RIT Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Winter 2024
Course Catalog

Course Preview & Open House 12/11

Registration Opens 12/12

Courses Begin 1/16



A Learning Community for Adults Age 50+ rit.edu/osher

Osher's 2024 terms:
Winter (January 16 – March 25)
Spring (April 15 – June 10)
Summer (July 8 – August 21)
Fall (September 16 – December 13)

There are multi-week breaks between each term.

Membership Benefits

Unlimited Courses

Peer-led courses form the core of our program, and there are no tests or grades! We encourage interaction and discussion in every class whether it be in-person, hybrid, or online via Zoom. You will also gain access to our large library of course recordings stored on our members-only content hub. Register for classes online (see pages 4-5 for instructions).

Pfaudler Lecture Series

(Thursdays at 12:15, Winter, Spring, & Fall Terms)

Listen to a thought-provoking lecture by a guest speaker. These lectures will be in the hybrid format which means that you can attend in person or via Zoom. Most lectures are recorded and available on our members-only content hub. See pages 19-21 for more information.

Social Events

An important part of the Osher experience is socializing with fellow members in a relaxed atmosphere at gatherings such as our annual picnic, holiday luncheons, and local events.

SIGs (Special Interest Groups)

A SIG is an informal community of Osher members who gather in order to pursue and enjoy a shared interest. All members are encouraged to join an existing SIG or to initiate the formation of a new SIG. See page 6 for more information.

Arts & Lectures Event 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.



University Benefits:

A Full-Year membership at Osher includes these Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) student perks and privileges.

RIT Student ID Card

- Discounts wherever student discounts are offered worldwide
- Free Henrietta BJ's Wholesale Club membership
- Student admission rates for campus events
- Borrowing privileges at the RIT library, including online collections, journals, etc.
- And more!

Audit RIT Undergrad Courses:

 Members can audit eligible undergraduate classes university wide (see page 34 for more details)

Audiology Services:

 State-of-the-art hearing evaluation, hearing-aid service, and purchase are available through RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID).

Questions? Reach us at (585) 292-8989 or osher@rit.edu

		Unlimited	Pfaudler	Social	Arts &			RIT		
Membership	Fee	Courses & Recordings		Events & SIGs	Lectures Events	Summer Trips	Student ID Card	RIT Classes	Audiology Services	
Full-Year	\$360									
Single-Term	\$160									
Supporting (full year)	\$170									

Which membership suits your needs?

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

Full-Year Membership

A Full-Year individual membership begins in whichever term you join and entitles you to four terms of **all** our available Osher Institute benefits in the chart on the previous page, including unlimited classes and events, and access to our library of course/lecture recordings **plus** RIT University benefits such as a student ID card and access to auditing RIT classes. The annual fee is **\$360**. Renewable.

Single-Term Membership

Individuals may participate in an unlimited number of Osher Institute courses and events for one term. You also have access to our library of course/lecture recordings. Renewable.

The fee is **\$160**. You may convert your Single-Term membership into a Full-Year membership by paying the additional balance at the end of the term, thereby adding the next three terms.

Not included: RIT university class auditing and student ID card

Supporting Membership

A Supporting individual membership entitles you to partial Osher Institute programming: social events, the Pfaudler Lecture Series, the Summer Seminar trips, Arts & Lectures events, and Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

The annual fee is \$170. Renewable.

Not included: Osher Institute classes and library of course recordings; RIT university class auditing and student ID card

Community Group Membership

A Community Group membership is designed for senior-living facilities, town recreation groups, and other associations who would like to provide programming to their residents/members. The membership includes unlimited, live, interactive Zoom classes and access to our large library of course recordings. Zoom classes or recordings must be broadcast in a common room where residents congregate together; residents may not join classes from their own homes. The fee for one trial term is \$350. Additional terms after the trial are \$500 each. Contact us at osher@rit.edu for more information and pricing of in-person classes for groups.

REGISTRATION OPENS TUESDAY, 12/12 at 10 am

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 https://rit.edu/osher and click on REGISTER in the top middle of the page.



[2] On this page, choose the rightmost option:



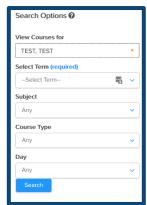
[3] On this page, locate the "Username" and "Password" fields and fill them in. Then click the "Login" button. If you don't know your username and password, click on the "Click here to reset" link.



[4] Wait for the system to log you in. Once you're logged in, you will see <your name> in the upperright corner beside the gear icon.

IMPORTANT: You must be current with your payment in order to register for courses. If your membership expires before the Winter 2024 Term begins, and you are not paying online, please make your payment well before registration day, **TUESDAY**, **DECEMBER 12**.

Search Coptions" heading, click on the "View Courses for" drop-down menu, and select your name.
Then click on the "Select Term" drop-down menu and select "2024-01 (Winter)". (Additionally, 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.



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 them. 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).



You will get a confirmation letter email for each course for which you've registered. For hybrid and 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 right 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).

Important **Hybrid Class**Registration Information

For all hybrid classes you choose, be sure to register for **EITHER** the **in-person** option **OR** the **Zoom** option. If you register for inperson, you will also receive the Zoom link (in case you can't make class on a particular day). If you register for the **Zoom** option, you **WILL NOT** be able to attend the class **in-person**.

Join us at our Winter Course Preview / Open House

on Monday, December 11, 2023 10:00 – 11:30 am

Participate in person or via Zoom! For Zoom meeting details, contact osher@rit.edu

Registration opens December 12 at 10 am Classes start January 16



Assistive Listening System Available If you are hard of hearing and/or find lectures, videos, and conversations

difficult to follow, try out our **Assistive Listening System** – available in all our classrooms.

We have both headsets and around-the-neck loops (for those of you with hearing aids equipped with T-switches).

Stop by the staff offices and ask about how we can help you hear better in your classes.



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 at **osher@rit.edu** for details.

The following SIGs are currently meeting:

SIG	COORDINATOR	DESCRIPTION
Mac Computers (OS X) iPhone/iPad (iOS)	Tom Lathrop	Discussions, problem solving, members helping members, sharing tips and tricks, and demonstrations
The group focus		The group focuses on reviewing members' photos and sharing camera setting and photo editing techniques.
Purls of Wisdom (knitting & needle craft)	Terri Hurley	For all experience levels, come learn and share techniques.
Travel	Jane Eggleston	Share your favorite photos, memories, and experiences of your previous travel adventures.
Walking Group	Helen Moore	This is an outdoor walking group for interested members.
Woodworking	Geoff Peters	Members with an interest in this craft are welcome.



The Osher Walking SIG at Mertensia Park, 4/28/23

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

RIT **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**

9:30 — 11:00 am ET	11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET	1:30 — 3 or 3:30 pm ET
The British Are Coming: The Beginning of the American Revolution	Athenaeum Book Club. W5M Maureen Murphy (1/22 & 3/11) Paddling a Canoe in the Yukon River Quest. W6M Dick Scott (1/29) Saving Abu Simbel. W7M Chris Ryan (2/5) Wheel Woman Annie Londonderry: The First Woman to Bicycle Around the World W8M Estelle O'Connell (2/12) More than a Pastime: Adventures of a Fly Fisherman W9M Richard Pecora (2/19) Tiffany Gem: Hidden in Plain Sight W10M Sue Boardman (2/26) Anna Rosenberg: Confidante of Presidents. W11M Michelle Turner (3/4) The Battle of Homestead: The Steel Strike of 1892 W12M Gary Mitchell (3/18) The 1956 Suez Crisis and Its Fallout W13M Jim Scott (3/25)	Express Yourself Through Writing Fiction

9:30 - 11:00 am ET	11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET	1:30 – 3:00 or 3:30 pm ET
Christianity in America	Conversational Spanish	Death and Renewal? The Persistent Process – From Death Comes LifeW28T Tom Low, et al. (1/16 – 3/19) An Introduction to Better Capitalism: You Are Right! There is a Better Way!

9:30 - 11:00 alli E1	11:15 aiii - 12:45 piii Ei	1:30 – 3:00 pili E1
The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica	Contemporary Events	The Future of Health, Medicine, and Biotechnology: Part 2

9:30 — 11:00 am ET	12:15 — 1:30 pm ET	1:45 – 3:45 pm ET
Family Stories Workshop	Pfaudler Lecture Series (weekly) Various topics and presenters. see pages 20-22	Great Detective Fiction Circa 1940: Chandler's The Big Sleep and du Maurier's Rebecca

9:30 - 11:00 am ET









Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Course Exchange

We are pleased to announce that we are partnering with three other Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLIs) to provide our members more course offerings at no additional cost. Thanks to time zone differences we are now able to offer you late afternoon and evening classes! Sign up for these courses through our registration system, not through the partner OLLI sites.

	COURT Chico State						
<u>ə</u>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday				
Exchange	LGBTQ+ Issues and IdentitiesW45E Susan Frawley 11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET, 1/8 – 3/11	Art and Archaeology of Early IndiaW46E Katherine Harper 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 1/9 – 3/12	Learn to Draw Cartoon CharactersW49E Dick Kennedy 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET, 1/10 – 2/7				
Course Ex	' '	Let's Keep KnittingW47E Gale Ulvang 6:00 – 7:30 pm ET, 1/9 – 3/12	Chico State Faculty Lecture Series W50E Sandra Flake 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 2/7 – 3/13				
OLLI Cou	See pages 22-24 for Chico State courses.	Intro to Watercolor PaintingW48E Cris Guenter 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 1/16 – 2/20	Vincent Van Gogh's Transformation of Influences				

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Monday Ukraine Then and Now (Part 2).....W52E

Jesse Frey 11:00 am – 12:45 pm ET, 1/22 – 4/8 Alfred Hitchcock's San Francisco......W53E

Jay Sherwin 4:00 – 5:45 pm ET, 3/11

Tuesday

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Past & PresentW54E Samih Baalbaki 1:00 – 2:45 pm ET, 1/16 – 3/5

Introduction to Hinduism: History, Religion, Philosophy, Culture...W55E Pravin Soni 3:00 – 4:45 pm ET, 3/5 – 4/9

Thursday

War in the Skies: Europe 1939-1944 ... W56E Buck Beasom 11:00 am - 1:00 pm ET, 1/25 - 2/15 The Magic of the Brill Building Era: The Sound of Rock and Pop in the 50s and 60s $\ldots \ldots$ Michael Agron 3:00 - 4:45 pm ET, 1/25 - 2/29

Ancient Egypt's Middle Kingdom.....W58E Nic Richmond 6:00 – 7:45 pm ET, 3/14 – 4/4

Friday

OLLI Course Exchange

Astronomy/Geosciences W59E 3:00 – 4:45 pm ET, 1/26 – 3/8

Archaeology of Early Agriculture and Irrigation in the SouthwestW60E 5:00 – 6:45 pm ET, 1/26 – 2/2

A note about Arizona timezones:

Because Arizona does not observe Daylight Savings Time, class start and end times will change after March 10. Please add an hour to class times after that date (for example, a class that ordinarily begins at 12 pm will begin at 1 pm after 3/10).

