

SPRING 2022 STUDY GROUP DESCRIPTIONS

100 POLITICS, LAW & GOVERNMENT

Obstacles to African American Wealth

PETER WOLFE

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

March 10

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 791.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

A Passion for Justice and An Interpretation of the US Constitution

ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ

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

March 11

Online

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 750.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

105: The March of Folly: Why Governments Do Stupid [Stuff]

MARK NADEL

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

March 09

In-Person

This course borrows its title from the book of the same name by Barbara Tuchman, which analyzed why governments continually violate President Obama's adage, "Don't do stupid s---t." This study group will review cases where decisionmakers pursued courses of action that blew up in their faces (sometimes literally) despite warnings, and despite better alternatives. Cases will include the Vietnam and Iraq wars, the COVID pandemic, as well as misadventures by private actors such as physicians. We will read about root causes of folly and discuss whether and how decisions can be made more prudently.

This study group has a photocopying charge between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Mark Nadel has led various OLLI study groups on public policy and governance. In addition to a career at the Government Accountability

Office, he has also taught at Cornell University, Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland, and Georgetown, where he taught a graduate course on decisionmaking for public policy.

113: Shakespeare's Political Theory

STEPHEN ELKIN

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

March 08

In-Person

The course treats Shakespeare as a political theorist. Among his plays are some of the most subtle reflections on political life including some that have a remarkable bearing on our present political condition. The course will start with Stephen Greenblatt's deeply intelligent book, *Tyrant*. We will then read some of the great political plays: *Richard III*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Caesar*, and either *King Lear* or *Coriolanus*. We will conclude by comparing Shakespeare's understanding of political life with that of his great predecessor (and teacher?) Machiavelli.

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, the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Maryland.

145: Platforms vs. Governments— The Emerging Clash

LEWIS COHEN

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

March 08

In-Person

Digital platforms—think Google, Facebook, Amazon, etc.—are emerging as powerful challengers to the prerogatives of national governments. This course will explore the emergence of platforms and their unique characteristics. Since the boundaries between national governments and platforms are ill-defined or nonexistent, issues ranging from privacy to competition policy to cybersecurity have become headline news. This course will seek to establish a clearer picture of platforms, their political, economic, and legal impact, and the response of governments to platforms' incursion into areas traditionally occupied by national governments.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Lewis Cohen earned degrees from Columbia College, Johns Hopkins University (SAIS), and Harvard University (Kennedy School). He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Tunisia, a Foreign Service Officer and Trade Negotiator with the Office of the US Trade Representative, and a consultant on international trade for a major DC law firm.

148: James Madison: Political Theorist and Politician

RICHARD SCHUBERT

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

March 08

Hybrid

Although still less well-known than some other founders, Madison was a key figure: he was the driving force behind the Constitution, he authored the Bill of Rights, he strongly advocated for religious freedom, he was the leading figure in the first Congress, he was Secretary of State, and then President. And that is just the beginning. This course will deal with Madison's political philosophy, what influenced him, and how he influenced others. There will also be significant biographical material. And we will examine his greatest failing: he was a slave owner. The eminent historian Jack Rakove calls him "the greatest lawgiver of modernity;" not all historians agree. What do you think?

This study group has a photocopying charge between \$5-20, to be paid in class.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Richard Schubert has been interested in Madison for 40 years. Since his retirement, he has delved more deeply into the life of this remarkable man. Particularly at this current time when the whole idea of American representative democracy is under attack, Richard hopes to stimulate enthusiasm for Madison.

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

SUSAN ROLNICK, OLLI COORDINATOR

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

March 10

Online

Professors from American University will explore topics related to foreign policy challenges facing the Biden Administration in the upcoming year. Topics will include: The US, Mexico, and North America; US Policy in Latin America; Economic Benefits of Biodiversity Conservation; Transatlantic Relations; US Middle East Policy; The Water Defenders: How Ordinary People Saved a Country from Corporate Greed; Can the US Shake the Intervention Habit?; and Post Brexit Challenges. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

The American University School of International Service (SIS), produces cutting-edge research and prepares the next generation of leaders to address global challenges. SIS enrolls a diverse student body of approximately 3,000 undergraduate and graduate students from

throughout the US and more than 150 countries, taught by nearly 120 full-time faculty members.

160: Unprecedented Challenges to Public Education: Inequality, Demographics, and Politics

MARTIN BLANK

MICHAEL USDAN

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

March 10

Online

Public education is now on the front pages of our newspapers (and other media too). What should children read? What should they learn? Should public funds be used at parochial schools? These issues and other issues lead to even larger questions: Is the public education enterprise being lost? Is educating for Democracy no longer possible when Democracy itself is at risk? This course will examine these issues in the context of the basics of how public education is governed and financed, a changing student population, and persistent school segregation.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

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

ARTHUR LEVINE

JEFFREY PORTER

LEONARD KING

LOUIS NEVINS

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

March 09

In-Person

Lou Nevins, Leonard King, Art Levine, 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.

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.

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 ten years.

172: Current Events and Public Policy II

ARTHUR LEVINE
JEFFREY PORTER
LOUIS NEVINS

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

March 08

In-Person

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 ten years.

178: Thurgood Marshall: Trailblazing Legal Icon

RALPH BUGLASS

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

March 10

Online

This course is an appreciative look at the life and legal career of Thurgood Marshall, led by a non-lawyer and based on several Marshall biographies. As a pioneering civil rights attorney, Marshall won a multitude of key Supreme Court cases, including its landmark decision overturning segregation—thus prodding the nation to live up to its founding ideals of equality for all. Later, as the high court's first African-American justice (and the only one to have ever defended a murder suspect), he took an expansive view of the constitution, particularly in guaranteeing the legal rights of defendants, the poor, and women. But as the court turned right, he was often in dissent on his signature concern—racial equity.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Ralph Buglass has led several OLLI courses, including ones on racial justice. He also is a frequent speaker to community groups on local history topics. He has a BA in American history from Cornell University and an MA in journalism from AU.

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

PENNY HANSEN

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

March 08

In-Person

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 has devoted much of her retirement to studying the Supreme Court and has given OLLI classes on this and other subjects for the last eight years. She was educated at Skidmore College, Johns Hopkins University and the Kennedy School at Harvard.

200 PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, & CULTURE

200: The Neuroscience of Conflict

JEANINE HULL

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

March 11

In-Person

This course will explore the amazing breakthroughs in the neuroscience of trauma and apply it to the study of conflict. Trauma and conflict are manifestations of the human threat response (“HTR”). Scientific understanding of the HTR has vastly increased over the past 20 years. This understanding, however, has not yet been applied to our understanding of conflict, how to engage in it, and in particular, the benefits that accrue from such engagement. The course includes a quick tour of the physiology of the HTR to understand how humans are “wired for connection” and what happens when the connection doesn’t happen. We will discuss the personal, interpersonal, and community applications of this new understanding.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Jeanine Hull, author of the book Making Peace with Conflict: Using Neuroscience to Ease Difficult Relationships, has been an attorney and mediator for the past 40 years. She has been counsel to a Congressional committee, Assistant General Counsel of a Fortune 300 energy company, and partner at Cantor Fitzgerald during her career.

201: Evolution of Mind

CATHARINE KEATLEY

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

March 08

Online

What is mind? What is consciousness? What are subjectivity and felt experience? Did they evolve along with our bodies like eyes and thumbs? If yes, how and why did these transitions occur? Do other animals have minds, feelings, consciousness? Peter Godfrey-Smith’s book, *Metazoa*, explores these questions through a review of major evolutionary changes in animals from the one-celled Last Unknown Common Ancestor, LUCA, who lived around 650 million years ago, to modern animals of different phyla. He brings together transitions in body plan, environment, and behavior to speculate on transitions in mental processes and the birth of mind. I will supplement with material from neuroscientists Damasio, Graziano, and LeDoux. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

Register online at <http://olli-dc.org>

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Catharine Keatley, PhD, has lectured at various universities overseas and in Washington, DC. She is a retired research psychologist who specialized in mental representation of language, bilingualism, and the psychology of learning languages. She previously taught a course on Theories of Consciousness at OLLI.

