with the current must-reads.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**Barbara Moldauer** has worked as a speechwriter and scribe for energy, education, and labor organizations for audiences ranging from Congress to coal miners on issues running the gamut from aspirin to vouchers. Her specialty is conveying complex issues simply and memorably by marrying words and images for maximum effect.

**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*.

## 671: From the Age of Theatre to the Age of Rhetoric

**ANDREW WHITE**

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

**September 24**

**Hybrid**

Andy White returns with a puzzle for you to solve: what happened to Greek Drama? After Athens' golden age, and after the triumph of mass entertainment under the Roman Empire, dramatic literature disappears. What takes its place? We will explore what the descendants of Aeschylus, Euripides, and Aristophanes are up to, as they study drama in grammar school, in order to become stand-up performers (i.e., rhetors), who entertain each other at after-hours soirées they call "theatres." They become professionals, but of a very different kind. ***The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.***

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!

## 681: Three Oedipus Plays by Sophocles

**SUSAN WILLENS**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

The class will discuss and occasionally read aloud three classic plays by Sophocles from *Three Theban Plays: Antigone; Oedipus the King; Oedipus at Colonus*, translated by Robert Fagles.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**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.

## 688: Performing *Our Town*

**CAROL LIGHT**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

Thornton Wilder's play, *Our Town*, takes the simple events of everyday life—"the way we were in our growing up and in our marrying and in our doctoring and in our living and in our dying"—

transforming them into universal experiences. Actors and audiences find *Our Town* to be strong stuff, often evoking very powerful emotions—and we will be both actors and audience. We will read the play aloud, see excerpts from recorded performances featuring Paul Newman and Hal Holbrook, among others, and discuss the text, its structure, and range of ideas, as well as performance issues. Finally, assuming enough participants are willing, we will do a Zoom performance of some or all of the play for the OLLI community. This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

*Carol Light* directed an OLLI group which presented several staged readings, including Wilder's *Skin of Our Teeth*. Additionally, she has led seven Shakespeare study groups, each examining one play and how the performance choices of actors, directors, and other artists combine to make a unique experience for all participants.

## 690: Anthony Trollope's *The Prime Minister* (Palliser 5)

**ELLEN MOODY**

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

**September 20**

**Online Only**

The 5th Palliser refocuses us on Plantagenet and Lady Glen, now Duke and Duchess of Omnium. Phineas and Marie (Madame Max) and Finn are characters in the story of the Duke and Duchess's political education as he takes office and she becomes a political hostess. We delve into practical politics and philosophies asking what are political power, patronage, elections, and how can you use these realities/events. A new group of characters provide a story of corrupt stockbroking, familial, marital, and sexual conflicts, and violence. And what power have women? We'll also read Trollope's short colonialist Orwellian *The Fixed Period*, and short online writing by Victorian women (Caroline Norton, Harriet Martineau, Francis Power Cobb, and Margaret Oliphant).

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

*Ellen Moody* holds a PhD in English literature and has taught in colleges for more than 30 years and at OLLI for seven. She's published on Trollope, film adaptations, and 18th- and 19th-century literature. At OLLI, she has taught Trollope's *Barsetshire* and *Palliser* fiction, his short stories, 19th-century novels by women, Booker Prize novels, and Virginia Woolf.

## 695: One-Offs, Odd Lots, and Nonpareils: Idea-Driven Remarkable Fictions

**JUDITH PLOTZ**

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

**September 22**

**In-Person Only**

In this study group, we will read a series of rich and strange fictions—idea-driven narratives that play philosophical and metaphysical games in the pursuit of serious religious, political, and ethical issues. What unites these texts—besides their bravura excellence—is their intense originality, deep playfulness, and surprising brevity. We'll read works by Borges, Diderot (*Rameau's Nephew*), Dostoevski (*Grand Inquisitor*), Erofeev (*Moscow to the End of the Line*), Orwell (*Animal Farm*), Ozick (*Envy*; or *Yiddish in America*), Rushdie (*Haroun and the Sea of Stories*), Sciascia (*To Each His Own*), Segal (*Her First American*), Trilling (*Middle of the Journey*), and Voltaire (*Candide*).