See pages 25-28 for University of AZ courses.



Osher Lifelong **Learning Institute** at Dartmouth

Monday

The Current Pandemic of Pseudoscience, Mis-Information and Dis-Information ... W61E Paul Etkind

9:30 - 11:30 am ET, 1/15 - 2/19 Only a Game? An Inquiry Into

the Significance of SportsW62E Tom Hodgson 9:00 – 11:00 am ET, 1/22 – 3/11

Green Funerals:

Lee Webster

10:00 am - 12:00 pm ET, 2/5 - 2/12

Tuesday

Shakespeare's Twin Plays: Romeo and Juliet and Midsummer Nights Dream.....W64E Marilyn Roberts 3:00 – 5:00 pm ET, 1/9 – 2/20

More Short Fiction From the New Yorker ArchivesW65E Terrance Darcey 9:00 – 11:00 am ET, 1/16 – 3/5

American Civics 101+ — A Crash CourseW66E

1:00 – 3:00 pm ET, 1/16 – 2/13 Racism in 2024: Do the Work!W67E Ellen Bettmann 11:30 am - 1:30 pm ET, 1/23 - 2/13

Wednesday

The Global Water Paradox: Scarcity Amid Abundance......W68E Bruce James 9:30 – 11:30 am ET, 1/10 – 2/14

Active French:

Fun French Musical JukeboxW69E Gloria Finkelstein 1:30 - 3:30 pm ET, 1/24 - 2/7

Thursday

Why Accidents Happen.....W70E Bradley Truax 9:00 – 11:00 am ET, 1/11 – 2/15 The Greatest Performances in

Figure Skating History, 1968–2023.....W71E Gary Cahn 9:00 – 11:00 am ET, 1/11 – 2/1

Does the U.S. Constitution Need a Tune-up?.....W72E Alan Schnur 2:00 - 4:00 pm ET, 1/25 - 3/7

See pages 29-33 for Dartmouth courses.

OLLI Course Exchange

[Note: We will be closed on Martin Luther King Day, January 15, and as such there will be no classes on that Monday.]

Monday

OLLI at RIT Winter 2024 Course Schedule

The British Are Coming: The Beginning of the American RevolutionW1M

[NEW CONTENT] Why did 13 of Britain's North American colonies declare their independence in 1776? The answer is neither simple nor obvious. Following Britain's victory in the Seven Years' War, most colonists were proud British subjects with no interest in independence. We begin by investigating the improbable series of events in the 12-year interval between 1763 and 1775 that led to the American Revolution. We go on to ask 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. Website: http://thoughtlab.photography/ Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Richard Mallory has been leading courses at Osher since 2013 on a variety of subjects.

9:30 – 11:00 am Mondays:

January 22 - March 25 **TEN** Weeks:





[NEW CONTENT] We will discuss timely topics chosen by the attendees. Class members are encouraged, but not required, to participate. All political views are welcomed and respected. Join us to "talk the talk." Discussion

Dick Scott has led many Osher courses. He enjoys presenting and attending courses. Helen Moore worked in Rochester news behind the scenes as a photojournalist. Rachel Adonis is retired from her career in financial services and has enjoyed attending Osher classes and participating as a course leader.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

TEN Weeks: January 22 - March 25





One More Round of Heroic Women: WWIIW3M

[MULTI-PART SERIES] The world's involvement in World War II brought many women into new roles including spies, pilots, reporters, mechanics, nurses, and more. There is an infinite list of these courageous women, and we will cover 18 of them. Attendance in previous parts of this coure is not a prerequisite. Lecture

Debby Zeman has led many classes on women in important roles: powerful leaders, dedicated scientists, and, now, the heroic WWII women who served in many roles, risking their own lives while saving others.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

FIVE Weeks: February 26 - March 25





Very Basic Japanese: Part 2W4M

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] This course builds on the foundation established in the prior Japanese course. We will explore the past tense of verbs, expand our knowledge of sentence particles, grow vocabulary, learn the katakana character set, and polish our verbal skills. Required Text: GENKI: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese by Eri Bano, ISBN 9784789017305 (textbook, not the workbook; available on Amazon and Ebay) **Enrollment Limit: 15** Participation in Part 1 of this course or limited familiarity with Japanese is a prerequisite. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Writing, Reading

Gary Mitchell has been interested in Japanese culture for many years. At Osher he has taught courses in Japanese Woodblock Prints and Kabuki. He has taken classes in Japanese at a local college and attended an immersive Japanese language course in Kyoto.

9:30 – 11:00 am Mondays:

TEN Weeks: January 22 - March 25



Athenaeum Book Club

A peer-led group of readers will read and discuss two books over the Winter 2024 Term. New members are welcome! On 1/22 we will discuss Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohleben, ISBN 1771642483. On 3/11 we will discuss Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead: A Novel by Olga Tokarczuk, ISBN 9780593086407. Both books are available from the Monroe County Library System. Enrollment Limit: 35 Peer Group

A retired social worker, Maureen Murphy is a lifelong reader who enjoys retirement activites that include travel, summer reading, kayaking, and other outdoor activities with family and friends at her cottage on Lake Ontario.

Mondays: **TWO** Weeks:

11:15 am - 12:45 pm January 22 & March 11



Paddling a Canoe in the Yukon River Quest......W6M

[NEW CLASS] Dick Scott paddled in the Yukon River Quest, a 460-mile-long-canoe/kayak/paddleboard race down the Yukon River from Whitehorse to Dawson City, Yukon Territory, Canada. This race commemorates the Klondike Gold Rush. We will discuss some of the techniques of marathon paddling, the Yukon Territory, and the Yukon River Quest (Race to the Midnight Sun). Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

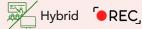
Dick Scott paddled in this race three times (2004, 2006, and 2011). Besides paddling down the Yukon River, he has traveled most of the roads in the Yukon and Eastern Alaska. He began marathon paddling in 1998 when he was 50 years old. In 2001 he first heard about the race, and his eyes lit up.

Monday:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

January 29

ONE Week:





Saving Abu Simbel......W7M

[NEW CLASS] When the Egyptian government began planning the construction of the High Aswan Dam in the 1950s, archaeologists raised concerns that the ancient temples in the region would be submerged in the lake created by the new dam. Chief among these sites were the enormous temples at Abu Simbel that were built by Ramses II in the 13th century BCE. The massive project to save these sites, coordinated by UNESCO, is the subject of this class. We will look at the individuals who championed the project and see what it took to move and preserve these impressive structures. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Chris Ryan, a retired librarian, enjoys sharing her love of history with others.

Monday:

11:15 am - 12:45 pm

ONE Week:

February 5





Wheel Woman Annie Londonderry: The First Woman to Bicycle Around the WorldW8M

We will learn about the documented story of a Jewish-Latvian immigrant to the US who, in 1894–95, became the first woman to bicycle around the world. She then built a media career around the popular perceptions of what it was to be female. Audio/Visual

A member of Osher since 2017, Estelle O'Connell has enjoyed taking courses on diverse subjects and offering courses that reflect her interest in stories about unique people and places.

Monday:

11:15 am - 12:45 pm

ONE Week:

February 12





More than a Pastime: Adventures of a Fly Fisherman

[NEW CLASS] Fly fishing—it's not rocket science, but there is a lot to it. We will demonstrate and discuss the use of fly fishing gear and explain the numbering system used in the sport. The class will include an explanation of what is a fly, and why flies made of feathers, fur, and a large number of synthetic materials can actually catch fish. Most importantly, we will discuss why an appreciation of nature and dedication to conservation are the foundations of the sport. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Richard Pecora purchased his first fly rod and reel at age 16 which started a lifelong adventure in local and distant rivers.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ONE Week: February 19





Tiffany Gem: Hidden in Plain SightW10M

[NEW CLASS] This course will look at the Willard Memorial Chapel, and its Tiffany windows, in Auburn, NY. Mostly unknown to the citizens of Auburn, it came painfully close to being sold off piece by piece. This is the story of how the dedication of a group of volunteers saved it. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Sue Boardman has deep appreciation for the things that dedicated volunteers can accomplish. She enjoys sharing her enthusiasm for their stories with others.

11:15 am - 12:45 pm Monday:

ONE Week: February 26





[NEW CLASS] Over seven decades Rosenberg was a trusted adviser, friend, and confidante to Presidents FDR, Truman, Eisenhower, and Johnson. Her fingerprints were on everything from the Manhattan Project to the GI Bill to the desegregation of the military. Life magazine called her "far and away the most important woman in American government." She won the Congressional Medal of Honor (1946) and was the first woman to be awarded the Medal of Freedom (1945) and the US Medal for Merit (1947). And yet, most people today have never heard of her. Let's remedy that situation. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Michelle Turner has presented many lectures on diverse topics such as architect Frank Gehry, the Bosnia-Serbian War, women photographers, and surrealist artists. This course was inspired by reading Christopher Gorham's The Confidante, the story of one of the most powerful women in the US government from 1933-1969.

Monday: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm

ONE Week: March 4





The Battle of Homestead: The Steel Strike of 1892 W12M

[NEW CLASS] The Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers' strike against the Carnegie Steel Corporation in 1892 at Homestead, PA was one of the most important labor conflicts in US history. Albert Carnegie was determined to break the union, and he engineered a lockout. By the time the strike ended four months later, pitched battles had been fought, lives had been lost, an attempted assassination of the CEO of Carnegie Steel Corporation had occurred, and the majority of the Pennsylvania National Guard had been mobilized in support of the Carnegie Corporation. The strike altered the national perception of unions and capitalism.

Gary Mitchell is fascinated with history and has a special interest in 19th-century labor conflicts involving federal and state military forces. The story of the Homestead steel strike is so fascinating that he wanted to share this quintessentially American conflict with other Osher members.

