## Membership Benefits


## Unlimited Courses
Courses form the core of our program. Our 40+ course offerings per term are presented in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere where there are no tests or other “measurement” criteria. We encourage interaction and discussion in every class.

## Pfaudler Lecture Series (Thursdays at 12:15, Winter, Spring, & Fall Terms)
Listen to a thought-provoking lecture by a guest speaker.

## Social Events
Our first in-person social event (a picnic) is scheduled for Friday, September 10 from 3:30 – 7 p.m. We hope to be able to offer more in-person events as COVID circumstances allow.

## Intersession Trips
Intersessions are short, between-term trips to interesting local attractions. We hope to be able to offer more in-person trips as COVID circumstances allow.

## SIGs (Special Interest Groups)
Osher members with a shared interest in a specific area of knowledge, learning, or technology gather at least monthly. All members are encouraged to join an existing SIG or to initiate the formation of a new SIG. See page 20 for more information.

## Arts & Lectures Series
This enrichment series, made possible by our endowment from The Bernard Osher Foundation, brings us entertaining artists and expert speakers at no additional charge to members. We hope to be able to offer this series again as COVID circumstances allow.

### On-Campus Benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Unlimited Courses</th>
<th>Pfaudler Lecture Series</th>
<th>Events SIGs</th>
<th>Arts &amp; Lectures</th>
<th>Summer Seminar</th>
<th>Student ID Card</th>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Audiology Services</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full (full year)</td>
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Register for classes online (see pages 4-5 for instructions). **Questions?** Reach us at (585) 292-8989 or osher.info@rit.edu
Which membership suits your needs?

We have varying levels of membership to fit your individual needs. You can begin your membership at the start of any of our terms.

Full Membership
A Full membership entitles you to all of the comprehensive benefits described on page 2. **The annual fee is $335.**

Trial Membership
A Trial membership offers another way to try Osher. Enjoy the privileges of membership for one term, excluding the RIT Student ID card and audiology services. **The fee is $100.** You may convert your Trial membership into a Full membership by paying the additional balance at the end of your trial term, thereby adding the next three terms.

Supporting Membership
A Supporting membership entitles you to all social and intersession events, the Pfaudler Lecture Series, the Summer Seminar program, and Arts & Lectures events. You may invite one guest to these activities. **The annual fee is $160.** Note: This membership excludes courses.

Scholarships
Partial scholarships are made possible by The Bernard Osher Foundation. Contact the Program Director at osher.info@rit.edu for details.

What’s Happening This Fall?

Online Courses
On August 18, 2021, the Osher Council voted to move all classes for the Fall term to Zoom, forgoing inperson classes. Ultimately, ensuring the safety of our members and staff was the deciding factor. To do that we would have had to impose a variety of controls such as mandatory masks and six-foot social distancing which would have significantly degraded the experience for members and course leaders. Thank you for your understanding.

Fall Kick-off Picnic
A “Welcome Back” picnic is planned for Friday, September 10th at the Quinzi Lodge, Legion Eyer Park in East Rochester, complete with music and a catered dinner. This event will be free for all members who attend. It will be great to see many familiar faces without the all-too-familiar “Hollywood Squares” format.

Thank you to our amazingly adaptive course leaders, and our volunteers and staff, who worked so hard to put together the fall term.

Joan Dupont, Chair of Council
Mary Bistrovich, Program Director

http://zoom.us/signup
IMPORTANT: You must be current with your payment in order to register for courses. If your membership expires before the Fall 2021 Term begins, and you are not paying online, make your payment well before registration day, TUESDAY, AUGUST 31.

**Directions for Online Course Registration**

The directions on this page will help you to register successfully. Online registration is your best bet for getting into the courses you want. Handing in a paper registration form early does not get you registered any earlier.

All paper registrations are processed, in random order, by staff beginning at 10 am on registration day.

[Note: The sample screens shown on this page are what you would see if working on a desktop or laptop computer. The screens on a phone or tablet will look different.]

1. Begin by visiting our website at rit.edu/osh and click on REGISTER in the top right of the page.

2. On this page, click on the left-most box:

3. On this page, locate the “Username” and “Password” fields and fill them in. Then click the “Login” button. If you don’t know your username and password, click on the “Forgot Password” link and follow the instructions.

4. Wait for the system to log you in. Once you’re logged in, you will see <your name> in the upper-right corner beside the gear icon.

5. On the left side of the screen under the “Search Options” heading, click on the “Select Term” drop-down menu and select “2021-04 (Fall)”. (If you wish, you may select a “Day” of the week to narrow down your search.) Then click the “Search” button.

6. Scroll through the list of courses being offered. Click on the “Register” box/button (it turns orange) below the class you want to take. To get to the next page of offerings, click the 2, 3, etc. found at the bottom of the page you’re on.