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Judith Plotz* taught for almost 50 years at GWU, specializing and publishing in *British Romanticism*, *postcolonialism*, and *children's literature*. She has taught a number of OLLI courses, most recently *Italian Jewish Literature*.

## 700 HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

### 701: The Myth and Reality of the Wild West

**JOHN VORHES**

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

**September 21**

**Hybrid**

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. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

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.

## 702: Cruising with OLLI: Cruise Ship Lectures Around the World

**JOSEPH SNYDER**

**NICK GLAKAS**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

Two experienced cruise-ship lecturers will draw on talks that they have given around the world, covering areas as diverse as Polynesia, Morocco, Venice, and New Zealand. They were designed to give cruise-ship passengers background on and a deeper appreciation of their destinations. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** No required reading.

**Joe Snyder** served 30 years in the US Foreign Service in Thailand, Iran, Taiwan, Malaysia, Austria, and Washington. After his government service, Joe headed the American Australian Association in New York, the Asia Society Washington Center, and the Asia Program at the Atlantic Council in Washington. For 11 years, he lectured on cruise ships, jet tours, and land tours. He studied international relations at Georgetown and Yale.

**Nick Glakas** is a retired lawyer and Smithsonian lecturer. For the past eight years, he has lectured on cruise ships around the world as well as at Cambridge, Georgetown, and George Washington Universities. He has clerked for two federal judges, served as general counsel of the Senate Appropriations Committee, been senior vice president of ITT Corporation, and president of two college associations. He is a former naval officer who served aboard a destroyer and an LST in the Mekong Delta, later attending law school at Georgetown and Cambridge.

## 710: Seven Photographers Documenting 20th-Century America

**ELEANOR GREENE**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

We will focus on seven photographers—Lewis Hine, Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans, Gordon Parks, Roy De Carava, Esther Bubley, and Danny Lyon—who created images that picture America from 1904 to 2000. Photographs, like other historical sources, are interpretations, versions of “reality” that document facts, express ideas and opinions, and also tell stories. We’ll begin with a session on 20th-century themes and note some strategies for interpreting photographs. Then we’ll spend a session on each photographer considering his or her historical context and life experiences, and examine a selection of photographs asking these questions: What is this picture about? How, why, and for whom was it taken? How was it used?

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/week.

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

## 715: Jewish History and Life: Patriarchs to Israel

**JOSH (JONATHAN) BERMAN**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

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—Scheidlin, 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. With two texts and handouts, there is a large amount of recommended reading each week to get the full depth of the content and benefit of the session. 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 has a large capacity.**

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, but rather is a Jewish-American with a lifelong interest in his religious heritage.**

## 740: Race in America 1864 to the Present

**KAREN STEWART**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

In this course we will follow the struggle of this nation to finish its revolution of racial equality begun in 1863 with the Emancipation Proclamation. Through lecture, outside reading, and discussion, we will examine the uneven path through Reconstruction, redemption, Jim Crow, and the civil rights movement that leads to our present. We will look at the forces and individuals who have moved us forward as well as the counterforces and individuals who have moved us backwards. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

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

**Karen Stewart** has taught at OLLI for five years. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the University of North Carolina School of Public Health. She served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi and Congo. She retired from Westat where she was an epidemiologist conducting social science and health research.

## 747: Poisonous Places: Historical Perspective on Toxins in the Home, Workplace, and Environment

**JOHN PARASCANDOLA**

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

**September 23**

**Online Only**

Poisonous substances in the home, workplace, and environment always have presented a health hazard, but urbanization, the Industrial Revolution, and increased use of chemicals in daily life have greatly magnified this problem since the late 18th century. This study group will focus on the history of these toxins and their impact on humans, while also considering their continuing presence in our society. The poisons examined will include mercury, phosphorous, arsenic, radium, and lead. Examples of some of the issues to be discussed include mercury and “mad hatters,” the “radium

girls” poisonings, lead in paint and gasoline, arsenic in wallpapers, pesticide residues in food, and “phossy jaw” in match workers. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

**John Parascandola** has a PhD in the history of science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has served as a historian in the federal government and on the faculty of the Universities of Wisconsin and Maryland (where he taught, among other subjects, courses on the history of poisons and on the history of public health). He is the author of several books and has taught five OLLI classes.