212: Asian Films: Culture, History, Politics

BILL HADDEN

RITA HADDEN

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

March 09

In-Person

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

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Bill Hadden is a medical sociologist at the CDC and NIH. Rita and Bill have worked in China, Thailand, and Pakistan. They love films and cultures and speak multiple languages.

Rita Hadden is Chinese-American and lived in Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, and China. She was President of the Asian American Forum in Washington, and leads study groups on Asia at OLLI.

232: Workshop: Finding Your Family History

SUSAN GOODMAN

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

March 10

Online

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](https://www.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.

240: Hearing Matters

JUDY ALDEN

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

March 10

Online

Does hearing loss compromise your quality of life—or that of a friend or loved one? In this study group, we discuss hearing health and loss with a focus on communications accessibility and well-being. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communications Disorders (NIDCD) reports 25% of seniors in their sixties, 50% in their seventies, and 80% in their eighties experience functionally significant hearing loss. Fewer than 30% of those who could benefit from hearing aids have used them. Treating hearing problems early is important for cognitive health, making it a public health concern for all, according to the National Academy of Sciences. Too often, people with hearing loss become unnecessarily isolated. The pandemic has worsened this problem: A Hearing Health Foundation survey finds 85% of hearing impaired individuals experienced more difficulty because face masks preclude lip-reading and muffle sounds. The good news is that rapidly emerging technology provides options for communications accessibility. Do you benefit from various voice to text apps? Understand how recent FDA regulations are changing the marketplace for those with mild-to-moderate loss, including over-the-counter and direct-to-consumer hearing aids? Use hearing assistive technology to enhance hearing aids? Know how to access technology in large, public venues such as Induction Loops, Infrared systems, and FM systems. Use free captions on Zoom? Join us to learn about these and many other resources and communications strategies to improve quality of life with hearing loss! This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Judy Alden has severe, genetic and age-related hearing loss. She uses bilateral-power hearing aids. She is President of the Hearing Loss Association of America, DC Chapter. She is a cohort with the Network of Consumer Hearing Assistive Technology Trainers. Judy's passion is to support those with hearing loss. She has a BS, MA, and MBA and is a former American University Kogod School of Business adjunct lecturer.

242: Marketing

MONICA BATRA

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

March 08

Online

From a big-picture view, what goes into making a big brand succeed? We will focus primarily on consumer packaged-goods companies and the tactics used to attract consumers, promises made to consumers, and the components that help big brands succeed. We will look at marketing and market-research concepts and view commercials as examples of how these concepts are achieved. Participants will also watch TED Talk videos on different marketing concepts from various people in marketing and discuss how these concepts apply in the marketing realm. There will be a look at social media as well and how it has impacted marketing. Other concepts to be explored include how big brands market to consumers, understand consumers, and create services and goods that consumers choose.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Monica Batra is a market research consultant who has worked at Consumer Packaged Goods 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.

250: TED Talks

CAROLINE MINDEL

LYNN LEWIS

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

March 08

Online

TED Talks feature speakers who share their cutting-edge work across diverse fields; in short, their ideas are worth spreading. Our study group focuses on TED Talks spanning a wide range of issues, from personal growth and aging, to health and science, to society, community, and more. During our highly interactive sessions, we view and discuss two talks weekly. Participants are welcome to preview the talks beforehand, but it isn't necessary as we screen them during class. We also ask for individual volunteers to prepare brief background and discussion points for each presenter. Note that while the class format is a repeat, the talks are new each semester.

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 an MA in journalism from Ohio State University. She has been a writer and editor for more than four decades.

252: Exploring Our Cultural Complexities

CARL WEICHEL

KIM WEICHEL

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

March 09

Online

As our world has become so complex with many rapid changes, our need for adaptability to change and appreciating nuance and ambiguity is far greater than ever. We'll explore current major issues through the superb documentary series "Explained," produced by Vox-Netflix. Examining our inner world, we'll delve into mental-health aspects of memory and mindfulness. To better grasp our outer lives, topics range from the wealth gap, conspiracy theories, feeding our planet, and the global water crisis, to political correctness, social media, and more. Each theme will be enriched with class readings from journals, magazines, and newspapers, as well as class discussion. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

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 the US. Carl has led study groups on *Political Polarization, The 1960s, Our Hidden Brain, Eastern Religions, and David Brooks' Writings.*

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

254: The World of Tricksters— From Loki to Banksy

ROBERT CROOG

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

March 07

In-Person

An abiding character, both in folklore and real life, is the Trickster—the wise guy who lives to outsmart others. Whether a lovable rogue or a menace to society, this archetype takes on the powerful and makes them dance to his tune. He can be godly or human, mammal or insect, con artist or real artist. His pranks may be silly or seriously harmful. We'll review a host of famous Tricksters—Hermes, Coyote, Till Eulenspiegel, Brer Rabbit, Maui, Charles Ponzi, Pablo Picasso, et al.—and consider why they're so endearing, exasperating, dangerous, and essential to any culture.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

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.*

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

CHARLES O'CONNOR

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

March 10

In-Person

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

This study group is a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

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

262: Leadership Skills for Everyone

CAROLE BUNCHER

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

March 11

In-Person

Get your act together! These everyday leadership and organizational skills will help you be at the "top of your game." We will cover a different skill each week. Topics covered include: communication and learning styles, managing time, listening to understand, presentation skills, building strong teams, designing simple surveys, conflict management, and customer service for volunteers. Something for everyone every week!

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Carole Buncher, a recent pandemic retiree, is known widely for her engaging, interactive, and fun-provoking training sessions. She is a skilled and experienced trainer and consultant and has delivered training to audiences large and small worldwide. She also was a DC tour guide.

271: Social Inequality: Causes and Solutions

JERALD HAGE

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

March 08

In-Person

Many signs of inequality are highly visible—stagnant incomes, unemployment, children living in poverty, etc., but many signs of inequality are not so visible: lack of innovation, destruction of intermediate interest groups for political representation for the working class, inefficiency of labor markets, etc. The course examines three spheres of inequality—education, economic, and political—at primarily two levels: micro and macro. One of the major causes of social inequality is the role of knowledge growth. Paradoxically, the two major solutions to social inequality involve creating new knowledge and using systemic, inter-organizational networks to coordinate markets of all kinds.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Jerald Hage retired from the University of Maryland in 2000, where he is still the director of the Center for Innovation, and began a career in consulting. He has published 18 books and over 100 papers. He has done research and taught in multiple countries. The course represents a lifetime interest.

275: Both Sides Now: Reflections for Women at Midlife

COLETTE TRACY

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

March 11

Online

The class is about the empowerment of women through midlife years and beyond. As women, we have always felt that we need to care for, love, and put others first, especially for the women of our generation. This was the way we were raised from our mothers, the “Silent Generation.” It is at midlife, that for the perhaps the first time in our lives, we can begin to focus on ourselves and what we want to do. Sometimes we feel a bit lost at this stage, mainly because we have never had this opportunity. This is the time to get healthy, create a community of like-minded people, and plan for the things that can bring us joy.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Colette Tracy has been a business development leader and college instructor respectively for most of her career, which spans more than three decades. She is Founder and Executive Director of the nonprofit, Education for Growth, which works with underserved students and young adults.