7. Follow the prompts to either continue selecting courses or to complete your registration checkout. [Note: You will have 60 minutes to choose all of your courses.] Once you have selected all the courses you want, click the “Checkout” button.
If you have any questions, please call (585-292-8989) or email osher.info@rit.edu.

And the final page (Your registration/purchase is complete) shows the list of Successful Items (your courses).

You will get a confirmation letter email for each course for which you’ve registered. For Zoom courses, the confirmation email will contain the Zoom meeting information and link. Save this email so that you can join your Zoom classes each week.

Note: You can log in to your account and see a list of your courses at any time by clicking the “gear” icon next to your name at the top of the Registration page.

Click on the “My Account” box, and at the top of the page, you will see “Personal Information” then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the “My Courses” tab (between the Emergency Info tab and the Memberships tab). If you have any questions, please call (585-292-8989) or email osher.info@rit.edu.

Course Registration Directions (cont’d)

[8] This page shows all of your selected courses. Read the “Terms of Use” and tick the box to accept the terms. **YOU MUST TICK THIS BOX IN ORDER TO CLICK “CONTINUE”!**

You must click the “Continue” button in order for your registration to be complete.

[9] And the final page (Your registration/purchase is complete) shows the list of Successful Items (your courses).

Join us at our Fall Course Preview on Thursday, August 26 10:00 – 11:00 am

https://rit.zoom.us/j/91449701581?pwd=OVMwOehVRXZsM3pOdFcvRGZDL1lvZz09

Meeting ID: 914 4970 1581
Passcode: 815456

Registration opens August 31 at 10 am

Classes start September 13, 2021

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT

A Learning Community for Adults Age 50+
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Presentations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 11:00 am</td>
<td>The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica: F1M&lt;br&gt;Bill McClane (9/13 – 11/15)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current Events: F2M&lt;br&gt;Dick Scott (9/13 – 11/15)</td>
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<td>South Asia: Past and Present: F4M&lt;br&gt;Mane Levin (9/13 – 11/15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 – 12:45 pm</td>
<td>Memoirs: F5M&lt;br&gt;Carol Samuel (9/13 – 11/15)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One-Session Classes: F6M – F15M&lt;br&gt;Various Presenters (weekly; see below)</td>
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</table>
The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica .............................................................................................................. F1M
[NEW CONTENT] This foundational cultural anthropology course has been enhanced and expanded with new theory, new archaeological discoveries, rare photos and illustrations, maps, and other graphics. The course will examine the cultures of ancient Mesoamerica — what is today Mexico and Central America, including Belize, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. We will discuss the Olmec, Maya, Toltec, Aztec, and other cultures. Using the historical and archaeological record, we will cover the 3,000-year rise, development, and collapse of Mesoamerican civilizations. Optional Text: Mexico: From the Olmecs to the Aztecs by Michael D. Coe and Rex Koontz (7th Edition), ISBN 9780500290767
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading
Retired after a career as a Marine Corps officer, journalist, educational psychologist, and college teacher of anthropology, sociology, and psychology, Bill McLane has also done archaeological research in Mexico through the Museo Nacional de Antropología and University of Pennsylvania.
Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
TEN Weeks: September 13 – November 15

Current Events .................................................................................................................................................. F2M
[NEW CONTENT] Attendees choose timely topics to discuss. Participants are encouraged, but not required, to participate in the discussions. All political views are welcomed and respected. Join us to “talk the talk”. Discussion
Dick Scott attended this course for many years before assuming its leadership in 2020.
Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
TEN Weeks: September 13 – November 15

Does Science Make Belief in God Obsolete? ..................................................................................................... F3M
[NEW COURSE] We will explore the interplay between science and religion focusing on 13 short essays answering the question in the course title by writers as diverse as Christopher Hitchens, Christoph Cardinal Schonborn, and Michael Shermer. The essays were published by the Templeton Foundation and will be provided to course registrants. Each essay will be discussed by a different presenter who will delve into the backgrounds, influences, and other writings and teachings of the writers. Discussion, Lecture, Reading
Victor Poleshuck is a retired physician who has led a number of Osher courses in medicine, music, and ethics. His co-presenters are Osherites whose backgrounds will enhance the discussion.
Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
FOUR Weeks: September 13 – October 4

South Asia: Past and Present ................................................................................................................................. F4M
[NEW COURSE] The countries of South Asia, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, comprise one of the most dynamic and significant parts of humanity. We will discuss the extraordinary mixture of ethnic groups, profusion of languages, the variety of geography and climate, diversity of religions and cultural practices, and levels of economic development. Lectures will follow the origins of South Asia from 5,000 years ago to the present.
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture
Marie Levin has presented history courses at Osher for the past 17 years. After a career in clinical laboratory science, she now has the opportunity to study the history of civilizations past and present.
Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
TEN Weeks: September 13 – November 15
**Memoirs** .................................................................................................................................................. F5M

*NEW CONTENT* Memoirs have become a commercial popular genre. Writing your memoirs is an important and valuable effort for yourself and future generations. The exercise of reflection on your own life has value to you, and the results will be a gift to others. Guiding handouts are available, and much can be learned from veteran class members. All are welcome.