Monday: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm

ONE Week: March 18





The 1956 Suez Crisis and Its FalloutW13M

[NEW CLASS] The Suez Crisis was an invasion of Egypt and the Gaza Strip in late 1956 by Israel, followed by the United Kingdom and France. The aims were to regain control of the Suez Canal for the Western powers and to remove Egyptian president Nasser, who had just nationalized the foreign-owned Suez Canal Company which administered the canal. Israel's primary objective was to re-open the blocked Straits of Tiran. After the fighting had started, political pressure from the US, Soviet Union, and United Nations led to a withdrawal of the three invaders. We will discuss the significant geopolitical history leading up to this crisis, the invasion event, the exposure of clandestine collusion among the invaders, and the humiliation of the United Kingdom and France. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Jim Scott was educated as an engineer, had a long career with Eastman Kodak, and has led classes on diverse subjects. He has a strong interest in 20th-century history having lived through over half of the century.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ONE Week: March 25





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: 13 Discussion, Writing, Reading

Gary Mitchell is a published author with works in both the fiction and non-fiction realms. He learned to write through the share-and-critique model of literary improvement. There are three keys to writing mastery: practice, practice, and practice.

1:30 – 3:30 pm Mondays:

TEN Weeks: January 22 - March 25



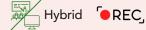
The Poetry of HamletW15M

[NEW COURSE] Hamlet is arguably Shakespeare's greatest play and probably the one in which the meaning is most carried by the complexity of the poetic language. We'll explore this language in depth to see how and whether doing so can answer some of the perennial interpretive issues with this play including whether (and how) Hamlet is mad, and whether Hamlet's error is to hesitate—or to act too precipitously. Website: http://sites.google.com/view/hamletosher Required Text: Signet Classic edition of Hamlet ISBN 9780451526922 (get this edition) Enrollment Limit: 25 Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Donna Richardson is an emerita professor from St. Mary's College of Maryland, where she taught literature for over 30 years. Her primary interests are British Romanticism, poetry in any form, Tolstoy, and Shakespeare.

1:30 – 3:30 pm Mondays:

January 22 - March 25 **TEN** Weeks:



All Woods: Ambrosia Maple Through Zebrawood......W16M

[NEW CLASS] We will explore all facets of wood: types, from Ambrosia maple to zebrawood; origins, from your backyard to Africa; and finished products, from a table to a chest. We also will learn how the tree is sawn to maximize usage and resist warpage, rough cut, dried, priced, and, finally, turned into furniture. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Jim Scott was educated as an engineer. He has eclectic interests and is a lifetime woodworker. As the initiator of the Osher Woodworking Special Interest Group, he covered this topic as its first meeting.

1:30 - 3:00 pm Monday: **ONE** Week: February 19





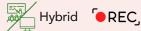
An In-Depth Review of Left-HandednessW17M

[NEW CLASS] We will review the history of left-handednes and consider: common perceptions; intelligence, longevity, accident proneness, music and athletic performance as well as the science of why people have a dominant hand and are proprioceptive. We will conclude with the latest on brain scans and DNA evidence. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Jim Scott was educated as an engineer and astrodynamicist. He had a long career in engineering and project management as well as market research and business development. He is, of course, left-handed.

Monday: **ONE** Week:

1:30 – 3:00 pm February 26



Fame Without a Name: The Tragic Story of America's First Super Model......W18M

Learn the name and tragic story of an American artist's model and film actress, considered to be "America's first supermodel". She was the inspiration for more than 12 statues in New York City alone and others elsewhere. She was one of the first American actresses to appear nude in a non-pornographic film. Audio/Visual

A member of Osher since 2017, Estelle O'Connell has enjoyed taking courses on diverse subjects and offering courses that reflect her interest in stories about unique people and places.

Monday: **ONE** Week: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

March 4





So You Want to Move to Florida?W19M

[NEW CLASS] Welcome to Florida real estate! Flagrant fraudulent flippers, sloping slabs, popping pools, flexible floors, house tents, insurance fraud, rising insurance costs, flood zones, FEMA's elevating houses, foreclosure revenge, Homesteading benefit, and politics. Sell your house on the internet (no questions asked!). Audio/Visual, Discussion

Jim Scott remembers Fort Lauderdale in the 50s, Vero Beach in the 70s, Buffet's Margaritaville in the 90s and gained years of in-depth real estate knowledge in the 2000s.

Monday: **ONE** Week: 1:30 - 3:00 pm

March 18





OLLI at RIT Winter 2024 Course Schedule

Christianity in America......W20T

[NEW COURSE] This four-week course will review the complex topic of Christianity in America, from its antecedents arising from the Protestant Reformation in England, to the colonial period up to the Revolutionary War, the territorial expansion and industrialization of the 19th century, and the secularization of culture in the 20th century. Lecture

John Harmon received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Rochester, specializing in the Renaissance/Reformation and Tudor Stuart England. He has led a previous Osher course on Islam and Christianity as well as several courses at selected churches.

Tuesdays:

9:30 - 11:00 am

FOUR Weeks: January 16 - February 6



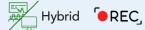
Great Decisions 2024

[NEW COURSE] Many consider the Foreign Policy Association (FPA) to be objective, non-partisan, and apolitical. For over 100 years its mission has been to develop awareness and understanding of US foreign policy through its Great Decisions course. To that end the FPA annually publishes a book and video lectures on foreign policy to be used in classrooms across the country. **Optional Text:** Great Decisions 2024 by the Foreign Policy Association will be available for purchase at fpa.org by late December 2023. The print version is highly recommended; the ebook format is **not** useful in class. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Dick Scott has presented many courses at Osher. His experience as an ICBM Launch Officer a half century ago has influenced his opinions about our foreign policy.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

EIGHT Weeks: January 30 - March 19





A History of Africa.....

[NEW CONTENT] Africa is widely recognized as the "cradle of humankind." It is a large (one-fifth of the total land surface of the Earth) and diverse continent that extends from South Africa northward to the Mediterranean Sea. Africa saw the rise of great kingdoms, and faced the trans-Atlantic slave trade, European colonization, and apartheid. This course will explore the many facets of Africa's 54 countries' history: cultures, ideologies, governments, arts, and music. Audio/Visual, Lecture

After a career in clinical laboratory science, Marie Levin enjoys studying history. She has led Osher courses in the history of the Middle East, Greece, Rome, Russia, Egypt, the Vikings, and India.

9:30 – 11:00 am Tuesdays:

TEN Weeks: January 16 – March 19





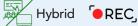
Rochester's Total Eclipse: April 8, 2024......W23T

[NEW COURSE] The coming total solar eclipse will be visible all across North America, and Rochester, NY will be treated to more than three and a half minutes of spectacular totality. This course will cover some history and science of eclipses but will focus on the details of the upcoming event as we hope to witness it in Rochester. We will explore why a total eclipse is so special and will describe some safe methods by which to observe it. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Tom Jones, a retired professor of electrical engineering, has had an interest in viewing the heavens all his life. He has witnessed several partial solar eclipses over the years but never a total eclipse. He prays for a cloud-free day on April 8.

9:30 – 11:00 am Tuesdays:

THREE Weeks: January 16 - January 30





Conversational Spanish......W24T

[NEW CONTENT] Are you an intermediate-level Spanish speaker? If yes, this class is a chance for you to practice speaking in Spanish about a wide variety of topics, to be determined at our first class. This is a friendly, low-pressure environment. We all help each other to find the right words to express ourselves—and above all, we have fun! New members are welcome. **Enrollment Limit: 10** Discussion

Kathy Lewis, Dana Black, and Lucy Minor are three members of Roz Rubin's Intermediate Spanish class. When she takes a term off, we get together to continue practicing Spanish.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm **TEN** Weeks:

January 16 - March 19





Exploring Downton Abbey: The People and the Place......W25T

[NEW COURSE] Look behind the scenes of this iconic PBS series and explore its various aspects: author, place, historic events, characters and cast, music, fashions, and food featured during its six seasons. Audio/Visual

A member since 2017 Estelle O'Connell has enjoyed taking diverse Osher courses and presenting subjects that reflect her interest in people and places.

11:15 am - 12:45 pm Tuesdays: **NINE** Weeks: January 23 - March 19 Zoom Only REC,



Writing your memoirs may be the perfect indoor project for the wintry months ahead. Participants write one small bit of their life story each week, share it, and are inspired by the writings of other class members. Someone, family or friend, will be grateful for your effort, perhaps even you. Reading, Writing

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

11:15 am – 12:45 pm Tuesdays: **TEN** Weeks: January 16 - March 19



[NEW COURSE] One of nature's most powerful forces is volcanism. It is both destructive and constructive; it is important to the Earth's climate; and it is an integral part of plate tectonics. In this course we will look at famous volcanic eruptions as well as the geology behind them. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Timothy McDonnell has been a proud Osher member since 2005 and, over the years, has led many courses on a variety of subjects. Since he is the coordinator of the NY Geographic Alliance at Monroe Community College, whenever possible, Tim includes geography in all his courses.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm TEN Weeks: January 16 – March 19 Hybrid REC

[NEW COURSE] Death is universal and happens not only to animals and plants, but also to entire species as well as to stars. Renewal depends on death: a dying star's supernova is the source of essential atomic elements; the extinction of living species makes room for new species. Within this larger context the biology of human death is not straightforward. How and where we die is quite negotiable, yet ultimately accepting and understanding death defines the human experience. Philosophers strive for this understanding; some theologians write about salvation history and others speak to reincarnation. Accepting and understanding death often defines the human experience in poetry, literature, and opera. Discussion, Lecture

Our Osher-course-leader team of Lisa Jadwin, Sharyl Courter, Donna Richardson, Kim Haynes, Tom Jones, Roger Gans, **Victor Poleshuck**, and **Tom Low** consists of a doctor, two engineering professors, two English professors, a retired educator, a healthcare/biotech professional, and a bureaucrat. We are all retired and think ourselves qualified to argue endlessly about the meaning of death and renewal.

1:30 - 3:00 pm Tuesdays:

TEN Weeks: January 16 - March 19





An Introduction to Better Capitalism: You Are Right! There Is a Better Way!..... W29T

At some point you have looked up from a business-related task, paused before your head exploded, and thought, "There has got to be a better way!" Here it is. With this seminar, led by the authors of the recently published book Better Capitalism: Jesus, Adam Smith, Ayn Rand and MLK Jr. on Moving from Plantation to Partnership Economics (an Amazon #1 new release), you will see that capitalism reinvents itself with the principles of Partnership Economics, leading to a more profitable and ethical form of capitalism that is that better way. Join us to unleash mutually beneficial capitalism!

[NATIONAL OLLI COURSE LEADERS] Co-author Paul Knowlton holds a bachelor's degree in engineering, a Juris Doctorate (JD), and a Master of Divinity (MDiv) for a truly interdisciplinary approach to every question. Paul is currently a practicing attorney who has taught at the college and professional levels. Co-author Aaron Hedges, MBA, MDiv, has lived the organizational life from first-paid employee of an entrepreneurial startup to his current role of CEO of the Inheritance of Hope organization which has grown to serve families from 49 states.