289: Understanding Addiction

ROGER MEYER

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

March 08

In-Person

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 Pennsylvania 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.

300 ECONOMICS

Platforms vs. Governments— The Emerging Clash

LEWIS COHEN

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

March 08

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader’s bio, see 145.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Obstacles to African American Wealth

PETER WOLFE

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

March 10

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 791.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

305: International Trade

PATRICK MACRORY

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

March 11

In-Person

The enormous growth in world GDP since WWII resulted in large part from the liberalization of international trade, in particular the huge lowering of tariffs. The modern international trading system reached its zenith in 1995 with the creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which now has 164 members and covers virtually all international trade in goods, services, and intellectual property. However, the WTO has lost its way in recent years. The dispute-settlement system is in limbo as a result of actions by the Trump Administration. And the Doha Round of trade negotiation collapsed after producing only one non-controversial agreement. After discussing the economic and political importance of trade, the course will describe the development of the modern system and analyze the basic rules. It will cover the difficulties currently faced by the WTO and the prospects for reform, as well as the implications of the massive growth of free-trade agreements. It will also discuss current trade issues, including the US/China trade "war," digital trade, and climate change.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Patrick Macrory began his legal career in the UK but has spent the last 50 years practicing international trade law in Washington, DC. He has lectured on the subject in many parts of the world, and for the last 20 years has run a course on the subject several times a year at the Foreign Service Institute. He has published extensively on trade, and was Editor-in-Chief of a 3,000-page book on the World Trade Organization. His last book, Business Guide to Trade and Investment, has been translated into Chinese.

322: Contemporary Economic Policy Issues

JON HAVEMAN

ALAN RHINESMITH, OLLI COORDINATOR

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

March 11

Online

Academic economists from all over the country will present in-depth analyses on a wide-ranging set of economic policy issues.

Register online at <http://olli-dc.org>

These scholars are all experts in their field and in the topic on which they will be speaking. Topics may include Healthcare Economics, Cryptocurrencies, the Black-White Wealth Gap, Infrastructure Economics, or some other set of topics that are of particular interest at the time. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Jon Haveman is the Executive Director of the National Economic Education Delegation (NEED) and will be the host for the course. He is a noted California economist, with a reputation for providing audiences with digestible economic information that is readily useful in their work and private lives. Jon Haveman is an expert on economic policy issues and speaks regularly at events across California. His more than 500 talks have covered a wide range of policy topics. Jon Haveman holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Michigan. The talks will be provided by NEED, a delegation of more than 700 PhD economists. Jon will be presenting for several sessions; other sessions will be presented by subject-matter experts from all around the country.

350: Protecting and Maximizing Your Retirement Income

DAVID HURWITZ

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

March 10

Online

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.

351: Tax Policy: What's Your Fair Share?

MARTIN SILFEN

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

March 08

In-Person

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. said, "Taxes are what we pay for a civilized society." True enough. But how much of that burden should you bear?

In this study group we will discuss various approaches to allocating the tax burden among citizens. We will learn about overarching principles that help shape a viable tax system. We will consider our existing tax systems and explore suggestions for improvement. Throughout the course, we will evaluate (and grade) different tax proposals. All participants are encouraged and expected to express their opinions. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Martin Silfen was a practicing tax attorney for 21 years, specializing in retirement planning and estate planning, a wealth planner with a wealth management firm for 14 years, and a taxpayer for 55 years. He is the author of *The Retirement Plan Distribution Book*.

361: Boom and Bust

WILLIAM DANAY

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

March 09

Online

Pundits will argue that the most recent financial crisis was unique in American history. Indeed, each financial bust has shown unique causes and characteristics. However, from William Duer's attempt to profit from the country's post-Revolutionary War debt through the 21st-century's mortgage-backed, security-driven downturn, common themes can be observed. This study group will review the economic history of the United States, primarily focusing on how we have been lending, borrowing, crashing, and recovering our way through an extraordinary range of financial crises. With each crisis, we will consider the question, "Is this time really different?"

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

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

400 STEM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

The Neuroscience of Conflict

JEANINE HULL

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

March 11

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 200. This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Evolution of Mind

CATHARINE KEATLEY

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

March 08

Online

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 201.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

402: Interpreting Your DNA Test

ROBERT LAROSSA

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

March 10

Online

By now, many of us have had our DNA analyzed within a genealogical context, and often are confused by the returned results. This is not surprising since the biology our demographic was taught preceded the molecular biology revolution of 1960–1975. Here we have two aims: to understand both the fundamental mechanics of genetics and how DNA testing underpins a new approach to genealogy. Only with a knowledge of genetic principles can the impact of DNA testing be appreciated. In ten weeks, we will achieve these goals by lectures, discussion, and videos. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1–2 hrs/week.

Bob Larossa, a retired DuPont and American Academy of Microbiology Fellow, is interested in American and family history. He trained in molecular biology at Johns Hopkins, Yale, and Stanford. He taught *Genealogical Fundamentals*, *Genealogy Computer Lab*, and *Interpreting Your DNA Results* at OLLI Wilmington, Delaware, before moving here in 2020.

422: Climate Change and Climate Science

JONATHAN (JOSH) BERMAN

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

March 10

In-Person

We are surrounded by climate, climate change, and media coverage of climate change. In 2021, Steven Koonin—a theoretical physicist who was both BP's Chief Scientist for Alternative Energy and Obama's Deputy Secretary for Energy—published the book *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What it Doesn't, and Why it Matters*. The book is divided into two parts: Part I: Climate Science; Part II: The Response (the economics related to how to respond to the science). The emphasis in this study group will be on Part I: Climate Science (see syllabus), which even though it is the basis for most conversations

about climate, will be novel to us. Koonin's proposed "Response"—the economics related to how to respond to the science—is controversial and has generated furious criticism, both with respect to his view of climate science and to his economics related to it. This study group is an opportunity for the SGL and participants, as co-equals, to read this challenging book and criticisms of it. Each participant should expect to lead the discussion at least one week (see syllabus). Koonin writes very well. Nevertheless, this course will be demanding and 5–6 hours of reading per week may be necessary. This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: More than 3 hrs/week.

Josh Berman, MD-PhD, is a medical scientist not a climate scientist. The study group format will be "a discussion among equals:" an opportunity for all us climate science novices to understand climate science and how to interpret it.

426: The Human Body

MARJORIE SHAW

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

March 07

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

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

March 07

Online

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;

- Improve your proficiency with the Windows 10 operating system; and
- Create 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 has a large capacity.

This study group is 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.

441: Introduction to the Cloud

VICTOR REZMOVIC

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

March 10

Online

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

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

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

444: Algorithms—How Machines Think

JACQUES READ

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

March 07

In-Person

Algorithms—or sets of rules to be followed to be used to solve problems—have been in use for several thousands of years. A really good algorithm always works, and can be programmed for a computer to save humans from having to think for themselves. The course will review the history of old reliable algorithms and discuss nine types of algorithms that run much of our present world. Most of

the algorithms are clever and easily understood, while a few involve diabolically complex mathematics. These latter examples will have their effect explained without involving their complexity.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 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.

452: Energy and Climate Change

ALBERT CHEH

RON EDELSTEIN

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

March 07

Online

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

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Albert Cheh has a BA in Chemistry from Columbia and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of California at Berkeley. He retired as Professor Emeritus in Environmental Science and in Chemistry at American University in 2017 and continues to teach Sustainable Energy at American to mostly non-science majors.