Reading, Writing

Carol Samuel is an enthusiastic veteran Memoirs class leader. A retired obstetrical nurse, she believes there is much convincing evidence today for the value of writing memoirs.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**TEN** Weeks: September 13 – November 15

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**Metropolis: The City, Mankind’s Greatest Invention** .................................................................................................................................................. F6M

*NEW CLASS* Based on Ben Wilson’s *Metropolis*, join us on a whirlwind journey through the history of civilization as seen in its great cities. City living allowed human culture to flourish through art, war, trade, and technical innovations and to survive challenges like plague in the Middle Ages and annihilation in WWII. Will the future cities also succeed in facing the greatest challenge of the 21st century: global warming? This class will dip into some highlights from *Metropolis* to whet your interest in a full ten-week course in winter term which will be offered as a peer group seminar/lecture course hybrid.

**Optional Text:** *Metropolis: A History of the City* by Ben Wilson, ISBN 9780385543460

Audio/Visual, Lecture

Debbie Huff and Chris Ryan team up again to explore and share more untold stories of history. They are excited to have discovered this new book that lends itself to an Osher course.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: September 13

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**The Articles of Confederation** .................................................................................................................................................. F7M

*NEW CLASS* We study, swear by, and recite the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution but fail to realize the significance of the Articles of Confederation which predate the Constitution. This class will address the Articles as they relate to the times, participants, the constitutions of the newly formed states, the structure and content, strengths and weaknesses, and influences.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Jim Scott is educated as an astrodynamist with a long career in engineering and project management. Since joining Osher he has developed a deeper interest in American history.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: September 20

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**Splendors of South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Zambia** .................................................................................................................................................. F8M

Our trip will start in Cape Town, and after seeing the highlights there, we will take a drive along the Indian Ocean coast of South Africa (the Garden Route). We’ll go back to wine country in the southwest, and have a throwback overnight rail trip from Cape Town to Pretoria and Johannesburg. From there we go to incredible game parks in South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. We’ll have multiple sightings of a wide variety of birds, leopards, cape buffalo, cheetah, lions, elephants, hippos, giraffe, rhinoceros, baboons, wildebeest, and more. We’ll end at spectacular Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Audio/Visual, Lecture, Discussion

Victor Poleshuck is a retired physician with a great love of adventure travel. With his wife, Joyce, he has visited astonishing places on all seven continents.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: September 27
A Love-Hate Relationship: The Birth of the US Army’s Earliest Medals

The US Army was long opposed to the creation and award of medals for military service. This course will examine the history of this stubborn opposition, and the change of attitude that led to the modern very crowded hierarchy of military medals and decorations. Several illustrative examples of medals born out of this philosophical turmoil will be utilized to tell this story. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Gary Mitchell is a long-time collector of US Army militaria and has authored numerous articles, monographs, and several books on this topic. He is a graduate of West Point.

Monday:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week:  October 4

Christopher Columbus

Was Christopher Columbus a hero, an intrepid explorer who helped usher in the modern world? Or was he a villain whose voyages led to imperialism, genocide, disease, exploitation, and slavery? Did he even discover America at all? This class studies the life of this interesting and complex man and the history of his four voyages to the Caribbean as a way to better understand the beginnings of the European exploration and colonization of the Americas. Lecture

Tom Lathrop is a retired software engineer with a lifelong interest in history. He has been an Osher member for eight years and has led several history courses.

Monday:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week:  October 11

Shipwrecked GOLD: Lost and Found....and LOST

On September 11, 1857 the S.S. Central America sank off the South Carolina coast with a “shipload” of gold from the California gold fields. In 1988 a salvage effort led by Tommy Thompson found the shipwreck and recovered over $100 million worth of gold. Legal battles continue even now. Osherite Roger Van Wormer knows a member of the salvage team, so we’ll get the inside scoop. Lecture

Both Dick Scott and Roger Van Wormer are eager to share their knowledge of this topic.

Monday:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week:  October 18

Berthe Morisot: An Equal Among Painters

Morisot was the only woman to participate in the first exhibition of the Impressionist artists in April 1874. She may not be as well known today as her male counterparts, but her talents were widely respected by her peers. This class will examine her work and her place in the Impressionist movement. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Chris Ryan, a retired librarian, is fascinated by the 19th century, but she prefers to live in the 21st.