1:30 – 3:30 pm Tuesdays:

TWO Weeks: January 30 - February 6





Irish Culture and Literature

[NEW CONTENT] This course will present various aspects of Irish culture and tradition reflected through prose, poetry, and multimedia. We will focus on authors who have made significent contributions to the world's understanding of the Irish condition as well as Irish current events. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

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

1:30 – 3:00 pm Tuesdays:

FIVE Weeks: January 16 - February 13



Wednesday

OLLI at RIT Winter 2024 Course Schedule

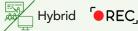
The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica

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 Mesoamerica including the Olmec, Maya, and Aztec. Using the historical and archaeological record, we will cover the rise, development, and collapse of Mesoamerican civilizations. Optional Text: Mexico: From the Olmecs to the Aztecs (Seventh Edition) by Michael D. Coe and Rex Koontz (2013). Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

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.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

TEN Weeks: January 17 – March 20





[NEW CONTENT] Using the current issue of The New Yorker as a jumping off point, we conduct lively discussions of a very broad range of topics, ranging from today's culture, current events, fiction, history, and, of course, the famous cartoons. We stay one week behind the current issue so you have time to read it. We will start with the January 8, 2024 issue.

Required Text: The New Yorker magazine (hard copy or e-copy) by subscription, individual issue purchase, or library.

Enrollment Limit: 20 Audio/Visual, Discussion

Joan Dupont and **Steve Levinson** really enjoy having an opportunity to discuss articles they read in the amazing *The New* Yorker magazine with their class. They enjoy adding to their knowledge and understanding of topics covered as well as interacting with class members.

Wednesdays: 9:30 - 11:00 am

January 17 - March 20 TEN Weeks:



Contemporary EventsW33W

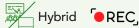
We will engage in civil discussion involving contemporary events submitted by members of the class. Discussion

Terri Hurley has been an Osher member for over 14 years. She enjoys learning the members' different views.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

TEN Weeks: January 17 – March 20





[NEW COURSE] The American Revolution is usually told through the lives of the founders and fighters. But what about the women? Whether patriots, Loyalists, African Americans, or Native Americans, women played their part in the great upheaval that was the making of America. With war raging around them and their men away, women struggled to keep families intact and farms or businesses afloat. Others were driven from their homes by hostile neighbors loyal to the other side. Whether highborn or low, women in the colonies had to find new paths to survive as the war dragged on for eight years. Diaries, letters, and oral histories tell their stories. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Debbie Huff, whose ancestors fought in the American Revolution, enjoys researching narrative sources of the period to find the hidden stories behind the traditional telling of history. She has led courses at Osher since 2008.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am - 12:45 pm

FIVE Weeks:

January 17 - February 14



Writing WorkshopW35W

[NEW CONTENT] Following the Writing Workshop format, each class starts with a short lesson about some aspect of the writing craft. Participants then have time to write on a topic of their choice and conference with class members. We cover a variety of genres and styles in a friendly environment. Enrollment Limit: 15 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Writing, Workshop

Jeanne Strining has worked as a teacher and school administrator in the Webster and Brighton school districts. She has taught the Writing Workshop method both in her classrooms and to adults as a trainer.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

TEN Weeks: January 17 - March 20 In-Person Only

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] We will continue to explore the future of our health and how the advancing science and technology will revolutionize medicine. Topics covered will include transplants, tissue engineering, organoids, stem cells, drug developments, reproduction, aging, microbiome, and much more. Participation in previous parts of this course is not a prerequisite. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Alex Marcus is a retired physician who started as an internist in India and later specialized in neurology and psychiatry here in the US. He has been leading courses at Osher for over 20 years on a variety of topics, mostly about the human brain but also on health, aging, and longevity.

Wednesdays:

1:30 – 3:00 pm

TEN Weeks:

January 17 - March 20

Zoom Only REC

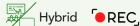
[NEW COURSE] An understanding of mathematics is part of a liberal education. Unfortunately, the way math is taught in schools turns many people off from the subject. This class will help you understand what math is and not how to do math. It presents the development of math from an historical perspective. No tests or homework! Lecture

Glenn Barlis has taught Osher courses on economics and finance.

Wednesdays:

1:30 - 3:00 pm

THREE Weeks: March 6 - March 20



Lucretius and Epicureanism......

[NEW COURSE] We will read and discuss Lucretius' poem On the Nature of the Universe and the thoughts of Epicurus that inspired it. Optional Text: On the Nature of the Universe Penguin Classics paperback edition, ISBN 0140446109 Discussion, Lecture, Reading

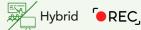
Tom Low has led many courses on thinkers modern and ancient including Plato, Aristotle, Epictetus, and Marcus Aurelius.

Wednesdays:

1:30 - 3:00 pm

FIVE Weeks:

January 17 - February 14





Thursday

OLLI at RIT Winter 2024 Course Schedule

Family Stories Workshop.....

W39Th

[NEW CONTENT] Participants in this course will research stories that they can tell about one historical person, typically an ancestor. Research sources for stories will be primarily free and online. The goal is not to develop a family tree but to be able to understand something about the life that a person lived: through their location, occupation, ethnicity, or historical context. Bring your own computer or tablet to conduct your research. Enrollment Limit: 20 in person; unlimited on Zoom Audio/Visual, Discussion, Writing, Workshop

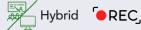
Pat Donaldson was an engineer at Xerox who developed a love of genealogy during the pandemic. Her ancestors include canal boat captains, soldiers, Quakers, and farmers.

Thursdays:

9:30 – 11:00 am

FIVE Weeks:

February 22 - March 21





John Huston: Film Legend and Legend MakerW40Th

[NEW COURSE] We will study John Huston, director, screenwriter, and character actor, whose career spanned over five decades. Huston, "one of the most influential, prolific directors of any era," often explored "characters struggling for individuality despite constraints from the world around them," in films such as The Maltese Falcon (1941), The Treasure of the Sierra Madre (1948), The Asphalt Jungle (1950), The African Queen (1951), The Red Badge of Courage (1951), The Misfits (1961), The Man Who Would Be King (1975), Wise Blood (1979), Prizzi's Honor (1985), and The Dead (1987). 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 five decades, she has tried to pass that awareness and appreciation on to other people.

Thursdays:

9:30 - 11:30 am

TEN Weeks:

January 18 - March 21





You Be the Critic: A Film Discussion GroupW41Th

Class members are expected to see one or two movies that have been selected in class each week, viewing them independently at local theaters or by streaming when available. We rate each movie and then share our ratings and viewpoints with the class. With a variety of opinions, lively discussion is guaranteed. Enrollment Limit: 25 Discussion

Sandra M. Vallot retired from the Allstate Insurance Company after a 40-year career during which time she had the opportunity to complete her AS in Applied Science and BS in Business Administration and General Management. She became a member of Osher because she is committed to lifelong learning.

Thursdays:

9:30 - 11:00 am

TEN Weeks:

January 18 - March 21



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

Members don't need to register for these lectures. We will send a weekly email to all members with the Zoom meeting information for each lecture. Non-members may register via the links found on our calendar (https://www.rit.edu/osher/calendar).



Week One: January 18 Let Our Children Soar!



Bolgen Vargus, Ed.D., Author & Former Rochester City School District (RCSD) Superintendent

Dr. Bolgen Vargas' life began in the Dominican Republic where he walked barefoot to school. On a lucky day he rode a donkey. As a teenager without any knowledge of English, he moved to New York City to join his older siblings and his mother who fiercely believed immigrating would assure her children's success. Young Bolgen would beat the odds by graduating from high school, SUNY Brockport, and the University of Pennsylvania, Graduate School of Education. He became Superintendent of the RCSD and the Manchester, NH School Districts. His own story instilled in him the desire to help other ESL students succeed. A book signing follows the lecture.



Week Two: January 25

The Eclipse Is Coming! The Eclipse Is Coming!



Dan Schneiderman, Eclipse Partnerships Coordinator, Rochester Museum & Science Center (RMSC)

Dan Schneiderman is the Eclipse Partnership Coordinator at the RMSC and co-chair of the Rochester Eclipse Taskforce. He has over 10 years of experience producing STEAM-based events around Rochester and NYS. He currently sits on subcommittees for the American Astronomical Society (AAS) National Eclipse Committee and hosted the October 2022 AAS Eclipse Planning Workshop. Dan is working towards making sure that,



literally, everyone under the sun has a chance to experience the 2024 total solar eclipse.

Week Three: February 1

Taking Charge of Change: The Rochester Area Community Foundation



Simeon Banister, CEO & President, Rochester Area Community Foundation (RACF) Founded in 1972 RACF administers more than 900 permanent endowment funds created to carry out the charitable giving interests of individuals, families, and organizations. As a catalyst for community change, RACF brings passionate philanthropists

together with those organizations and individuals who can most effectively restore hope, create opportunity, and improve the quality of life for others.





 THE **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Week Four: February 8 It's More than a Theatre: Geva's "Sticky Connectivity"



Rachel Y. DeGuzman, Director of Engagement, Community Partnerships, & Public Curation, Geva Theatre

Geva's curatorial team works on all programming at the theatre, connecting with countless artists and organizations to commission, develop, program, and produce work across Geva's spaces and beyond. Engagement at Geva's overarching objective is to connect more people and organizations with the productions presented on the theatre's stages. Programs such as Geva Insights, Mondays at Geva, the Essie Calhoun Diversity in the Arts Awards, and various symposiums



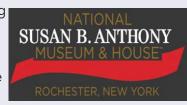
strengthen relationships with existing patrons and partners and help in forming new connections—the kind of sticky connectivity that endures.

Week Five: February 15

Susan B. Anthony: On the Road Again!?



Deborah L. Hughes, President & CEO, National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House For several years the Anthony Museum & House has been planning. a campus expansion that will expand the outreach and impact of Susan B. Anthony's story. With more than \$15.8 million raised for this capital project, the vision is becoming a reality. Deborah L. Hughes will share the vision, progress, and design concepts for the new interpretive center which will be transformative for the community.



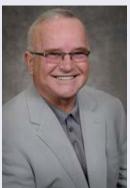
Week Six: February 22 The Sinking of the SS Athenia



Doris Adamek, Daughter of Survivor

On September 3, 1939 the first sea battle of World War II occurred when a German U-boat mistakenly sunk a British passenger ship, the SS Athenia. Rochestarian John Garland survived the sinking, and his daughter, Doris Adamek, shares her father's story based on his harrowing first-hand account of this prelude to WWII. Doris, a lifelong Rochesterian, nursed in the 50s, raised children in the 60s and 70s, and currently is a leader of innovative programs for seniors.