Ron Edelstein has almost 50 years of experience as an engineer, first at Pratt & Whitney working on aircraft engines, then as a consultant for the Department of Energy, and then in senior R&D positions at the Solar Energy Research Institute and the Gas Research Institute. Ron in his retirement is a "climate ambassador" for the Climate Interactive EnROADS climate simulation model. Ron has three engineering degrees: Aerospace Engineering, Engineering Science: Solid Mechanics, and Engineering Science: Environmental Science & Technology.

475: The Stories Behind the Vaccines

PHIL BRUNELL

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

March 09

In-Person

Among the stories to be examined:

- Small pox—the first vaccine: the first protests;

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

This study group is a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Philip Brunell, MD, is the former Chair, Committee on Infectious Diseases of the Academy of Pediatrics, and member of the CDC advisory committee on infectious diseases. He worked at the CDC, NIH, and held professorships at NYU, UCLA, and UT at San Antonio Schools of Medicine. He developed the first preventative for chickenpox and studied numerous vaccines.

480: The Ups and Downs of Weather

PAUL BROWN

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

March 07

Online

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.). A profusely illustrated spiral-bound booklet written for the course can be purchased for the printing cost of \$35 (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 before the course begins.

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.

492: The Human Immune System

ALBERT TARAN

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

March 09

In-Person

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 a repeat with revisions.

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

Classics of African American Art (Primarily Literature and Music)

ELEANOR HEGINBOTHAM

GERALD COLEMAN

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

March 10

Online

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 677. This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Poems about Paintings

GERRY HENDERSHOT

DONNA JONTE

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

March 10

Online

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 640. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Asian Films: Culture, History, Politics

BILL HADDEN

RITA HADDEN

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

March 09

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 212.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

505: Masters of the Italian Baroque

DAVID FLAXMAN

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

March 07

Hybrid

Claudio Monteverdi was a master composer of vocal music—credited by some as the father of the modern opera—and the composer of eight books of madrigals that set the poetry of Torquato Tasso (of Gerusalemme Liberata fame) and others beautifully and memorably. Monteverdi helped usher in the Baroque era of music from the late Renaissance. His influence on subsequent Italian composers was enormous and we will study a few of them and conclude with the late Baroque music of Antonio Vivaldi. Vivaldi, of course, is best known as the composer of *The Four Seasons*, but this only scratches the surface of his greatness. As usual, we will proceed largely chronologically as we study these composers. ***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 local choral musician and retired computer scientist who has been presenting courses on great composers and their music at OLLI for the last several years. He sings with the Choral Arts Society, the City Choir of Washington, and the Georgetown Chorale, for whom he serves as president.

510: Cover Me: Tales of Songwriters and Their Songs

LARRY GONDELMAN

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

March 08

Hybrid

"Respect" by Aretha Franklin was just crowned the number one song in the updated *Rolling Stone* list of 100 greatest songs. However, the Queen of Soul's take on the song was actually a "cover" of the original which was written and performed by Otis Redding. As great as Otis' performance is, Aretha's became the definitive version. In this class, we will learn the stories of the songwriters who write songs that others perform and how the cover songs took on lives of their own. We'll start by listening to cover songs by two of the greatest cover

bands that ever existed—The Beatles and The Rolling Stones, bands that got their start by playing songs written by Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry, Robert Johnson, and others. Then there are the stories of the professional songwriters behind hits such as “Hound Dog,” “Stand By Me,” and “(You’ve Lost that) Lovin’ Feeling”—writers like Stoller and Lieber; Mann and Weil; Dozier, and Holland. Some professional songwriters went on to become performers in their own right so we’ll learn the stories of Carole King, Randy Newman, Jimmy Webb, and Laura Nyro. We’ll then venture in one of the favorite debates in bars—which version of a song is better. One week we will listen to songs by bands and performers that hit the big time mostly on the backs of their covers—The Turtles, The Byrds, Three Dog Night, The Monkees, and Dusty Springfield. Other classes will focus on some of the most covered songs of all time as well as traditional and classical songs that became modern day hits (“House of the Rising Sun,” “Sloop John B,” and “Tom Dooley”). The course will finish with a survey of songs written for movies, TV, and the theater that entered the pop mainstream, as well as songs that are used for commercials. **This study group has a large capacity.**

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 The Beatles, who he also got to meet. He is (or at least was before the pandemic) a prolific concert-goer. Larry has previously led the study groups *A History of Rock ‘n Roll, Iconic Albums—1960 to 2000, and Songs of Sex, Drugs, and Rock ‘n Roll at OLLI at AU.*

542: Early Romantic Composers: Their Lives, Their Times, Their Music

JOHN BOWEN

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

March 07

Online

“The forces that had been set in motion by the French Revolution and the Industrial Revolution had transformed Europe. Everything was in the process of change.... New attitudes about life, religion, economics and politics were in the air. In the arts, everybody was talking about Romanticism. Modern life came into being. Music, of course, reflected the new age.” —Harold C. Schonberg. In this course we will spend time with musical notables of this new age: Johann Nepomuk Hummel, Niccolò Paganini, Carl Maria von Weber, Franz Peter Schubert, Hector Berlioz, Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn, Frédéric Chopin, Robert and Clara Schumann, and Franz Liszt. We’ll listen to some of their best, most original, and most beautiful music, trace the outlines of their lives, and ask about the sources of their inspiration. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

*Despite, or perhaps because of, decades in economics classrooms, **John Bowen** remains an incurable Romantic. He has led OLLI classes on women composers and also works on the Steinway Diary Project at the Smithsonian.*

560: Doing Art with Collage

ROSE MOSNER

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

March 09

In-Person

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. Bring scissors, glue, pencils, background cardboard, old photos, fabric scraps, ribbons, textured papers, string, pieces of plastic, colored pencils, paints, markers, pens, or whatever comes to mind. 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 had a solo show at the Iona Gallery. She is also one of only ten artists involved with a special program for artists over 62 sponsored by Columbia University.

565: Seeing More, Enjoying More at the Ballet

ILSA BUSH

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

March 09

In-Person

This class will enrich your experience of watching ballet and dance in general. The class will use video and photographic materials spanning the 16th to 21st centuries, along with lecture information, to present the history of ballet and its defining technique. We will explore ballet features such as storytelling, use of pattern, musical accompaniment, character development, and stagecraft. We will look at the changes in ballet over time and the connections between traditional and contemporary ballet offerings. The class will include time for discussion and encourage participants to enhance the discussion with their knowledge of dance, history, or other art forms. This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Ilsa Bush, retired lawyer, received teaching credentials from American Ballet Theatre’s teacher-training program and taught ballet technique and dance history at DC area universities and studios for 20 years. She worked for dance history preservation with Dance Heritage Coalition and assisted dance organizations with grant proposals.

572: Medieval Manuscripts and the History of Script

CARIN RUFF

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

March 11

In-Person

Our alphabet and the modern form of the physical book developed between the late Roman Empire and the invention of printing. We will explore how script evolved during that millennium and the materials, aesthetics, and organizational structures of the premodern book. Participants will learn how to navigate digitized manuscripts online and the basics of recognizing medieval scripts, so they will be equipped to continue exploring on their own. Class meetings will combine illustrated lectures and studying manuscript pages together, with plenty of time for questions and discussion. There is no required reading, but participants will be encouraged to explore online resources between class meetings.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Carin Ruff has a PhD in medieval studies from the University of Toronto and has taught Medieval Latin and manuscript studies at the University of Toronto, UC Berkeley, and Cornell. Since moving back to DC, she has worked in historic preservation and teaches occasional courses in Medieval Latin at Catholic University and the University of Maryland.