Monday:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week:  October 25
Discussing The New Yorker Magazine .......................................................... F16M

[NEW CONTENT] Current events, literature, film, humor, short stories, interesting people, and, of course, cartoons... The New Yorker magazine provides a wonderful selection of articles for discussion. Read only as much of each issue as you want. We strive to discuss most of each week's magazine. The first session will review the September 6th issue. Required Text: Either an e-version or hard copy of the weekly magazine. Enrollment Limit: 18 Discussion, Reading

Both Joan Dupont and Steve Levinson enjoy the additional perspective that The New Yorker brings and having an opportunity to discuss the articles in the magazine.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
TEN Weeks: September 13 – November 15
The British Are Coming: The Beginning of the American Revolution

[NEW COURSE] Following Britain’s 1763 victory over the French in the Seven Years’ War, most American colonists were proud British subjects who had no interest in independence. This course investigates the improbable series of events occurring between 1763 and 1775 that led to the American Revolution and asks how the largely amateur colonial army, confronted by the professional British army and their Hessian mercenaries, survived the first two years of the war up to the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. 

Course Website: http://thoughtlab.photography

Richard Mallory has led more than 20 Osher courses on a variety of topics.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway

[NEW CONTENT] Hemingway did more to change the style of English prose than any other writer in the 20th century. He wrote in short declarative sentences and was known for his tough, terse prose. We will explore this style in as many of his short stories as we can get through and may even watch some of the PBS documentary on his life by Ken Burns. Optional Text: The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway, ISBN 0684803348. Most of the stories are available online and links to the stories will be provided prior to the class.

Mike Schnittman is a retired lawyer who has led several courses on the short story including O. Henry, Philip Roth, J.D. Salinger, and Hemingway.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
The Adventures of King Vidor: Hollywood History Maker

Director King Vidor (1894-1982) literally grew up with the movies and helped shape Hollywood history. He co-founded the Directors Guild and in six decades of filmmaking, he was a risk taker with an “inexhaustible appetite for storytelling” whose “range of material hardly has a rival.” His films are “distinguished by a vivid, humane, and sympathetic depiction of contemporary social issues” that are remarkably relevant to today’s world. We will study some award-winning films such as *Hurricane in Galveston* (1913), *The Big Parade* (1925), *The Crowd* (1928), *The Champ* (1933), *Stella Dallas* (1937), *The Fountainhead* (1949), and *War and Peace* (1956).

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Early in life Mary Ann Satter discovered how film could show her what she could otherwise never see; capture and preserve light and beauty; and even defeat time and loss. Teaching film for the last four decades, she has tried to pass that awareness and appreciation on to other people.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

**TEN Weeks:** September 14 – November 16

The Ballot and American Democracy: The Contentious Evolution of Voting Rights

While most citizens over the age of 18 are eligible to vote, acquiring that right has been a struggle for centuries, and many barriers still exist. In this two-session course we will review the history of voting rights with emphasis on the tools used to suppress and manage who can vote and the resulting impact on voter participation as well as on the functioning of our democracy. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Born and raised in Denmark, Britta Anderson has an MA in political science and worked in politics prior to retirement. She has led numerous history/political science courses at Osher.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

**TWO Weeks:** October 26 & November 2

Applying Geography to Understanding Our World Today

To understand many issues facing the world today, it is very helpful to take a geographic perspective. We will use different spatial thinking skills each week to investigate problems like poverty, climate change, and political discord. By providing numerous maps, graphs, and other tools, class members are encouraged to actively participate. Discussion, Lecture

Timothy McDonnell has been a member of Osher since 2005. During this period Tim has led many courses on a variety of topics: geology, civil rights, math, etc. His passion is geography. He is the coordinator of the NY Geographic Alliance at MCC.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**TEN Weeks:** September 14 – November 16

The Athenaeum Book Club

At our first class on September 21, we will recommend and vote on at least five book choices (fiction and non-fiction) for the year. On October 19 we will discuss the 2021 Pulitzer Prize Winner, *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich which was chosen earlier in the year. The November 16 discussion will focus on a book that was chosen at the first class.


Discussion, Reading, Peer Group

Maureen Murphy, a retired social worker, is a lifelong reader who also enjoys travel, summers at Lake Ontario (lots of reading time), family, and friends.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**THREE Weeks:** September 21, October 19, & November 16

The Adventures of King Vidor: Hollywood History Maker

Director King Vidor (1894-1982) literally grew up with the movies and helped shape Hollywood history. He co-founded the Directors Guild and in six decades of filmmaking, he was a risk taker with an “inexhaustible appetite for storytelling” whose “range of material hardly has a rival.” His films are distinguished by a vivid, humane, and sympathetic depiction of contemporary social issues that are remarkably relevant to today’s world. We will study some award-winning films such as *Hurricane in Galveston* (1913), *The Big Parade* (1925), *The Crowd* (1928), *The Champ* (1933), *Stella Dallas* (1937), *The Fountainhead* (1949), and *War and Peace* (1956).