Adam Urbanski, President of the Rochester Teachers Association (RTA)

Dr. Adam Urbanski, originally from Poland, is an influential figure in American education reform. As the president of the RTA and the vice-president of the American Federation of Teachers, he has actively championed change. His initiatives include an internship program for new teachers, a peer-review plan, and a homework hotline for students. Founder of Teacher Union Reform Network and recipient of the Phi Delta Kappa Leadership in Education Award, Dr. Urbanski has served on numerous prestigious boards and appeared on various national TV programs, and his

work has been featured in major publications.

rochester teachers association

Week Eight: March 7 History Co-Existing with the Present Day: Preservation Is a Responsibility for Revitalization



Wayne Goodman, Executive Director, Landmark Society of Western New York Since 2011 Wayne Goodman has been the Society's Executive Director—only the fourth in its 74-year history. He previously was director of Indiana Landmarks' Eastern Regional Office where he made a reputation as a specialist in preservation planning and long-term partnerships. The Society is one of the nation's oldest and most active historic preservation organizations. It is a not-for-profit membership organization that serves nine western NY counties and is dedicated to helping our region's communities preserve and capitalize on their rich architectural, historical, and cultural heritage.

Week Nine: March 14

Living in Afghanistan Before and After the Taliban Takeover and Adjusting to a New Life in the US



Sadaf Kohistani, Afghan Immigrant

The fourth of six children, Sadaf Kohistani and her family moved from the countryside to Kabul for educational opportunities. As a graduate of Afghanistan's Alberoni University with a degree in English, she worked at the American-sponsored Lincoln Learning Centers of Kabul. When the Americans withdrew and the Taliban entered, the family's lives changed. She will speak about her childhood, her escape from Afghanistan, her arrival in the US, and what has happened to her family and country since the Taliban takeover.

Week Ten: March 21 Leading the Mental Health Revolution Through Support, Education, and Advocacy



Donna Leigh-Estes, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Rochester The Rochester Affiliate of NAMI provides support, education, and advocacy to individuals and families of all cultural backgrounds who are living with mental illness. Through countless classes, groups, workshops, and events, NAMI provides strength, inclusivity, and companionship through community, and thus its work is invaluable in the fight for mental health. Donna Leigh-Estes' mission is to grow NAMI Rochester's connections in the community and to further the understanding that mental illness is treatable, and mental health is attainable. **60 NAMI** Rochester

Great Detective Fiction Circa 1940: Chandler's The Big Sleep and du Maurier's Rebecca....... W42Th

[NEW COURSE] Chandler's hard-boiled detective, Philip Marlowe, introduces us to the complex, violent, and corrupt world of Los Angeles while du Maurier recaptures the suspense and dark themes of Bronte's Jane Eyre, with a new take on Gothic mystery in an English country house. We'll read and discuss these two very different detective novels' historical and cultural contexts. The leisurely pace of the course will allow plenty of time for discussion. Website: http://sites.google.com/view/ detective-fictions-1940s/home Required Texts: The Annotated Big Sleep by Raymond Chandler, ISBN 0804168881, and Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier (any edition) Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Lisa Jadwin, Ph.D., professor emeritus of English and film at St. John Fisher University, has taught English and film studies for more than 35 years. She encourages close, slow reading and wide-ranging discussion in her courses.

Thursdays:

1:45 – 3:45 pm

TEN Weeks:

January 18 - March 21

In-Person Only REC

Spiritual Vocabulary 101......W43Th

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] Imagine...that we live in a matriarchy. Imagine how the world would be different if it were so. Imagine matriarchy on its own merits in its most natural, most organic form. Imagine it without the conscious and unconscious influence of patriarchy. Imagine how it could and would influence patriarchy. Matriarchy and patriarchy are far from equal now; imagine if they were equal; and imagine if matriarchy were just a smidge "more equal". There is a plethora of virtually unexamined hints and clues that the omniverse may have been designed from the beginning to be matriarchal, and substantial evidence to examine. Optional Text: Your own Hebrew or Christian Bible, Koran, or any books or articles you've read on women and gender topics. Discussion, Lecture, Reading, Workshop

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Edward John Devine has degrees in architecture and engineering, post-university training in environmental management, and an MA degree in theology; he is also ordained clergy. Since 2020 he's been on sabbatical studying spirituality, archaeology, anthropology, culture, religion, science, and ecology to discover what we can know and how we can be certain of it.

Thursdays:

1:45 – 3:45 pm

TEN Weeks:

January 18 - March 21





OLLI at RIT Winter 2024 Course Schedule

[NEW COURSE] Deadwood is an American Western HBO TV series that had a run of three seasons. The show garnered 28 Emmy nominations and eight wins and was critically acclaimed for its writing, direction, acting, cinematography, and set design. While some situations and relationships are fictional, creator and principal writer, David Milch, based episodes on Deadwood historic events and people, lending an interesting approach to the history of the town and territory. Warning: episodes contain violence. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Bill Brown has been an Osher member and course leader for many years (Sherlock Holmes, Frank Loesser, and various technology-related topics) and is a member and former leader of the local Sherlockian Scion Society-Rochester Row. Charlie Dean is a longtime member of Osher and a former teacher, coach, and labor organizer in the RCSD. Bob Hilliard will help to facilitate the course.

Fridays:

9:30 – 11:00 am

TEN Weeks:

January 19 – March 22





OLLI Course Exchange

We are pleased to announce that we are partnering with two other Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes (OLLIs) to provide our members more course offerings at no additional charge. Thanks to time zone differences we are now able to offer you late afternoon and evening classes!

> Sign up for these courses through our registration system, not through the partner OLLI sites.



LGBTQ+ Issues and Identities.....

In the last few years, states have advanced a record number of bills that attack LGBTQ+ rights. Join this class in exploring the diversity of LGBTQ+ communities, identities, and issues and discover how everyone is impacted by the anti-LGBTQ movement. Learn the basics of terminology and delve into historical, cultural, and theoretical aspects of the LGBTQ+ experience. There will be plenty of time for questions.

Susan Frawley has bachelor's degrees in both geology and anthropology. She obtained her master's degree in archaeology and paleoanthropology at the Australian National University. Her areas of interest include anthropology, LGBTQ history, and activism. She is a Chico State faculty member in the Multicultural and Gender Studies Department and teaches anthropology at Butte College. She is a member of the Chico State Trans Task Force, the secretary for the LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Association, and the director for Chico State Lavender Graduation.

Mondays: **TEN** Weeks: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm ET

January 8 - March 11





Art and Archaeology of Early India......W46E

The class will consider the art history of ancient India from the prehistoric through the medieval period. Class presentations will include PowerPoint reviews of key works and archaeological monuments, as well as important background information on Buddhism and Hinduism.

Katherine Harper has a PhD in the art history of India from UCLA. She retired from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles after 37 years. She has lived and traveled extensively throughout Asia.

4:00 - 5:30 pm ET

TEN Weeks:

January 9 – March 12



Let's Keep Knitting......W47E

Knitting with others is a wonderful learning environment. This class is designed to give knitters who have mastered the basic stitches of knit and purl a chance to work on a project of their choosing while we chat and share ideas online with other knitters. All levels of ability are welcome! Gale contributes to the class by offering tips and suggestions for patterns, yarn, and tools based on her years of knitting experience.

Gale Ulvang, a life-long knitter, has made a hobby out of collecting odd bits of information and techniques she can use to improve her knitting projects. She promotes using internet resources to find patterns and expand skills and loves sharing that knowledge with others. She learned the Fibonacci sequence as a scheme for striping in hats and scarves and was inspired to learn more about how it can improve artistic composition.

Tuesdays:

6:00 - 7:30 pm ET

TEN Weeks:

January 9 – March 12



Intro to Watercolor PaintingW48E

Participants will explore basic watercolor techniques, ways to use different watercolor brushes, and differences in watercolor papers. There will be in-class demonstrations and painting by all, as well as watercolor exercises to explore on your own after each class session. Demonstrations are with the materials from the course materials list. However, if you already have watercolor materials you can use them. Those who have taken this course previously are welcome to retake it and work on watercolor paintings they have in progress. Material List: https://csuchico.box.com/s/sgccwunf0y2k57uj4ibb5gn7tfyx3hdo

Cris Guenter is both an artist and an educator. She is professor emerita in the School of Education at Chico State and was named the 2008 National Art Educator of the Year by the National Art Education Association. She has been exhibiting her artwork in regional, national, and international exhibitions since 1972. She is currently a national trustee for the National Art Education Foundation.

Tuesdays:

1:00 – 2:30 pm ET

SIX Weeks:

January 16 - February 20





Learn to Draw Cartoon Characters.....

Have fun exploring the many possibilities for creating your own unique characters. Learn to draw cartoon heads and bodies, along with all their features. Learn how to bring your characters to life and give each their own unique personality. You will learn how to make them talk and think. Enjoy exploring single- and multi-panel comic strips. Absolutely no drawing ability required.

Retired graphic designer and illustrator **Dick Kennedy** received his art degree at Michigan State University. He worked as a draftsman, production artist, and art director before running his own freelance graphics business. Dick has taught cartooning and drawing fundamentals for OLLI for many years.

Wednesdays:

1:00 - 2:00 pm ET

FIVE Weeks:

January 10 - February 7



Chico State Faculty Lecture SeriesW50E

Chico State's tradition of academic excellence goes back more than 130 years. With over 900 faculty members and 13,000 students, the University's teaching and learning community is thriving. Discover the imagination, cutting-edge research, and expertise that flourishes in our own backyard!

Sandra Flake retired from the English Department at Chico State, where she enjoyed teaching general education courses in "American Indian Literature" and "Literature for Life" for several years, following a long career in academic administration (provost at Chico State and the University of West Florida, academic dean at the University of Northern Colorado and the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse). She earned her doctorate in English, with a focus on fiction, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and taught literature and composition there and, subsequently, at the University of Minnesota, where she also directed a learning center.

Wednesdays:

4:00 - 5:30 pm ET

SIX Weeks:

February 7 – March 13



Through lectures, videos, and discussions, we will examine how Van Gogh used aspects of English, Dutch, French, and Japanese art in the development of his style. We will also see how he developed the rhythms of his paintings through his drawings. Participants will receive emails with something to look at, something to read, something to watch, and a Van Gogh drawing to copy in advance of each class meeting. Recommended reading: any edition of Van Gogh's letters to his brother

Dolores Mitchell received a BA in studio art and a PhD in art history from UCLA in 1970 and taught "Renaissance to 20th Century Art History" at Chico State for 30 years. She co-founded Chico's Avenue 9 Gallery, where she exhibited her art until the gallery closed in 2015. Dolores now focuses her energies on painting.