588: Travels with Ibn Battuta

DELRIE HOBBS

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

March 10

Online

In 1325, at the age of 21, Ibn Battuta set off from his native Tangier (Morocco) on the Hajj to Mecca. He did not return to Morocco until 1349, by which time he had visited not only Mecca, but also Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Persia, East Africa, Yemen, Anatolia, the steppes of southern Russia, Constantinople, India, the Maldives, Sumatra, and China. Ibn Battuta is one of the great travelers in medieval history—follow along his 75,000-mile trek, as we focus on the arts in each region, as well as the culture, history, and architecture. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

Delrie L. Hobbs has been teaching at OLLI at California State University at Long Beach since 2015. She is an Emeritus Docent at Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art (active docent 1999-2014) and an Adjunct Faculty member at Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland. She has a MA in Asian art from the University of London.

590: Looking at Architecture

JOHN VORHES

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

March 09

In-Person

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

600 LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

600: Classical Languages

DONALD ROSS

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

March 11

Hybrid

First, what this course is not: (1) It is not a language course. No one will be expected to master Sanskrit, Greek, or Latin in ten weeks! (2) It is not a course in sociology. We won't be exploring the relation of those languages to the cultures that produced them. (3) It is not for the faint-of-heart! This is a course in linguistics. It has two goals: (1) The less important goal is to enable participants to sound out passages written in Greek and Sanskrit. That implies mastery of the alphabets. (2) The more important goal is to get an idea of what the common ancestor of all three languages must have been like. This will be accomplished by exploring the most complex grammatical features found in the three languages

This study group is a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Don Ross received his BA in philosophy from Wake Forest University in 1970, his MA from the University of Iowa in 1972, and his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1979. His publications include material on

ancient philosophy, both East and West. He has many years of work in the original languages—Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit.

601: Conversation à travers le cinéma français, et lecture d'articles pour présenter la culture, les arts, la société francophone

MICHÈLE SPITTLER

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

March 07

In-Person

Ce groupe d'études est pour des étudiants qui ont un niveau d'université intermédiaire/avancé. Une participation intensive des étudiants est très importante. L'objectif est de développer le vocabulaire courant et d'être capable de s'exprimer dans des phrases courtes mais correctes grammaticalement de façon à parler presque couramment. Le cours sera basé sur des films, vus en totalité. Cela donnera une base pour parler de différents sujets présentés dans le film. La participation des étudiants est fortement recommandée. Les étudiants pourront aussi faire des recherches sur certains thèmes du film, et présenter leurs résultats à la classe (pas plus de 5 minutes) en français naturellement. Au début de la session une liste de vocabulaire et des explications et exercices de grammaire seront données aux étudiants. Ce travail sera à faire comme devoirs pour la prochaine session. Un plan de travail sera aussi distribué. La classe sera aussi exposée aux dernières nouvelles sur la politique, la culture, les arts, les films etc., par des articles distribués en cours par le professeur. Il ne sera pas nécessaire de voir le film en dehors de la classe.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Michèle Spittler est née à Besançon. Elle a été professeur à National Cathedral School pendant 47 ans. Puis elle a enseigné à Washington Latin Charter Public school pendant 4 ans. Maintenant elle est disponible pour des leçons particulières. Ses étudiants varient entre 5 ans et 93 ans!! Elle a aussi enseigné des classes d'adultes le soir à l'Alliance française et à USDA Graduate school pendant 35 ans. Elle s'intéresse beaucoup à l'histoire, aux problèmes sociaux politiques, à l'art et à la cuisine du terroir et du monde francophone.

602: French Conversation Advanced

CAROLINE FARRELL

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

March 09

Online

This class features conversation with attention to mastering complex structures and increasing vocabulary. The class presupposes a fairly high level of French. Members registering for this course for the first time are kindly requested to contact the SGL before the lottery at caroline67bling@gmail.com.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Caroline Farrell holds an honors BA from the University of Toronto in French, German, and history, and holds a MA (ABD) in French literature from Princeton University. She has taught French at the University of Kansas, within the Canadian government, the Department of National Defense, and at the Royal Military College, Kingston. For the past last 13 years Caroline has taught French at the Kingston Senior Center.

603: Cours de Lecture et Conversation en Français

ELAINE FÉRAT

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

March 07

In-Person

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: ecferat1@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.

611: Hebrew Conversation for Beginners

ESTHER ROBBINS

Eight Thursdays (11:45 AM - 12:45 PM)

March 10

Online

This basic course is intended for beginners. The course will focus on a basic daily conversation in order to develop communicative skills in handling basic situations such as introductions, shopping, visiting the doctor, transportation, dining, family, hotel, etc. **This study group meets for one hour.**

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Esther Robbins taught Hebrew and Israeli culture mainly at Princeton University for 15 years. She coordinated the program, taught all levels, and developed curriculum. She also taught at Georgetown University and coordinated the programs there. Esther has an MA in Hebrew and Jewish studies and completed all courses towards the PhD.

613: Latin for Curious Beginners, Part Two

DIANA SMITH

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

March 11

In-Person

A continuation of the fall Latin class, this class will cover the next chapters in *Wheelock's Latin*. As before, we will emphasize the grammar and syntax of the language, and will begin to translate more complex texts. All those who took the fall class are automatically eligible; if someone else would like to join, you would need to have some background in Latin. Please contact the SGL at desdian@gmail.com.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

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. She has a BA in classics from Princeton and a PhD in English from UVA.

615: Deutsch fuer Fortgeschrittene

HANNE CARAHER

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

March 07

Online

Koennen 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.

617: The Great French Songbook

LISA HARPER

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

March 09

In-Person

This course will explore the great French songs of the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, through multi-media presentations and class discussions. The class will focus on such artists as Jacques Brel, Charles Aznavour, Georges Brassens, and Barbara who wrote the lyrics, composed the music, and sang the songs. Students will practice speaking, reading, and listening to French. The class, which will be taught in French,

requires at least an intermediate language level. All course materials (PowerPoint presentations, song lyrics, and vocabulary lists) will be in French and English. This is a French conversation class with a specialized focus. While it places the songs in their cultural/historical context, it is not a music appreciation or a social history class.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

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.

620: Italian Conversation and Culture

ARRIGO MONGINI

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

March 07

Online

This course is for students who have studied Italian for at least one year. Its purpose is to improve students' ability to speak and understand spoken Italian. A few days in advance of each class students will be assigned material in Italian from the works of authors and/or from newspaper articles. Students will read aloud this material in turn and, in some cases, say its English meaning. Other students and/or the study group leader will comment or ask questions and the discussion will continue in conversational Italian mode. Please refer to the syllabus, which gives specific information about the short stories to be covered.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Arrigo Mongini earned a bachelor's degree in Engineering and a master's degree 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)

March 10

Online

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.

626: Essays: Classics, Favorites, Earmarked

RICHARD PALMER

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

March 09

Online

The study group will read and discuss essays notable for style, importance, and historical influence. The leader will offer a tentative roster (Montaigne, Hazlitt, Merton, E.B. White, and others) but hopes to elicit from members in the first or second sessions several favorites or "to be read" that can evoke discussion among life-reflective, life-experienced OLLI members, since this is envisioned as an actively participative course. Some members may volunteer to introduce suggested essays, or share contextual information about some essays. Ability to download scanned and email-attached content will be useful; printed copies can be made available for those who need them, though there will be charges for copying.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Richard R. Palmer is a retired Washington psychiatrist with an interest in culture, who has many essays on his "earmarked" list. He has led many OLLI study groups.

630: Charles Dickens, George Eliot, and "The Root of All Evil"

LINDA FREEMAN

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

March 07

Online

Scripture tells us that the love of money is the root of all evil. We will read and discuss three 19th-century books that look at the alienation, distortion, and guilt caused by the possession, loss, and misuse of money. First will be Dickens's *Great Expectations* (about the effects of a mysterious fortune bestowed on a young man) in the novel that is considered by many critics to be Dickens's best and most brilliant. We then will then read two shorter works, both about a miser: Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* (yes, of course you know the story, but when did you last actually read the text?) and George Eliot's *Silas Marner* (yes, that book you hated in high school; did you know then that it is full of complex ironies?)