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Early in life Mary Ann Satter discovered how film could show her what she could otherwise never see; capture and preserve light and beauty; and even defeat time and loss. Teaching film for the last four decades, she has tried to pass that awareness and appreciation on to other people.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

**TEN Weeks:** September 14 – November 16
### Civil War Battles and Commanders  
**F27W**  
**[IN-PERSON] [NEW COURSE]** In this course we will look at several battles that made a difference in the Civil War such as Antietam, Vicksburg, and the Overland Campaign. We will also consider some of the generals who were central in the war such as Grant, Sherman, Lee, and McClellan. Other topics will likely find themselves moving into the course.

**Required Text:** *The Crossing* by Cormac McCarthy

**Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture**

**Chuck Sparnecht** is a Civil War historian who has taught a number of history courses at Osher, Penfield High School, RIT, Nazareth, and St. John Fisher.

**Wednesdays:** 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TEN Weeks:** September 15 – November 17

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### Cormac McCarthy’s *The Crossing*  
**F25T**  
**[IN-PERSON] [NEW COURSE]** McCarthy’s work is often compared to that of Faulkner, Melville, and Shakespeare. A reviewer from *The New York Times* called McCarthy’s *The Crossing* a miracle in prose. Enigmatic and profound, the book is the most philosophical of the three that comprise *The Border Trilogy*. Though not an easy read, this book rewards its readers many times over with its mystical language, mythical landscape, and the weird dreams and visions.

**Required Text:** *The Crossing* by Cormac McCarthy

**Discussion, Reading**

**Francia Roe** has a master’s degree in English from the University of Rochester and taught Advanced Placement English Language and Advanced Placement English Literature for 28 years.

**Tuesdays:** 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**NINE Weeks:** September 14 – November 9

### Express Yourself through Fiction Writing  
**F26T**  
**[NEW CONTENT]** Each week share your stories with a community of supportive writers in an atmosphere that encourages growth and risk taking. Assignments are built around a learn-by-doing philosophy using an 800-word flash fiction model. All genres of fiction are welcome, and all skill levels from beginner to world-famous author are embraced. Whether you write for personal pleasure or with an eye towards eventual publication, this course has something for you.

**Enrollment Limit: 14**

**Discussion, Writing**

**Gary Mitchell, Kathy Garrant, and Boz Robertson** are a trio of writers who have joined forces to share the leadership role in the fiction-writing course. They all started as students in this class and now lead the sessions in order to keep it alive and vibrant. They all love storytelling.

**Tuesdays:** 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**TEN Weeks:** September 14 – November 16

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### A Survey of Classical Music for the Complete Beginner  
**F28W**  
**[IN-PERSON] [NEW COURSE]** This is an appreciation course with a unique approach to learning about our Western music heritage. Become a more critical listener who can identify the basic elements of formed classical music. This is a non-technical course; no musical background is required.

**Enrollment Limit: 30**

**Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture**

**Al Mathias** has been a musician for over 50 years and has played classical guitar, jazz guitar, violin, viola, vibraphone, piano, drums, and mandolin. He is a current member of the Brockport Big Band and Brockport College Orchestra.

**Wednesdays:** 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TEN Weeks:** September 15 – November 17

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**Wednesday Fall 2021 Course Schedule**

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**CANCELLED**

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**CANCELLED**
You Be the Critic: A Film Discussion Group ................................................................. F29W
[IN-PERSON] Class members independently view class-selected films currently playing at local theaters. We then gather to rate and discuss these films. We invite all Osher members to join the class.  
Enrollment Limit: 25  Discussion

Sharon Griffiths was a business manager for a large firm and Judy Brown was a school counselor. They both have a lifelong interest in movies and reading and have been long-time students of this course.

Wednesdays:  9:30 – 11:00 am
TEN Weeks:  September 15 – November 17

Presidential Leadership ................................................................. F30W
[IN-PERSON] [NEW COURSE] Since the election of George Washington, Americans and the rest of the world have been fascinated by the presidency, the office, and the holders of the office. Drawing on selected examples through history, the course is organized around three propositions: the president makes the times; the times make the leader; and that hero worship of presidents is misguided.  
Enrollment Limit: 40  Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Sarah F. Liebschutz, Ph.D. is Distinguished Service Professor Emerita, SUNY/Brockport. A political scientist, her teaching and publications focus on US domestic policy. She has taught Osher American health policy and Electoral College courses.

Wednesdays:  9:30 – 11:00 am
FIVE Weeks:  September 22 – October 20

Road to Glory: The United States Colored Troops (USCT) ................................................................. F31W
[NEW CONTENT] In our high school American History classes, few of us learned about the role played by the more than 180,000 black Union soldiers in winning the Civil War. The course is an effort to redress this sad omission. We will reveal the stories of some of these men and will describe their contributions to saving our union. New material not presented in the previous offering of this course and related to sadly persistent “lost cause” myths about black soldiers in the Civil War will be introduced.  
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Possible Field Trip

Tom Jones has been fascinated by the Civil War ever since as a boy he was shown the ceremonial sword carried by his great grandfather, Capt. Thomas F. Patterson (Co. D, 85th Illinois Vol. Reg.).