Wednesdays:

4:00 – 5:30 pm ET

FIVE Weeks:

February 14 – March 13







Ukraine Then and Now (Part 2)W52E

The war in Ukraine will shape the course of the 21st century in many ways. Suddenly, the history of eastern Europe has taken on a new importance for an understanding of what is going on. That is a major thesis of Yale's distinguished historian, Timothy Snyder, in his course, The Making of Modern Ukraine, available to the public at https://online.yale.edu/courses/makingmodern-ukraine. We use his lectures to introduce each of our classes in this two-semester course. In tandem with Professor Snyder's insights, we use a range of supplementary materials to foster an understanding of the region and its place in global affairs. Events as they unfold provide a continuing source of class discussion.

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 10, 2024. After that date this class will begin at 12:00 pm.

Jesse Frey is an experienced study group leader.

Mondays: 11:00 am - 12:45 pm ET TWELVE Weeks: January 22 - April 8

Alfred Hitchcock's San Francisco W53E

Alfred Hitchcock loved San Francisco and used its elegance, beauty and mystery to great effect in many of his films. In this virtual tour, you'll see brief scenes from Vertigo, The Birds and other Hitchcock classics filmed on location in the San Francisco Bay Area. You'll hear great stories about how Hitchcock chose those locations and how he filmed them. It's a treat for Hitchcock fans and lovers of the City by the Bay.

Jay Sherwin is a writer and consultant who has been watching, studying and enjoying Hitchcock films for decades. As a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, he created and led a walking tour of Alfred Hitchcock's San Francisco that continues to attract Hitchcock fans from around the world. He created this virtual tour to share his favorite stories and photos with anyone who loves Hitchcock films or loves San Francisco, no matter where they live.

Monday: 4:00 - 5:45 pm ET

ONE Week: March 11 **Zoom** Only

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Past & PresentW54E

Topics will include: Pre-1948, Creation of the State of Israel in 1948 – Israeli-Arab War, 1956; The Suez War, 1967; The Six-day War, 1973; The Yom Kippur War, 1978; The Camp David Accords, 1993; The Oslo Accords, 2020; The Abraham Accords, 2023; October 07 dubbed Israel's 9/11 (or Pear Harbor?). Is the two-state solution still feasible? Is a one-state solution viable? What else (if any)? How long can the status quo last? Possible role of the US (or not!).

Born and raised in Lebanon (18 different religious and ethnic legally recognized communities), Samih Baalbaki retired as a lawyer after spending his last 17 years based in Dubai and traveling extensively on professional assignments to over 20 Muslim countries in the Middle East, North Africa and southeast Asia. For the last 8 years, with OLLI at CCU as well as other educational institutions, Samih has taught courses on Islam, Middle Eastern politics and current affairs. Samih is a native Arabic speaker. Passionate about teaching, Samih has taught two weekly Zoom classes throughout the Covid-19 confinement.

1:00 - 2:45 pm ET Tuesdays:

EIGHT Weeks: January 16 - March 5 Zoom Only REC,



This introductory course will provide an overview of Hinduism, the religion of India that originated about 3000 years ago. It will include a brief history about the origin of Hinduism and the contributions to it from different sources, the Religion of Hinduism and its many components, the different philosophies that underpin the religious practices, including the non-dualism of Vedanta; and the interactions between Hinduism and Judaism, Christianity, Islam. Also covered in the course are the rituals, practices, customs and festivals related to Hinduism.

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 10, 2024. After that date this class will begin at 4:00 pm.

Pravin Soni is a native of India and immigrated to the US in 1973. He has been a student of the Hindu Philosophy of Vedanta for the past 35 years. He has a PhD in Polymer Science and Engineering and has been involved in early stage biotech companies for over 25 years.

Tuesdays: 3:00 – 4:45 pm ET **SIX** Weeks: March 5 – April 9





This course explores how the arrival of airplanes on the battlefield changed the very nature of warfare. With specific focus on the Luftwaffe, the Royal Air Force, and the United States Army Air Force during WWII, we will explore the development of aviation and air power in the years leading up to the war and the greatest clash of machines in the history of armed combat. The presentation also describes how each air force enjoyed its own "Finest Hour" and how American industrial might brought victory, but only after an enormous cost in men and aircraft. The format is lecture integrated within a Power Point presentation that includes graphics, animated maps and embedded video clips. All participants will receive a 50-page Aircraft Encyclopedia, structured note taking pages, bibliography, and Cast of Characters. All are delivered electronically and are used as each participant sees fit.

Buck Beasom has a two-track career that includes 40 years of professional experience as a VP of Finance and applications developer with a parallel 30-year career as a teacher of Business Courses and History. A long-time student of World War II he has developed multi-media courses on the Air War in Europe and the Air War in the Asia/Pacific theater. He teaches for OLLI Chapters across the country.

11:00 am – 1:00 pm ET Thursdays: **FOUR Weeks:** January 25 – February 15







The Magic of the Brill Building Era: The Sound of Rock and Pop in the 50s and 60s.................. W57E

The adventure begins in New York City, where the echoes of Tin Pan Alley's Great American Songbook still resound. We witness a new generation of talented songwriters, singers, and groups, who filled the airwaves shaping the soundtrack of our lives. Enjoy the music of legendary songwriters such as Carole King & Gerry Goffin, Neil Sedaka & Howard Greenfield, Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil, Phil Spector, Jerry Leiber & Mike Stoller, Doc Pomus & Mort Shuman, Ellie Greenwich & Jeff Barry, Burt Bacharach & Hal David, Neil Diamond, and others. Rediscover the tunes from Elvis Presley, the Coasters, Dion and the Belmonts, the Drifters, Dionne Warwick, the Ronettes, the Shirelles, the Animals, the Monkees, Manfred Mann, Andy Williams, the unforgettable Righteous Brothers, and many others who left us with a treasure trove of great music. Join me on this journey to delve into the melodies, stories, and vibrant personalities behind the Brill Building era during the late 1950s and 1960s.

Michael Agron, a music aficionado, brings his passion to OLLI for the third time after captivating audiences with seminars like "This is Sinatra!" and "Celebrating Perfect Vocal Harmony Groups." He grew up in LA, the heart of the recording & entertainment industry. His love for music initially led him towards dreams of becoming a recording engineer. However, a career in hi-tech, including founding a webinar marketing agency, beckoned. Michael considers himself fortunate to share his passion for music and entertainment, having delivered numerous distinctive seminars over twelve semesters to the Sacramento Renaissance Society and numerous OLLI chapters across the nation.

Thursdays: 3:00 – 4:45 pm ET

SIX Weeks: January 25 - February 29





Ancient Egypt's Middle Kingdom

Ancient Egypt was one of the earliest and greatest civilizations. Unified around 3,000 BCE, Ancient Egypt is responsible for such wonders as the Great Pyramid (the tallest structure in the world for over 4,000 years, built in the Old Kingdom) and the Karnak Temple complex (one of the largest religious buildings ever built, primarily constructed in the New Kingdom). The Middle Kingdom of Ancient Egypt falls between the Old and New Kingdoms. It was a time of recovery and transformation following a period of instability. It is harder to define than the Old or New Kingdoms, but it was a time when the art, architecture, and literature of the civilization developed rapidly. The art was like nothing that came before it and it influenced everything that came after. The Middle Kingdom contributed immensely to what we recognize as the culture of Ancient Egypt today and it was a period of great prosperity. Join me for this four-week study group, where we will explore Ancient Egypt in the Middle Kingdom.

Nicola Richmond is the Vice Chancellor of Strategy, Analytics and Research at Pima Community College. She oversees strategic planning, institutional and operational effectiveness, federal and state reporting and ad hoc reporting at the institution. She has an extensive data analysis and research background that most recently focuses on higher education, but her experience also includes the analysis of magnetometer data for the moon and Mars, and the application of cellular automata models to coastal environments. She has a Ph.D. in Geology from University College London. Her doctoral research focused on the incorporation of aluminum and iron into deep Earth magnesium silicate minerals using numerical modeling approaches from quantum mechanics and solid state physics. Nic has a strong interest in cross-disciplinary research approaches, taking techniques from the sciences and bringing them to higher education research.

6:00 – 7:45 pm ET Thursdays: **FOUR Weeks:** March 14 – April 4







Astronomy/Geosciences.....

Our exploration of the Earth, Solar System, and Universe continues. This semester our key topic will be the Cosmological Toolkit. This Toolkit will include such concepts/theories/laws/insights as the Eddington and Roche limits, Redshift, Cosmic Distances, Kepler Laws, the Hertzsprung-Russell diagram, Stellar Magnitudes, Lagrange Points, and the EM spectrum, to name a few. We will discuss these in the context of on-going discoveries in Astronomy, Planetary Sciences, and Earth Sciences. Information will be conveyed using short videos, awesome photos, understandable/fun graphics, and class discussions. We will have several guest speakers from the University of Arizona's Astronomy, Planetary Sciences, and Geosciences Departments. Science Fiction Theatre continues, with short clips highlighting a century of Sci Fi movies and TV shows. Please join us for this continuing journey of discovery and adventure. Being in an earlier Astronomy/Geosciences class I have hosted is neither a prerequisite nor necessary to understand and enjoy this class.

Guy Jette retired from the U.S. Air Force after 37 years working in Research and Development in both the aeronautical and space fields. He holds MBA and MS degrees, and is an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He has worked in astronomy outreach for the past ten years as a docent at Kitt Peak National Observatory. He has also been a frequent quest speaker at the University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy on Maui.

3:00 - 4:45 pm ET Fridays:

SIX Weeks:

January 26 – March 8

Note: No class on February 9





People have lived in what is now the southwestern United States for at least 13,600 years, probably longer. For nearly the first 10,000 years of that history they were highly nomadic. At first, they relied on the hunting of big-game animals, but by about 10,000 years ago they became more focused on foraging for wild plant foods. But then, over 4,000 years ago, the introduction of plant cultivation changed southwestern lifestyles dramatically. To practice farming, people had to stay near their gardens and fields for substantial portions of the year, which led to the establishment of the first relatively permanent settlements; and to grow crops in the hot deserts they began using irrigation. In this course, archaeologist Allen Dart will illustrate and discuss archaeological discoveries that have brought this early era of human history to life.

Registered Professional Archaeologist Allen Dart has worked in Arizona and New Mexico since 1975 for federal and state governments, private companies, and nonprofit organizations. He is the executive director of Tucson's nonprofit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, which he founded in 1993 to provide educational and scientific programs in archaeology, history, and cultures. Al has received the Arizona Archaeological Society's Professional Archaeologist of the Year Award, the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society's Victor R. Stoner Award, the Arizona Governor's Archaeology Advisory Commission Award in Public Archaeology, and other honors for his efforts to bring archaeology and history to the public.