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: More than 3 hrs/week.

Linda Freeman, PhD, a retired University of Maryland lecturer in Victorian literature, has also 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)

March 07

In-Person

The first two plays address adult children confronting parents about their past, from a male and a female playwright; *The Cocktail Hour*, by A.R. Gurney, and *Painting Churches*, by Tina Howe. The third play, *The Piano Lesson*, by August Wilson, raises the question of what family members do with their legacy. We'll conclude with *The Unavoidable Disappearance of Tom Durnin*, by Steven Levenson, about a prison-released father trying to reunite with his family. 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, PhD, has been a family therapist for (lots) more than four decades. She has published numerous books and articles about family relationships. She has taught at OLLI for over a decade.

633: Wallace Stevens and Company

DANIEL COYLE

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

March 09

In-Person

In this study group, we'll read and discuss the poetry of a half-dozen modernists who carried forward the American Romantic tradition of Emerson and Whitman, exalting the powers of the imagination to create order and meaning in the world. We begin with Wallace Stevens, the champion of this movement. We then take up A.R. Ammons, Marianne Moore, Elizabeth Bishop, John Ashbery, James Richardson, and John Koethe. A packet of the readings will be sent out before each session.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

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

639: Appreciating Children's Picture Books as an Adult

KAREN BUGLASS

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

March 07

Online

We'll explore literary themes and hear from authors via taped interviews while enjoying the rich language and beautiful illustrations that make these books so special. See how stories spark the imagination and give readers—of all ages—the opportunity to connect with characters and events that are part of the universal human experience.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Karen Buglass is an award-winning elementary educator who enjoys connecting with others through literature. She previously taught Appalachian dulcimer classes at OLLI at AU and is excited about moving from music to literature this semester.

640: Poems about Paintings

GERRY HENDERSHOT

DONNA JONTE

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

March 10

Online

We will view and discuss paintings by old masters and contemporary artists, and poems about those paintings, such as Breughel's painting *Icarus* and Auden's poem "Le Musee des Beaux Arts." Our goal will be to enhance our understanding and appreciation of both arts.

We will be joined by education staff of The Phillips Collection, who will discuss paintings in the collection and guide a free in-person tour, pandemic restrictions permitting. Although painters and poets will be introduced by the study group leader, emphasis will be on discussion among the group. Participants will be invited to write (at least) one short poem or paragraph about a painting of their choice and present it to the study group.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Gerry Hendershot is a retired PhD statistician turned poet, who has published ekphrastic poetry—poetry about paintings—in poetry journals and led discussion groups about painting and poetry in several local venues.

Donna Jonte is an art educator and Manager of Art and Wellness and Family Programs at The Phillips Collection.

645: Hard Times in Academia

MARY POOLE

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

March 09

In-Person

No, this is not a course on what the pandemic did to college life. Rather, it will focus on five novels that paint the misadventures attending those connected to a seat of higher learning. These are somewhat atypical "campus novels" in that they are not works of farce, yet ironies abound in each. In one, set in 1912, scientific reasoning is upended by mystery; in another, set in the 1950s, a teacher from New York tries to remake his life in the West; in one, a young woman questions her relationship to language and the world; in another, a humanist confronts the nature of the knowable and how we know it; the last takes on early 21st-century culture wars. And all of them involve human love gone wrong—or right.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Mary Winslow Poole has an MSL from Georgetown University. She had a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship in Florence, Italy, and two grants from the NEH for the Teaching Shakespeare Institutes at the Folger. She taught English Literature in the International Baccalaureate program at Washington International School for 23 years.

646: How to Wash a Child's Heart

JENNY PIERSON

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

March 08

In-Person

This is a course for experienced poets who wish to enrich their hearts, embrace new voices, and express the joys and pains of the human world. The notion of "takotsubo syndrome," or a broken heart, will dominate our discussions. Using Pablo Neruda's keenly observed "things" in his disarming odes, alongside Bhanu Kapil's prize-winning collection, *How To Wash A Heart*, which depicts the relationship between an immigrant guest and a privileged host, we will craft poems weekly based on readings and assignments. Discussion of the work of our chosen poets, as well as critiques of each member's original poems, completes each class.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 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)

March 08

Online

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)

March 08

In-Person

Looking back in time, we can discover what major upheavals such as our Covid-19 require of individuals and cultures. Even in the Bible, there were plagues. Through literature, where plagues/pandemics are central or incidental, we can better understand what scared people, the nature of the damage, and attempted solutions. The study group will read and discuss fiction and nonfiction to better understand the story of our current Pandemic, note parallels with past pandemics, assess the impact on individuals and their world, and reach toward the future. The class uses a seminar format with each participant reading the two required books for the class, plus choosing an additional book from an optional list that will be provided upon registration.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Susan Urofsky is an experienced manager, evaluator, and staff training proponent. Over a 30-year career, she assessed complex information to advance governmental solutions for the legislature, cabinet, and as a head of agency. A long-ago English major, she is an avid reader of literature that informs, entertains, and portrays life.

655: Early Twentieth-Century American Fiction

RONALD PARLATO

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

March 09

Online

The course will study works by Dreiser, Lewis, London, Fitzgerald, Anderson, and Norris, and will present the range of focus, theme, style, and language represented. The early 20th century was remarkable not only for the number of significant authors of the period, but for the variety and diversity of their works, their depth, narrative skill, and surprising modernism. From Sherwood Anderson's unsettling psychological portraits to Fitzgerald's elegant prose and finely drawn characters, to Lewis' and Dreiser's realism, and to London's spare philosophical insights, the period was important in the history of American fiction.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Ronald Parlato has taught literature at OLLI for the past decade. His courses have included Conrad, Greene, Ibsen, Williams, Shakespeare, Tolstoy, and others. A former International Development Consultant, he is a graduate of Yale University, where he majored in English and French literature. He is also a linguist and writer.

671: The Ancient Greek Art of the Dramatic Novel

ANDREW WHITE

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

March 11

In-Person

As part of his efforts to unlock the secrets of Ancient Greek culture, OLLI regular Andy White now turns his attention to those curious tall tales known today as "novels"—but which were actually composed in a unique environment where dramatic literature was shifting from the stage to the page. We will read some classic Ancient Greek stories, dramatic and fantastical, which were actually called "Dramas" in their day—and we will puzzle over the status of what we might call post-dramatic Ancient Greek drama!

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 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!

675: Poems That Talk Back

CLAIRE PETTENGILL

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

March 10

Online

Poets are often inspired (or provoked) by another writer's work to compose a fresh poem in response. These "backtalk" poems vary widely and are great fun to study: they can voice angry and mocking rebuttals, respectful disagreements, thoughtful extrapolations, and playful teasing, to give only a few examples. Each week, the study group will read and respond to a poem pair that illustrates these dynamics. Members will read at home (but do not need fully to digest) the poems assigned for the week, which will be available electronically. In class, we will share questions and insights, getting to know some wonderful poems while building a relaxed, open-minded atmosphere that welcomes various voices and viewpoints. This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Claire Pettengill taught and chaired the humanities department at Maret. She graduated from Yale, taught with the Peace Corps in Morocco, and holds advanced degrees from Georgetown and the University of Maryland. Her favorite poets include Lucille Clifton, Czeslaw Milosz, and Bob Dylan.