Wednesdays:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TEN Weeks:  September 15 – November 17

Conversation: Insights from Cognitive Science ................................................................. F32W
[NEW COURSE] Interactive spoken conversation, the most fundamental arena for language, is a joint activity which requires coordination on a fine-grained time scale, similar to partner dancing and duet playing. Drawing on work in the cognitive sciences, we’ll explore the components of conversation. Topics include (1) joint perspective-taking, (2) disfluency, (3) “back channel” utterances, and (4) prediction and adaptation to how interlocutors talk. We will view these topics through the lens of referring expressions, (i.e., how we choose [and understand] alternative ways to refer to the same object or event). No scientific background is required to participate in the course.  
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Michael Tanenhaus recently retired from the University of Rochester (Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences). In 2018 he was awarded the Rumelhart Prize in cognitive science for his work on language comprehension. He has led several Osher courses on a variety of topics in his field.

Wednesdays:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
FIVE Weeks:  September 15 – October 13

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Bob Dylan: Master Thief ......................................................................................................................F33W

[NEW COURSE] In 2016 Bob Dylan won the Nobel Prize in Literature for “creating new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition.” This selection set off a debate about the boundaries of poetry, song, and literature as well as his worthiness as a literary figure. We’ll explore Dylan’s musical influences, his influence/creation of new musical genres, and the grounding/borrowing/stealing of his lyrics and songs in poetry. We’ll revisit and revise myths about his career, ending with his third classical period which began in 2000.  Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Michael Tanenhaus recently retired from the University of Rochester (Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences). In 2018 he was awarded the Rumelhart Prize in cognitive science for his work on language comprehension. A long-time fan, he has begun a deep dive into the emerging scholarly literature on Dylan.

Wednesdays:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
FIVE Weeks: October 20 – November 17

Life: Its Nature and Possible Origins ..................................................................................................F34W

[NEW COURSE] The origin of life is one of two fundamental transitions in the history of the universe (the other is the inception of the Big Bang); we don’t understand either one. We will review this problem in science (and in fiction). We’ll look at vitalism and its demise, panspermia, modern theories and experiments, and some definition(s) of life. We’ll discuss the possibilities of life on other worlds.  Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Roger Gans is a professor emeritus at the U of R.  He has led Osher courses in evolution and various aspects of space and planetary science.

Wednesdays:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
FIVE Weeks: October 20 – November 17

Ten More Women Scientists We Should Know About ......................................................................F35W

[NEW COURSE] We will continue to uncover the lives of women of science who may or may not have received the attention they deserve. This session will include botanist Barbara McClintock, astronaut Mae Jemison, and physicist Maria Goeppert Mayer together with seven more women scientists. Discussion, Lecture

Debby Zeman has taught several Osher courses focused on women in government and science who deserve to be better known and celebrated.

Wednesdays:  11:15 am – 12:45 pm
FIVE Weeks: October 20 – November 17

Aging and Longevity: Part 1 ............................................................................................................F36W

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] In this course we will try to understand the biology of aging. We will look at what we have learned and the current research trying to find means of promoting healthy aging and longevity. The cultural, social, emotional, ethical, and economic issues related to aging will also be discussed. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Alex Marcus is a retired physician who practiced neurology and psychiatry. He has been leading courses at Osher on the human brain since 2005. He presented courses on aging and longevity in 2017.

Wednesdays:  1:30 – 3:00 pm
TEN Weeks: September 15 – November 17
Irish Culture and Literature  ............................................................................................................. F38W

[NEW CONTENT] The course will present various aspects of the Irish culture and tradition reflected through video and prose and poetry by authors including Nobel Prize in Literature recipients W.B. Yeats, Samuel Beckett, Seamus Heaney, George Bernard Shaw, and Flann O’Brien. **Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading**

**Jack Callaghan** endeavors to continue the advancing of Irish culture and literature at Osher.

Wednesdays:  1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**TEN** Weeks:  September 15 – November 17

Road Trips & Recipes: Canada  ............................................................................................................. F39W

[NEW COURSE] Take a virtual tour to explore the characteristics, culture, and cuisine of our neighbor to the north. From the golden prairies of Alberta to the fabled territory of the Yukon, we’ll visit places both famous and off the beaten track and share the facts, fun, and food of the provinces. **Audio/Visual, Discussion**

**Estelle O’Connell**, a member of Osher since 2017, has enjoyed classes in many different subjects and has lead courses in self publishing and virtual travel.