## 750: The Victorian Era: Key Literary and Political Figures

**ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ**

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

**September 24**

**Online Only**

During this nine-week course we will discuss the key literary and political figures of the Victorian era, such as: (1) Queen Victoria and Prince Albert (Key Parliamentary Issues and the Reform of 1867); (2) The Bronte Sisters (Ann, Emily and Charlotte); (3) Benjamin Disraeli and William Gladstone (The Irish Question); (4) Charles Dickens; (5) George Eliot, G. H. Lewes and Dorothy Wordsworth; (6) Jane and Thomas Carlyle; (7) Charles Darwin; (8) The Pre-Raphaelites: John Ruskin, Euphemia (Effie) Gray and Jean Millais; and (9) Lord Alfred Tennyson and Robert Browning.

**This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

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

## 773: The Legacy of “The Great War” — Too Soon to Tell?

**RICHARD PALMER**

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

**September 22**

**Online Only**

After a nod toward the pre-1914 order and the last decisive year of the war, then the conditions of 1919, the course will look at major transformations wrought upon the world by WWI. The focus will be topical, not chronological, and generally on what may be regarded as “permanent” changes in light of subsequent history,

from the perspective of the present. Emphasis will be on political, ideological, economic, and social legacies. This is an actively participative study group rather than a passive “lecture course.” We’ll mostly use online resources or downloadable book or article extracts. Members may opt to present subtopics of interest—e.g., cultural or literary elements—that might otherwise be neglected. Only online or downloadable reading material will be assigned, but class members may want to consult other texts or books on the subject matter of the study group. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Reading and Discussion

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

**Richard R. Palmer** is a retired Washington psychiatrist with an interest in history, language, and culture; he has led several OLLI study groups in these areas.

## 780: History of the Jews of Spain

**JEFFREY GORSKY**

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

**October 06**

**Hybrid**

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*. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

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 was 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*.

## 786: America in the Fifties

**CANDACE THURMAN**

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

**September 23**

**Hybrid**

Many historians use the term “boom” to illustrate the 1950s in a variety of ways: the flourishing economy, the record-setting

birthrate, and the fearful consequence of nuclear war. Some OLLI members will remember the era; others will not. 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 fourth OLLI study group.

## 790: Off the Beaten Path in the DC Area

**RALPH BUGLASS**

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

**September 21**

**Online Only**

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 has a large capacity.**

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.

## 794: Eight American Stories (as Told by Master Historians)

**MARION CONNELL**

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

**September 20**

**Hybrid**

This class and its text are an outgrowth of a series of interviews conducted by David Rubenstein on PBS. Each chapter focuses on a significant figure in American history as seen by a major historian who authored a well-received biography on the subject. The text was a best seller and well reviewed by critics. Participants will read and discuss one chapter each week.

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Marion Connell graduated from Mount Holyoke College with an AB degree in political science and philosophy. She has a master's degree in public administration plus over 30 years experience in local, state, and Federal government. Marion has lectured in the School of Public Affairs at American University.*

## 800 PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

### 805: Meditation Class

**JOSEPH REO**

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

**September 24**

**Online Only**

In this class we will meditate together as a group. The primary goal of this course is the systematic, eight-week, on-going commitment, that we come together, weekly, at this same time, with the simple intention to regularly practice the discipline of meditation. It doesn't matter if you've never meditated in your life, or if you've done it for 20 years with your own lovely mantra, and years-long routine. I'll guide us through various "styles," some perhaps leading us somewhere, some taking us potentially, to a quiet nowhere. We will practice several short meditations each class, or just one. We'll debrief at the end of the session to talk about what works, what didn't, what was helpful/useful, and what wasn't. And we'll be open to attendees who may wish to take the lead and guide us through a session towards the end. You can show us your style via your years of experience, or just jump in, having fun being adventurous guiding us for the first time. Anyone, and all forays or experimentation into leading, will be welcome.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

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

*Joseph Reo holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and was an adjunct instructor at George Washington's School of Exercise Science where he taught Meditation, Massage, and Sports Massage for over 10 years. He currently teaches Meditation and Massage with various adult education companies and is a licensed, massage therapist with an active, 20-year practice in Northwest DC.*