677: Classics of African American Art (Primarily Literature and Music)

ELEANOR HEGINBOTHAM

GERALD COLEMAN

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

March 10

Online

According to a recent book, we are called to *Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature*. To that end, we will explore texts, music, and images, which have influenced the current plethora of African American art. Team-taught by a lifelong English professor and a lifelong composer and performer, the class will explore work by, among others, Frederick Douglass, James Weldon Johnson, Zora Neale Hurston, and Richard Wright. This is the first of two multi-disciplinary semesters we hope to lead in which the vexing contradictions of justice and racism are addressed with—often—glorious provisional resolutions. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Eleanor Heginbotham, PhD, author and professor on American authors for five decades around the world, and for the past 15 years at OLLI, is eager to return to these texts with *Gerald Coleman*, PhD, composer, conductor, organist, performer (Carnegie Hall, Kennedy

Center), and theologian, whose honors include the Yale's Music Fox Award.

681: What's New in the Short Story?

SUSAN WILLENS

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

March 07

Online

In this course, we will read and discuss works in *The Best American Short Stories 2021*, edited by Jesmyn Ward and Heidi Pitlor. The collection introduces recent stories that explore a wide variety of settings, characters, styles, and intentions—all stunningly contemporary. Class members will share one or two stories for each of the eight weeks of the course.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Susan Willens has been a Study Group Leader at OLLI for several years, varying her offering among stories, plays, and essays. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Yale, and Catholic universities, Susan Willens looks forward to this new term with confidence that we will enjoy and learn from this text and from each other.

684: Shakespeare: FAQ

HELEN SCHWARTZ

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

March 08

In-Person

Certain questions have arisen whenever I've taught Shakespeare, so this is my chance to answer using generous excerpts from famous productions and movies. Why use weird or unhistorical settings (illustrated by *Romeo and Juliet*)? How can the same play be a hit for 500 years (*Taming of the Shrew*)? These days, must a black man play Othello (John Kani and Orson Welles)? Why does Shakespeare have to write in Old English poetry? (Yes, that's what my students say.) How would you apply the recently promulgated Schwartz Doctrine of text revision (including you cannot add text, though you can omit up to 100 lines total) to the ending of *Taming*?

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Helen Schwartz, a professor of English with Fulbrights in the Netherlands and Turkey, and faculty exchanges in Debrecen, Hungary, and Chengdu, China, has taught at Oakland University in Michigan and Indiana University. Her OLLI courses include *Shakespeare*, *The Internet*, *Year Zero: A History of 1945*, and *Fateful Documents*.

685: August Wilson's *American Century Cycle*

RAYMOND MAXWELL

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

March 10

Online

The study group will read and discuss one August Wilson play each week for 11 weeks, completing the *American Century Cycle* of ten plays. Each participant will be required to read the assigned play at home, select a passage or passages they find significant, then be prepared to read the passage and discuss why that passage is significant to them. After class, each student will have the opportunity to post to a blog a few paragraphs about the play. The goal of the course will not be to exhaustively discuss each play, but to participate in a brief, collaborative close read and discussion by the group.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2-3 hrs/week.

Raymond Maxwell is from Greensboro, NC. He came to Washington for a career position in the foreign service in 1992 after completing a stint in the Navy. He began a lifelong fascination with August Wilson after seeing *Fences* on Broadway in 1988. After retiring, Raymond earned a masters in library science. He has been an OLLI SGL since 2018.

690: Anglo-Indian Novels: The Raj, Its Aftermath, and Diaspora

ELLEN MOODY

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

March 10

In-Person

In this class we will read E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India*, Paul Scott's *The Jewel in the Crown* (Raj Quartet 1), and Jhumpa Lahiri's *Namesake*. We'll explore a tradition of literature, colonialist and native cultural interactions, migrancy itself, gender fault lines, what we mean by our identity, belonging, and castes. We'll include in our discussions Anglo-Indian movies as a genre, and see parts of and talk specifically about David Lean's *Passage to India*, the BBC *Jewel in the Crown*, Merchant-Ivory's *Shakespeare Wallah*, and perhaps Mira Nair's *Namesake*. We'll take historical and contemporary perspectives on this rich material.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: 2 hrs/week.

Ellen Moody has been teaching since 1972, in senior colleges until 2012, and now for eight years at two OLLIs. She is a published scholar, with specialties in the 18th through 20th centuries, film adaptation, and recently historical, political, and colonialist writing.

699: Diego Rivera and Angelina Beloff in Paris

RAYSA AMADOR

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

March 08

In-Person

This study group will explore the lives of Mexican muralist painter, Diego Rivera, and his first wife, Russian artist, Angelina Beloff, while living in France between 1910 and 1920. Presentation and discussion will focus on exactly a moment of great artistic transformation in Paris, the 1910s. We will read Elena Poniatowska's novel, *Dear Diego*. The novel acknowledges the professional and private life of Rivera and Beloff when they met Picasso, Léger, Modigliani, Chagall, Mondrian, and numerous important artists of the time. In *Dear Diego*, Poniatowska highlights the "pull" of Mexico for Diego, and the reason for his return in 1921, which corresponds to the period of national reconstruction under President Obregon after the Mexican Revolution of 1910. This movement of national reconstruction brought about a diverse and active artistic climate in which the Mexican government sponsored programs such as the legendary mural projects under the directorship of the Minister of Education, José Vasconcelos.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Reading and Discussion

Reading: Less than 1 hr/week.

Raysa E. Amador, PhD, is a Professor of Languages and Literature at Adelphi University. She holds a doctorate in Spanish and a Computer Programmer Degree from New York University. She has more than four decades of experience teaching and researching in Latin American literature.

700 HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

James Madison: Political Theorist and Politician

RICHARD SCHUBERT

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

March 08

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 148.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Thurgood Marshall: Trailblazing Legal Icon

RALPH BUGLASS

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

March 10

Online

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 178.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Travels with Ibn Battuta

DELRIE HOBBS

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

March 10

Online

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 588.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

700: Florence—City of Science, Political Theory, Economics, Philosophy, and Oh, Yes, Art

GEORGE LESSER

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

March 09

Online

Forget the art. Forget Michelangelo. Forget Leonardo, Botticelli, Giotto, and Donatello—at least for the moment. Forget them because the pivotal role played by Florentines in Western art is so self-evident, so overwhelming, that people often are fooled into thinking that the only reason to pay any attention to the town is because of the art. In fact, Florentines played equally vital if less appreciated roles in the development of science, philosophy,

historiography, literature, political theory, economics, the age of discovery, and the establishment of the basic vocabulary of Western Civilization. And the essential fact is that everything was all wrapped up together. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

George H. Lesser is a retired journalist based, at various times, in Washington, New York, London, and Brussels. During his career, he was a copy boy, reporter, editor, managing editor, and publisher. He has experience teaching English and English history at a school in London as well as teaching journalism.

701: The Myth and Reality of the Wild West

JOHN VORHES

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

March 08

In-Person

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

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

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

703: America's Rise and ... Decline

JAMES NATHAN

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

March 07

In-Person

The course is organized by key themes and events. Among the topics are World Wars I and II, the Cold War, and the Korean, Vietnam, and

Iraq Wars. We also review the impact of domestic politics and other “sources of American conduct.” Post-9/11 crises in US foreign policies as they impact America’s role in the world are considered as well. The purpose of this course is to understand policy largely from the standpoint of American policymakers at the time and to evaluate their decisions in light of their consequences. Please note that this course is a repeat that has revisions and an updated title.