Wednesdays:  1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**TEN** Weeks:  September 15 – November 17

Some Essays of Schopenhauer  ............................................................................................................. F40W

[NEW COURSE] Arthur Schopenhauer was a 19th century German thinker who found a fundamental wrongness in the structure of the world. We will read and discuss some of his essays in order to understand his thought and his conclusion that: “optimism is a wicked way of thinking since it involves a bitter mockery of the unspeakable sufferings of mankind.” **Required Text:** *Suffering, Suicide and Immortality* by Arthur Schopenhauer (trans. Saunders), ISBN 0486447812 **Discussion, Lecture, Reading**

**Tom Low** has led courses on thinkers ancient (Plato) and modern (Kant, William James). This course seems to be a natural successor to Spring 2021’s “Thus Spake Zarathustra”.

Wednesdays:  1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**NINE** Weeks:  September 15 – November 10

Contemporary Events  .......................................................................................................................... F37W

[NEW CONTENT] The ultimate goal of this course is to have a forum for civil discourse revolving around contemporary issues. The topics are submitted by class members during the week prior to class then sent out to everyone together with any pertinent materials that enable an informed discussion.

**Terri Hurley** has been an Osher member for over 12 years. She enjoys the interaction with other members.

Wednesdays:  1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**TEN** Weeks:  September 15 – November 17
Good Golly! It’s Bolly!: A Tribute to Soumitra Chatterjee

[ONLINE VIA ZOOM] [NEW COURSE] Soumitra Chatterjee was a wonderfully accomplished, multi-talented Indian film and stage actor and poet. His work with director Satyajit Ray was world-renowned for its excellence. His debut in Ray’s Anpur Sansar (The World of Apu), the third segment of the Apu Trilogy was the beginning of a 13-film pairing with Ray. He subsequently worked with world-renowned director Mrinal Sen. He died in 2020 of COVID-19 at age 85.

Audio/Visual, Discussion

Nita Genova has been studying Indian cinema and teaching courses since 2011. She recently helped with a Bollywood movie exhibit at the Indian Heritage Museum in Macedon in collaboration with the George Eastman Museum.

- Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am
- TEN Weeks: September 16 – November 18

Intermediate Spanish 3

[NEW CONTENT] We will continue to converse in Spanish using literature and language as the bases for our discussion. There is a short homework assignment each week. 


Enrollment Limit: 12 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading, Writing

Roz Rubin is a Spanish aficionada who loves to share that interest with fellow aficionados.

- Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
- TEN Weeks: September 16 – November 18

Moby-Dick: Harvesting or Predation?

[NEW COURSE] It’s time to read Moby-Dick again, now with an eye on the relationship between the ocean, its inhabitants, and the crew of the Pequod. How different are we from the sharks we seem to despise? We’ll use information from Ahab’s Rolling Sea: a Natural History of Moby-Dick. 

Required Text: Power Moby-Dick: the Online Annotation (www.powermobydick.com)

Course Website: http://sites.google.com/site/oshermobydick

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

David Hill has led Osher courses in literature and linguistics after a career in college teaching.

- Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
- TEN Weeks: September 16 – November 18

History of Sculpture: Part 1

[NEW CONTENT] [MULTI-PART SERIES] This class will consider the evolution of Western sculpture (European) from its beginning in ancient Greece through the Roman Empire, the Medieval period, and the Early Renaissance. Why was it made? How was it made? What was its purpose? Who paid for it? How did it change over time?

(Part 2 will be offered in the Winter 2022 Term). Audio/Visual, Lecture

Nancy McAfee is an art historian who spent 18 years at the Cleveland Museum of Art as an educator and community outreach director. She has an AB from Cornell and an MA in art history from Case Western Reserve University. She is active in the Rochester Women’s Giving Circle, the MAG Gallery Council, and the Rochester Garden Club.

- Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am
- FIVE Weeks: September 16 – October 14
Mt. Hope Vignettes: Tales from the Crypts, Part 1

Mt. Hope is the first municipal rural Victorian cemetery in the US. It opened in 1838 and is still active today. There are over 550,000 stories buried amidst its beautiful scenic fauna and flora. It displays sculptures, monuments, unique headstones, and mausoleums. The people who are buried here could be wealthy, poor, giants of history, sinners, heroes, learned, or just ordinary Rochesterians. All their stories offer a view of Rochester history and the world history of the times. The cemetery is on the US National Register of Historical Places. Come and explore it.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Eric Birken, a retired physician with a love of history, is a tour guide at Mt. Hope Cemetery. He has done historical research while creating a complete index to the journal of Mt. Hope. He has co-led during three prior terms at Osher; this is his first solo course.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
FIVE Weeks: October 21 – November 18

Pfaudler Lecture Series: Thursdays, 12:15 – 1:30

You don’t need to register for these lectures. A weekly email will be sent to all members with the Zoom meeting information for each lecture.