### 806: Medical Chi Kung

**JOSEPH REO**

**Ten Mondays (9:45 AM - 10:45 AM)**

**September 20**

**Online Only**

In Asia, for thousands of years, overall health, fitness, and well-being, always have considered mind, body, and spirit as a whole. This class will introduce the practice and medical benefits of Chinese Chi Kung, or Qigong, the centuries-old Chinese method of "healing movement." We will exercise together blending action, breathing, and imagination, to physically energize the body, and promote overall well-being. Through rhythmic movement, relaxed breathing, and mental focus, we'll practice simple forms, together as a group, to stimulate and heal specific organs and organ-systems in the body. The easy-to-perform, simple "mudras" will gently release tight muscles, soften ligaments, and coax the lengthening of tendons, which can diminish joint pain and improve balance. You'll be able to follow along with something, no matter the state of health you are in. You may even learn to feel, and potentially direct the flow of "Chi" to and through specific areas of your body, where you need it most. Exercise modifications will be shown, when requested. Dress comfortably, we'll start training the first day. **Note:** Before participating in any exercise program, participants should check with their doctors to ensure that there are no contraindications, special considerations, or limitations from a medical standpoint. **This study group meets for one hour, from 9:45 to 10:45 AM.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 1 hr/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 10 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 Mondays (9:45 AM - 11:15 AM)**

**September 20**

**Online Only**

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 primarily will 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 retired 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)**

**September 20**

**Online Only**

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: Mommie Dearest —The Great Mother Goddesses of World Mythology

**ROBERT CROOG**

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

**September 20**

**Hybrid**

From time immemorial, Mother Goddesses have been worshipped and revered the world over. She is the nurturing figure—the Madonna, Demeter, Parvati—a loving caregiver who protects and dotes on her children. But she also has her darker side. She appears as Lilith, Hecate, Kali—evoking stark terror, demanding blood sacrifice, devouring souls. This course will explore the Great Mother in her many faces, her stories, her place in the pantheon and what she reveals about the cultures she inhabits. ***The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.***

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture

**Reading:** No required reading.

*Robert Croog (BA Harvard, JD Columbia) is a retired intellectual-property lawyer and former professor of Communication, Writing, Media Law, and Ethics. At OLLI he has taught courses in Skepticism and Truth Denial, War and Morality, Tales of the Underworld and the Trickster Archetype.*

## 850: A Yogi's Approach to the Evolution of Human Consciousness as Expounded by the Teachings of Paramahansa Yogananda

**WOODY CARTER**

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

**September 21**

**Hybrid**

The aim of this study group is to explore the yogic approach to the evolution of human consciousness by examining the life and teachings of Paramahansa Yogananda, author of the spiritual classic *The Autobiography of a Yogi*. The group also will examine

the impact of these teachings in the life of one of Yogananda's followers as depicted in the novel, *Narada's Children: A Visionary Tale of Two Cities*. 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 meditations, and selected readings. This course is appropriate for beginners and those with 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.

## 860: Kant

**DONALD ROSS**

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

**September 24**

**Hybrid**

The purpose of this course is to explore the philosophy of Immanuel Kant. We will be covering the shorter versions of his first two Critiques (Critique of Pure Reason and Critique of Practical Reason), plus selections from the third Critique (Critique of Judgment). The shorter version of Kant's first Critique is his Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics. The shorter version of Kant's second Critique is his Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals, supplemented by Part II of his Metaphysics of Morals, titled The Metaphysical Principles of Virtue. The selections from the third Critique also will be supplemented by two essays on politics. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Don 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

## 861: Utilitarianism

**DONALD ROSS**

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

**September 24**

**Hybrid**

In this course, we will read five classic texts of the Utilitarian school of ethics, three of them from the pen of John Stuart Mill (the most gifted writer among them). The other two authors and works are Jeremy Bentham's *Principles of Morals and Legislation*, the founding document of Utilitarianism, and *The Methods of Ethics*, by Henry Sidgwick, the last of the classic Utilitarians. **The online format of this hybrid study group has a large capacity; in-person is limited.**

This study group is not a repeat.

**Class Format:** Lecture and Discussion

**Reading:** 2 hrs/week.

**Don 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.