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

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

740: History of Slavery in America 1619–1862

KAREN STEWART

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

March 09

Online

From the landing of the first captive Africans at Jamestown, slavery has been a central contradiction of our nation’s history. This course will begin with a view of the 15th-century world from which the Atlantic slave trade emerged. We will focus on slavery in the colonies along the Atlantic seaboard. We will trace the laws, economies, social mores, and politics that impacted the lives of the enslaved Africans. We will see how the African struggle for survival and a place in this emerging nation impacted the nation’s history. The purpose of the class is to help us become more informed participants in the ongoing national conversation on race and reconciliation. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is a repeat with revisions.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

Karen Stewart is a retired epidemiologist with a consuming interest in the history of slavery and the role of race in American life. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the University of North Carolina. She was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi. Karen has taught at OLLI since 2017.

750: A Passion for Justice and An Interpretation of the US Constitution

ARNOLD LEIBOWITZ

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

March 11

Online

This eight-week course will be divided into two 4-week sessions. Session 1 (weeks 1-4), will be a discussion of *A Passion for Justice*. In weeks 1 and 2, we will discuss the voyage of the Mignonette and the resultant actions of the three people on the raft to survive. In weeks 3 and 4, we will discuss the case of the Spelunking Explorers. A group of men were excavating a cave when it collapsed, trapping the men in the cave. We will discuss what the explorers had to do in order to survive. This is replayed in a fictional effort by Lon Fuller, Professor of Legal Philosophy at Harvard Law School. We will also talk briefly about (1) the sinking of the Titanic and the Lusitania and the problem with the life rafts, and (2) the Donner Party, a group of American pioneers migrating west that was stranded in a snowstorm. Session 2 (weeks 5-8) will involve a discussion of the US Constitution. We will start with a discussion of Justice Antonin Scalia’s book, *A Matter of Interpretation*, in which he supports what he calls textualism. In the book, he argues for a literal interpretation of the Constitution. We will discuss the comments by Professor Gordon Wood, Lawrence Tribe, Ronald Tworin, and Mary Ann Glendon. ***This study group has a large capacity.***

This study group is not a repeat.

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.

768: From Rifled Muskets to Killer Robots

PETER WILSON

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

March 09

In-Person

This study group will consider, from the perspective of the two centuries that followed the Industrial Revolution, the effects of scientific and technological change on the global national security environment. Specifically, this study group will examine the hypothesis that there have been several “revolutions in military affairs” in both the 19th and 20th centuries that emerged as competitive ways of war that profoundly altered the global security environment. Particular emphasis will be given to how the United States has or has not successfully adapted to the periods of rapid military technological change that emerged during the 20th century and how these lessons might be applied to our current 21st-century security challenges.

This study group is a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Peter A. Wilson is an adjunct senior researcher at the Rand Corporation.

770: A Brief History of Washington, DC

ROBERT SOMERS

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

March 09

In-Person

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

This study group is a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture

Reading: No required reading.

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

778: We Cannot Escape History: Abraham Lincoln, Abolition President

JOE SIMPSON

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

March 07

Online

This course will examine in detail Abraham Lincoln's political and moral journey from opposing the expansion of slavery in 1854 to his presidential leadership to abolish human slavery in the United States in 1865. Lincoln's essential characteristics and his motives as a politician and president will be revealed to evaluate Lincoln's continued relevance as our greatest president. Race, civil unrest, and civil rights confronted Lincoln and confront all Americans today. Lincoln's moral certainty, empathy, and political sagacity were critical human traits that guided and empowered him to victory in war and to guarantee that all Americans would be free, citizens, and entitled to equal political and civil rights. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: No required reading.

Joe Simpson has researched Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War Era for 30 years. He has a BA in history from the University of North

Carolina, Chapel Hill. Since 2019, Joe has taught Lincoln lectures at Duke University and North Carolina State University OLLI programs. He will also teach at Emory University OLLI in 2022. He is a member of the Lincoln Forum, Abraham Lincoln Historical Association, and the American History Association.

782: The Transformation of China— From Traditional China to Mao

LEONARD KING

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

March 11

In-Person

For over 2,000 years, China considered itself the "Middle Kingdom," the center of civilization. Before 1750, one-half of all books were printed in Chinese. The Chinese invented paper, the magnetic compass, and printing, and they developed Confucianism, a political philosophy based on rule by knowledge and morality. However, from 1839, the beginning of the Opium War, China was forced to struggle against Imperialism, first trying to adapt Confucianism to accommodate modernization, and finally to abandon it and the dynastic system. In this course, we will study the various Chinese reform and revolutionary movements until Mao transformed the entire system. **This study group has a large capacity.**

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1 hr/week.

For 43 years, **Leonard King** taught at Maret School including courses on Asia and the West, History and Aesthetics of Film, Theory and Practice of Nonviolence, and 20th-Century Europe. He has taught and learned at OLLI since he has retired.

791: Obstacles to African American Wealth

PETER WOLFE

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

March 10

In-Person

This course will cover the development of obstacles to the prosperity of African Americans. These obstacles primarily relate to the problems of Black businesses and banks, but also with housing and living conditions. They originate with the legacies of slavery, the creation of segregated communities where poverty limits the opportunities for African Americans to support their institutions, and actions of the local and federal governments. I will discuss the issues based on the text but also on other books that I've read.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

Peter Wolfe is a retired lawyer who majored in American history. He has been the study group leader for numerous OLLI history courses.

800 PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

James Madison: Political Theorist and Politician

RICHARD SCHUBERT

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

March 08

In-Person

For study group description and Study Group Leader's bio, see 148.

This study group is not a repeat.

Class Format: Lecture and Discussion

Reading: 1-2 hrs/week.

831: Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation

JEFFREY DROBIS

SUSAN DROBIS

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

March 07

Online

In this study group, you will learn mindfulness skills to rewire your brain to help make you a happier and more compassionate person. Mindfulness enhances our capacity for managing anxiety, stress, intense emotions, and uncertainty, and increases our capacity to experience deep fulfillment. We will primarily practice techniques that we have learned from Shinzen Young to use both in sitting meditation practice and in ordinary life. Sessions will include instruction, guided meditations, and group discussion. Although there is no required reading, participants should plan to practice meditation on their own for at least ten 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 draws on traditional Asian practices, but is consciously secular and contemporary. Susan has been teaching mindfulness for 20 years and Jeffrey has led study groups at OLLI since 2015.

834: Mastering Skills of Mindfulness Meditation: Intermediate Level

JEFFREY DROBIS

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

March 07

Online

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.

Classes will include instruction, extensive guided meditations, and discussions. In addition, we will devote about ten 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 more than 25 years. He has led OLLI meditation study groups since 2015 and leads regular group meditations on the telephone throughout the year. The mindfulness techniques that he teaches draw on traditional Asian practices but are consciously secular.

835: Exploring Eastern Thought

CARL WEICHEL

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

March 08

In-Person

Eastern philosophies and religions embody many virtues that we in the West find alluring: introspection, gentleness, sensitivity, fortitude, and connection with mind and body. Sikhism in India; Jainism in India; Buddhism in India, Tibet, and Southeast Asia; and Taoism in China hold these virtues, but each is quite different in its ideas, practices, and histories. We will explore the ethics, cosmology, and theology that comprise their unusual religious philosophies. Background will be given on the texts, symbols, images, and practices/rituals, plus the culture, politics, and sociology of each through current times.

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 in the US. Carl has led study groups on Political Polarization, The 1960s, Our Hidden Brain, Our Cultural Complexities, The New York Times Book Review, and David Brooks' Writings.

860: Post-Kantian Philosophy

DONALD ROSS

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

March 11

Hybrid

The purpose of this course is to explore the ideas of the major philosophical movements after Kant. It is extremely difficult to put recent history in perspective, but I am trying to imaginatively look back half a millennium from now and ask myself how an OLLI SGL 500 years hence would view the period. I conjecture that such a person would see two particularly significant figures—Hegel and Wittgenstein.

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 has also done work in Asian and modern European philosophy.