RIT’s Government & Community Relations Dept. and Osher: The Perfect Partnership
Vanessa J. Herman, Vice President, GCR  (9/16)

COVID-19 and Justice: COVID’s Impact on the Judicial System
Justice William K. Taylor, NYS State 7th Judicial District  (9/23)

How in the World Do You Find a Maestro?
Ingrid Stanlis, Chair, RPO Search Committee  (9/30)

Can We Save the Rochester City Schools?
Joe Klein, CEO, Klein Steel; Supporter, True North Preparatory Charter School; and Former Vice Chair, Rochester Literacy Commission  (10/7)

Glares Emissions: How Population Growth Is Omitted from the Climate Conversation
John Seager, President & CEO, Population Connection  (10/14)

A Candid Conversation about Racism and Equality in the Greater Rochester Community
Gwendolyn Clifton, MSW, Finger Lakes DDSO and Westside Inclusion Initiative  (10/21)

What Do Composers Do?
Paul Hofmann, Faculty, Eastman Community School  (10/28)

Going Natural: Highlights of Green Burial
Mary Ellen Markant, RN, End-of-Life Educator, Author, and Founder of Rochester’s popular Death Café  (11/4)

Women in the Military
Laura Stradley, Executive Director, Veterans Outreach Center  (11/11)

Oh, My Aching Back! New Horizons in Treating Degenerative Disc Disease and Back Pain: National Science Foundation Cutting-Edge Study
Karin Wuertz-Kozak, MSc, MBA, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering, RIT’s Kate Gleason College of Engineering  (11/18)
Intermediate French

[NEW CONTENT] This course is for those with some previous background in French who wish to perfect their language skills, especially speaking, and learn more about the rich francophone cultures.


Roz Rubin has been a dedicated teacher and learner of the French language and cultures; she enjoys sharing this knowledge with others who enjoy learning new languages.

Thursdays:  1:45 – 3:15 pm  TEN Weeks:  September 16 – November 18

Sherlock Holmes: Women Characters and Contributors

[NEW CONTENT] We will look at women characters in the Sherlockian canon and other women who have contributed to the Sherlockian legend. Course Website: http://bit.ly/OshSher  Required Text: Any copy of The Complete Sherlock Holmes (physical or virtual)  Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Bill Brown has been an Osher member and course leader for many years. He has led courses on Sherlock Holmes, Frank Loesser, and various technology-related topics. He is a leader of the local Sherlockian Scion Society – Rochester Row.

Thursdays:  1:45 – 3:45 pm  NINE Weeks:  September 23 – November 18

The Extraordinary Galapagos

[NEW COURSE] As a result of Charles Darwin’s 1835 visit, the Galapagos Islands have played a central role in the development of evolutionary biology. Lecture topics include Darwin and The Voyage of the Beagle; geology, climate, and ocean currents; native species and habitats; history and culture of the Galapagos people; and the present-day intersection of economy, tourism, and conservation. World-renowned evolutionary biologists Peter and Rosemary Grant will join us during one class for a discussion of their groundbreaking research on Darwin’s finches in the Galapagos. Lecture

John Jaenike is Professor Emeritus of Biology at the University of Rochester. His research has focused on evolutionary ecology. He has had a lifelong interest in natural history. Jane Eggleston is a retired geologist who worked in that field 41 years, the last 30 in research and publishing at the USGS.

Thursdays:  1:45 – 3:15 pm  FIVE Weeks:  October 21 – November 18
A SIG (Special Interest Group) is an informal community of Osher members who gather in order to pursue and enjoy a shared interest. Don’t see what you want? You can start a new SIG. Contact staff for details.

The following SIGs are currently meeting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIG</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mac Computers (OS X) iPhone/iPad (iOS)</td>
<td>Tom Lathrop <a href="mailto:tlathrop1@hotmail.com">tlathrop1@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Discussions, problem solving, members helping members, sharing tips and tricks, and demonstrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Loretta Petralis <a href="mailto:lorettap@rochester.rr.com">lorettap@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>The group focuses on reviewing members’ photos and sharing camera setting and photo editing techniques.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purls of Wisdom (knitting &amp; needle craft)</td>
<td>Terri Hurley <a href="mailto:terrihur@rochester.rr.com">terrihur@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>For all experience levels, come learn and share techniques.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>Jane Eggleston <a href="mailto:jegg@rochester.rr.com">jegg@rochester.rr.com</a></td>
<td>Share your favorite photos, memories, and experiences of your previous travel adventures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking Group</td>
<td>Helen Moore <a href="mailto:hkmoore44@gmail.com">hkmoore44@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>This is a walking group for interested members.</td>
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Please Support the Future of Osher!

It’s very apparent how much our members value the opportunity to learn and form friendships that enrich their lives. We are doing our best to keep annual dues increases to a minimum, but we must always close the funding gap. If you can make a charitable gift, remember that, because we are part of RIT, your donation is tax deductible (membership dues are not tax deductible).

Osher at RIT’s continuing success is dependent upon the voluntary financial support of our membership. We invite you to contribute today. Gifts can be made online at:

http://rit.edu/oshер/giving

or by check (payable to Osher at RIT) via postal mail. Our mailing address is:

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT
50 Fairwood Drive, Suite 100
Rochester, NY 14623