Fridays: 5:00 - 6:45 pm ET

TWO Weeks: January 26 & February 2





Pseudoscience, misinformation, and disinformation have probably been part of the human experience from our very beginnings. In recent years, however, they have become powerful disruptive forces, battering social cohesion and stability, becoming primary weapons of social divisions and even war within and between sovereign states. This course will examine their histories, discuss how they have become so persuasive and pervasive in recent times, and explore some suggested ways to mitigate their impact and perhaps even prevent some from occurring. The course will be a mix of lectures with slides and discussion. A bibliography of the sources used for each lecture will provided. Enrollment Limit: 10.

Paul Etkind is a retired epidemiologist who focused on infectious disease prevention and control at the local, state, and national levels over the course of his career. He had first-hand experience with anti-vaccination proponents and saw how the doubts sowed there could have broader corrosive effects on public health and on broader social cohesion.

9:30 - 11:30 am ET Mondays:

SIX Weeks: January 15 – February 19



By any standard, sports play an outsize role in modern life. Extraordinary amounts of time, money, and emotion are devoted to playing, watching, and analyzing sports. And while they are clearly more than opportunities for exercise and diversion, it's not obvious why they are as significant as they have become. We will attempt to understand some of the ways sports allow us to engage with five important dimensions of human life: hierarchy, elevation, community, understanding, and legacy. A variety of readings, videos, and short lectures will set the table for class discussions. Participants (teammates!) will be encouraged to keep intellectual journals. We will explore topics that include the following: the origins of sports; the importance of play; the nature and worth of competitive sports; sports as they play out at various levels (childhood, youth, high school, college, amateur, professional); sports and individual development; sports and social development; sports and beauty; the desecration and the reclamation of the best sports can offer. This course will combine lecture with class discussion.

Required Texts: Norwich: One Tiny Vermont Town's Secret to Happiness and Excellence, Karen Crouse (ISBN-13: 978-1501119903); Black Gods of the Asphalt: Religion, Hop-Hop, and Street Basketball, Onaje X.O. Woodbine (ISBN-13: 978-0231541121) Enrollment Limit: 10

Tom Hodgson holds a BA from Williams and an MA in Philosophy from Yale. He has taught a wide range of courses at Phillips Academy, Williams College, and, since retiring to the Berkshires, with OLLI chapters at Dartmouth and at Berkshire Community College.

Mondays: 9:00 - 11:00 am ET **EIGHT Weeks:** January 22 - March 11





Discerning what is true and what is hype these days is a challenge, and no more so than in the funeral world. With the media extolling the merits of green burial, alkaline hydrolysis, and human composting, consumers are left to wonder what is possible and how it will play out. We'll focus on the legal, environmental, and practical aspects of alternative disposition methods and green funeral services to give participants the inside scoop. Anyone looking to become a more informed consumer about alternative funeral practices, or who is simply curious about these products and processes, is welcome to these interactive sessions. This course will combine lecture with class discussions. Optional Texts: Changing Landscapes: Exploring the growth of ethical, compassionate, and environmentally sustainable green funeral service?, Editor, Lee Webster, multiple authors (ISBN-13: 9781542529112); Grave Matters: A Journey Through the Modern Funeral Industry to a Natural Way of Burial?, Mark Harris (ISBN-13: 9780743277686) Enrollment Limit: 10

Lee Webster is a published author, higher ed and mortuary school educator, and internationally known public speaker and advocate for funeral reform, including home funerals and green burial. She has served in leadership positions of the National Home Funeral Alliance, Green Burial Council, Conservation Burial Alliance, National End-of-Life Doula Alliance, and NHPCO EOLD Council, and is the Director of New Hampshire and Vermont Funeral Resources & Education and the Funeral.org Partnership.

Mondays: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm ET **TWO Weeks:** February 5 – February 12





When readers study William Shakespeare's tragedy Romeo and Juliet side by side with his slightly later comedy A Midsummer Night's Dream, they will discover significant similarities. Both plays depict the plight of star-crossed lovers. Their primary difference lies in their plots, one of which ends with violent deaths and the other with happy marriages. It is almost as if the playwright had stretched his skills by transforming a tragedy into a comedy. In this course, we will analyze those two plays to understand Shakespeare's approach to dramatic genres through his shaping of plot, characters, and imagery. Attention will also be given to other dramatic conventions, to the gender roles of the Early Modern Period, and to understanding the author's unique style. Learners will develop a deeper understanding of Shakespearean drama through a study of its cultural and literary contexts and will explore the depiction of love in the plays and relate it to their own lives. The teaching methods for the course will include guided discussion, close readings of key passages, and PowerPoint presentations.

Required Texts: A Midsummer Night's Dream, William Shakespeare (ISBN-13: 9781408133491); Romeo and Juliet, William Shakespeare (ISBN-13: 9781903436912). Enrollment Limit: 5

Marilyn Roberts is Professor Emeritus of English at Waynesburg University. During her graduate studies at Columbia University and Newcastle University, she specialized in the plays of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. Besides having taught Shakespeare at the college level for over thirty years as well as in several Osher courses, she has published articles about Shakespeare, Jane Austen, and other authors.

Tuesdays: 3:00 - 5:00 pm ET

SEVEN Weeks: January 9 - February 20





The New Yorker has played a prominent role in the development and fostering of literary short fiction in America and beyond. The magazine maintains a searchable digital archive, which includes all of the fiction published in the magazine since its inception in 1925, a vast treasure trove of short stories. Over time, the magazine and its fiction editors have had a profound effect in shaping what a short story could be. Numerous famous and up-and-coming writers have published short stories in the magazine. Many of these writers became important novelists, but continued to produce short stories, often published in The New Yorker. Not infrequently, their short stories are considered to be better and more enduring than their novels. This online Zoom class will meet weekly for eight weeks. The format will be the same as the Osher courses offered in Fall 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, but we will be reading a new selection of authors and stories. Two or three short stories selected from The New Yorker digital archive will be assigned each week to be read as homework and discussed at length in class. Required readings and supplementary materials will be available online in the class Google Drive folder. Enrollment Limit: 5.

Terrance Darcey, PhD, retired from Dartmouth and DHMC in 2015. During his career, he did academic work, including research and teaching in biomedical engineering and neuroscience. He is spending his retirement catching up on things he missed in his work life, including creative writing, literature, arts, and music. He and his wife Banisa live in Thetford, VT.

9:00 – 11:00 am ET Tuesdays: **EIGHT Weeks:** January 16 – March 5 Zoom Only OREC,



American Civics 101+ is a timely discussion using "real-time" events and issues to tackle what every person applying for U.S. citizenship needs to know...how our U.S. government actually works! Many Americans tend to take their U.S. Citizenship for granted. Just imagine if the rules changed and you now had to take a government civics test every year to remain a U.S. citizen...would you be able to pass? Could you identify the co-equal branches of Government, their functions, responsibilities, and current critical issues? Understand the rationale and ramifications of recent Supreme Court decisions on voting, gun control, affirmative action, and others? Explain the importance of the U.S. Constitution and its 27 amendments including its Bill of Rights? Explain the concept of "gerrymandering" and its restrictive effect on states voting rights? Explain and speak to the ongoing issues surrounding the Electoral College, budget "reconciliation," the "debt ceiling," and our National Debt? American Civics 101 will explore all these topics and more. Given the importance of the upcoming 2024 election, being informed as a voter and how our government works has never been more important! This course will combine lecture with class discussions. Enrollment Limit: 10

Mr. Alan Perper is a founding member of VoteAslf.org, an LA based consortium of professionals seeking to increase voter registration and turnout. He has previously trained with the USCIS and has taught numerous civics and citizenship classes at both OLLI university programs and community adult learning centers. Perper also received his secondary education teaching credential thru CA State University, Northridge and has taught high school Economics, AP Government, and Business classes.

1:00 - 3:00 pm ET Tuesdays:

FIVE Weeks: January 16 - February 13 Zoom Only GREC,



Racism in 2024: Do the Work!

This course uses the book Do The Work! By W. Kama Bell and Kate Schatz to learn about past and present racism and to explore ways that people can take actions to do something about it. The course is targeted for people who feel overwhelmed by racial injustice and white supremacy in the U.S., who may have taken some actions and think they can and should do more, but don't always know what to do or how to do it. This course will consist of discussions between the Study Leader and participants. Required Text: Do the Work!, W. Kamau Bell & Kate Schatz (ISBN-13: 978-1523514281) Enrollment Limit: 10.

Ellen Hofheimer Bettmann is a nationally-recognized leader in the field of anti-bias education. She has designed and implemented workshops and training programs around the world. During her 17 years as national director of Training and Resources at the Anti-Defamation League she was one of the creators of A World of Difference, an international anti-bias education program. She created and leads Difficult Conversations About Race, an open community forum in the Upper Valley that meets monthly.

Tuesdays: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm ET **FOUR Weeks:** January 23 – February 13





Vast quantities of water dominate Planet Earth, but most of it is too salty, inaccessible below ground, or frozen solid to be readily usable by humans and other life. Therefore, we must distribute relatively miniscule volumes of fresh water among agriculture, cities, industry, and ecosystems. Sharing water as a scarce resource has great urgency as climate disruption causes more intense droughts, floods, glacial melting, sea level rise, and ocean current flows. We'll learn about the awesome properties and roles of the simple molecule of water and then examine how humans use and control its flows and transformations from the level of an individual cell all the way to regional landscapes. This inquiry will allow us to develop a deeper understanding of how ethics and science can guide our future decision-making about water to sustain life and the global ecosystems that support it. Participants should expect approximately 50 pages of reading per week, drawn from a variety of sources, including newspapers, websites, and other current material. Regular lectures will introduce each topic, but we'll stress discussion. Enrollment Limit: 10.

Bruce James received a BA in chemistry and environmental studies from Williams, followed by MS and PhD degrees in soil science from UVM. During these studies, he developed a keen interest in interdisciplinary learning related to the course topic that he used in his teaching at the University of Maryland, College Park, for 29 years. Now retired, he continues to thrive on new learning and ideas related to sustainability, environmental science, soils, environmental history, and agriculture.

Wednesdays: 9:30 - 11:30 am ET

SIX Weeks: January 10 – February 14 Zoom Only GREC,



Active French: Fun French Musical Jukebox.....

Join DJ Madame G on a musical journey following easy sing-a-long classes en français. Learn by practicing Français the fun way! Watch your vocabulaire GROW. Participate on a musical journey, enjoying all your favorite English (en français) and traditional French songs. Play "Name that Tune" bilingual song trivia from the 60s and 70s. We welcome your song requests -Bien sûr. A French level questionnaire will be sent to each registrant prior to the first class. After each class, an email summary with links will be provided to class members. New and past students are welcome. Study Leader will provide course materials via email. Enrollment Limit: 6.

Gloria Finkelstein grew up in Montreal, lived in Paris, and has frequently traveled to France. She is the creator of "French Club with Madame G," an innovative learning-by-doing immersive language arts program. Gloria enjoys helping others discover and experience French culture and lifestyle via Upper Valley French-themed workshops, events, and trips via Zoom/in person.

Wednesdays: 1:30 - 3:30 pm ET

January 24 - February 7 **THREE Weeks:**







Why Accidents Happen

Accidents happen in healthcare and virtually every industry (as well as everyday life!). They seldom result from a single error. In most cases there is a cascade of events, with human error superimposed on system factors that allow an incident to occur despite multiple defenses and barriers. The science of "human factors" describes how individuals think, act, and interact with other individuals and computers and other complex systems. This course is designed to help the layperson understand the complex nature of systems and the factors that contribute to both significant disasters and near-misses. The course analyzes multiple serious incidents in healthcare; aviation and other transportation; and the nuclear, space, construction, and chemical industries. It will also highlight how we perform root cause analysis and the hierarchy of interventions we use to prevent or mitigate errors. This course will include lecture and interactive discussion. Study Leader will provide course materials online. Enrollment Limit: 10

Dr. Bradley Truax is a physician board-certified in both internal medicine (Johns Hopkins Hospital) and neurology (Massachusetts General Hospital). In addition to clinical practice, he has been a hospital medical director at major public, private, and teaching hospitals. He's been involved in patient safety for over thirty years and has analyzed hundreds of healthcare incidents. He writes a weekly column on patient safety for hospitals and healthcare workers, now in its seventeenth year.

Thursdays: 9:00 - 11:00 am ET

SIX Weeks: January 11 - February 15





During this class we'll watch the greatest figure skating performances from the past 56 years. We'll discuss what makes each of these performances among the best of all time. This is your chance to compare these great champions with those who will skate at the U.S. National Figure Skating Championship from January 22 – 28, 2024, and the World Championship, which will be held March 18 – 24, 2024. We will watch performances by Torvill and Dean, Michelle Kwan, Paul Wylie, Peggy Fleming, Scott Hamilton, Kurt Browning, Gordeeva and Grinkov, John Curry, YuNa Kim, Nathan Chen, and 24 others. Figure skating history was changed forever by these brilliant champions. Come to this class to hear and see why. Enrollment Limit: 10.

Gary Cahn has been an avid figure skating fan since he was 18, and he has a very large collection of figure skating videos. He has taught courses on figure skating as well as investing, bridge, digital photography, and computers. He received a BA from Tufts University and an MBA from Dartmouth College.

Thursdays: 9:00 – 11:00 am ET

FOUR Weeks: January 11 - February 1





Powers of the president, Congressional responsibilities, and the Supreme Court, all designated in the U.S. Constitution, are topics appearing regularly in the news. Accordingly, it seems appropriate to discuss how the Constitution has fared over the last 236 years, and whether it needs amending to continue to meet the needs of a changing country. Many of the complex issues debated at the 1787 Philadelphia Constitutional convention are still relevant today, including the allocation of power among the three federal branches and with the states, the composition of the three branches, and election procedures. We'll begin by reviewing the convention background and dynamics, before turning to the Constitution itself. We'll discuss how the U.S. has changed since 1787, and some recently proposed amendments to the Constitution from the left and right. We'll also consider the constitutions of some U.S. states and other countries. Then we'll select sections of the Constitution we feel require amending, and debate and vote on proposed amendments. Class discussions will be an important part of the course. Enrollment Limit: 8.

Since retiring in the Upper Valley, after an international career with the World Health Organization, Alan Schnur has returned to his "American history roots". He finds amending the U.S. Constitution increasingly relevant today considering how dysfunctional the U.S. Government has become, and the amendments being proposed by left and right wing groups. Alan has BA (history) and MPH degrees, and has led or co-led 10 Osher courses.

Thursdays: 2:00 - 4:00 pm ET **SEVEN Weeks:** January 25 – March 7





Directions for Auditing RIT Undergraduate Courses

As a Full-Year Osher member, you can audit eligible* RIT undergraduate courses. Here's how to do it:

- 1. If you don't already have an RIT University ID card and number (UID), instructions for requesting one are on the Osher Resources webpage (https://www.rit.edu/osher/resources). After you submit the UID request form, an Osher staff member will be notified by an automatically generated email and will approve the request. You will be notified via email when it's approved and can then get your student ID card on campus in Eastman Hall (Bldg. #1), between 9 am and 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Enter the main RIT entrance on Jefferson Rd., drive to the traffic circle and continue straight to the Information Booth for a parking pass and directions to the building (see map to Eastman Hall on the Osher Resources webpage).
- 2. Search the RIT online course catalog (https://tigercenter.rit.edu/tigerCenterApp/api/class-search) for eligible* undergraduate courses you're interested in. There is not a printed RIT course catalog.
 - **a.** Make sure to choose the correct semester in the "Select a term box".
 - **b.** Type in a search term, e.g., Italian.
 - c. Click on "Advanced Search" and choose "RIT Main" as the campus (we have campuses in several countries, and those courses are not eligible to audit).
 - d. Click "Save Options".
 - **e.** Click the orange "Search" button.
 - **f.** Peruse the list of courses, and click on a course to view its details.
 - g. In the Enrollment Information section, check if there are any **Pre-Reqs** (pre-requisites) listed. If so you will need to contact the instructor and ask for permission to audit the course as an Osher member. The instructor's email can be found by clicking on their name in the Class Details section.
- **3.** Complete the **auditing form** on the Osher Resources webpage. You can apply to audit a maximum of two courses per semester until the end of the Add/Drop period. View the RIT academic calendar for Add/Drop dates: https://www.rit.edu/calendar.
- 4. Take a photo of, or scan, the form and email it to Osher staff at osher@rit.edu. Or bring the hard copy to an Osher staff member. If requesting a course with pre-requisites, forward the email approval from the instructor to Osher staff also.
- 5. Osher staff will submit your auditing form to the Registrar's Office no earlier than **one week before the RIT semester begins**. View the RIT academic calendar for semester start/end dates: https://www.rit.edu/calendar Within that week you will receive an email from the Registrar that will say whether the auditing request has been approved.
- 6. In the meantime, the Osher Program Director will sponsor you for an RIT Computer Account (if you don't already have one). Your user name will be your first initial+last name+olli, e.g., rsmitholli so when you receive an email from the RIT Service Center with instructions on setting your Computer Account password at https://start.rit.edu, you will use the above naming convention for your user name.
- 7. Once your Computer Account is activated, a **MyCourses account** will also be activated. This platform is what RIT instructors use to share course information and syllabi and communicate with the class participants. When you go to the MyCourses login page (https://mycourses.rit.edu/), click the orange "RIT Account Login" button and then enter your RIT Computer Account user name and password to view your class information.
- **8.** RIT requires **multi-factor authentication** for most logins to its systems, so in order to access MyCourses, you will have to enroll in the university's multi-factor authentication (https://www.rit.edu/its/mfa/enroll).

^{*}NTID courses and courses that are full, have a waitlist, and/or have associated labs/studios are not eligible for auditing. Courses with pre-requisites require pre-approval from the instructor. Courses with interpreters vary per semester.



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Reflects donations made from 7/1/23 – 10/31/23

We invite you to contribute today.

Osher at RIT's continuing success is dependent upon the voluntary financial support of our membership.

Gifts can be made online at https://www.rit.edu/osher/giving-osher or by check (payable to Osher at RIT) and mailed to RIT Office of Development, PO Box 92756, Rochester, NY 14692-8865

Membership Purchase

Please fill in the information below and send to Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, 50 Fairwood Dr., Suite 100, Rochester, NY 14623

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Important to Note

Copyright Information – TEACH Act

The TEACH Act allows accredited, non-profit, educational institutions, such as RIT, greater access and educational use of copyrighted works, and extends fair use to online and distance learning education when certain requirements have been met by the institution.

- **A. TEACH Act**. Members of the RIT community may take advantage of the TEACH Act provisions to use copyrighted works in online and distance learning courses. The TEACH Act provisions would allow a non-profit educational institution, such as RIT, to use copyrighted works, without the express permission of the creator and without the payment of royalties and/or licensing fees, when all of the following are met:
 - 1. Copyrighted Works must be part of an online or distance learning course and not for entertainment, recreation, or cultural value. The faculty member must be able to show how the use of the copyrighted work contributes to the overall course study and syllabus. The course does not have to be a credit course, but must be one recognized by RIT and for which members of the RIT community must register.
 - 2. The use of the copyrighted work is limited to members of the RIT community that are enrolled in the online or distance learning course.
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 - 4. The faculty member must provide to the members of the RIT community that are enrolled in the online or distance learning course written notice of this RIT Copyright Policy and that some of the course materials may be protected by copyright law. A statement in the syllabus for the specific online or distance learning course shall be sufficient to meet this notice requirement.

Registration Information

Please make payments and/or register online for your courses using your Osher account at http://reg138.imperisoft.com/Osher/Login/Registration.aspx If you don't know your Osher account user name or password, please go to the Login Help webpage at http://reg138.imperisoft.com/Osher/LoginHelp/Registration.aspx and enter your email address to receive instructions on resetting your user name and password. Please allow up to 20 minutes for this email message to reach your inbox. If you would prefer to have a staff member make your credit card payment and/or register you, please email us at osher@rit.edu

Some courses require the purchase of books or materials.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT reserves the right to cancel courses because of low registration, last-minute unavailability of course leaders, or other unavoidable circumstances. Members will be notified immediately of such cancellations so that they may select alternative course(s).

Refund Policy

In the case of the death or incapacitation of a Full-Year member, a pro rata portion of their annual membership fee is eligible to be refunded. The membership fee is otherwise generally nonrefundable. The Program Director, in consultation with the Chair of Council, may consider a refund request for other individual circumstances. For administrative purposes, all refund requests must be made in writing.

Masking

Masking is currently **optional** in the Osher building.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT

The Athenaeum Building 50 Fairwood Drive, Suite 100 Rochester, New York 14623

For more details on our programs, people, and events, please visit www.rit.edu/osher

Through with your catalog? – Share it with your friends!

Mark your calendar!

Join us at our Winter Course Preview / Open House

on Monday, December 11, 2023

Hybrid
REC
10:00 – 11:30 am

Participate in person or via Zoom! For Zoom meeting details, contact osher@rit.edu

Registration opens December 12 at 10 am | Classes start January 16

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT

A Learning Community for Adults Age 50+