

**RIT** | Osher Lifelong  
Learning Institute

**Fall 2025**

**Course Catalog**



**A Vibrant Learning  
Community for Adults**  
[rit.edu/osher](http://rit.edu/osher)

**Registration Opens 8/26**  
**RIT OLLI Courses Begin 9/15**

# Osher at RIT's 2025 terms:

**Winter** (January 13 – March 24)

**Spring** (April 14 – June 9)

**Summer** (July 7 – August 20)

**Fall** (September 15 – December 12)

There are multi-week breaks between each term.



## University Benefits:

A Full-Year membership at OLLI 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 36 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](mailto:osher@rit.edu)

# Membership Benefits

## Unlimited Courses

A wide variety of excellent 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.

## Pfudler 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 21-23 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 4 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.

Membership	Fee						RIT		
		Unlimited Courses & Recordings	Pfudler Lecture Series	Social Events & SIGs	Arts & Lectures Events	Summer Trips	Student ID Card	RIT Classes	Audiology Services
Full-Year	\$365	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Single-Term	\$165	■	■	■	■				
Supporting (full year)	\$175		■	■	■	■			

**Questions?** Reach us at (585) 292-8989 or [osher@rit.edu](mailto:osher@rit.edu)

# 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.

Visit <https://www.rit.edu/osher/register> to create an account, purchase a membership, or register.

## Full-Year Membership

A Full-Year individual membership begins in whichever term you join and entitles you to four terms of **all** our available OLLI 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 **\$365**. Renewable.

## Single-Term Membership

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

The fee is **\$165**. 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 OLLI programming: social events, the Pfaudler Lecture Series, the Summer Seminar trips, Arts & Lectures events, and Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

The annual fee is **\$175**. Renewable.

*Not included: OLLI 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](mailto:osher@rit.edu) for more information and pricing of in-person classes for groups.



# Join a SIG!

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](mailto:osher@rit.edu) for details.

The following SIGs are currently meeting:

SIG	COORDINATOR	DESCRIPTION
<b>Mac Computers</b> (OS X) <b>iPhone/iPad</b> (iOS)	Tom Lathrop	Discussions, problem solving, members helping members, sharing tips and tricks, and demonstrations
<b>Mystery Novels</b>	Chris Ryan & Cindy Proano	The group meets on the third Friday of each month at 1 pm. We welcome new members and suggestions for titles to read.
<b>Photography</b>	Loretta Petralis	The group focuses on reviewing members' photos and sharing camera setting and photo editing techniques.
<b>Pickleball</b>	Scott Mate	All playing levels including beginner are welcome.
<b>Purls of Wisdom</b> (knitting & needle craft)	Terri Hurley	For all experience levels, come learn and share techniques.
<b>Travel</b>	Jane Eggleston	Share your favorite photos, memories, and experiences of your previous travel adventures.
<b>Walking Group</b>	Helen Moore	This is an outdoor walking group for interested members.
<b>Wizardsing</b>	Chris Thrasher & Nita Genova	Share tips and tricks to enhance the classroom A/V experience.



*Members of the Walking SIG on an outing in May 2025*

## Join us at our **Fall Course Preview and Fair** Monday, August 25, 2025

**10 am: Course Preview Presentation**  
**11 am: Course Fair & Reception**

Join us for the course preview presentation in person or via Zoom!  
For Zoom meeting details, contact [osher@rit.edu](mailto:osher@rit.edu)

## Monday

9:30 – 11:00 am ET

**Brilliant Corners:**  
**An Anthology of Jazz** ..... F1M  
Peter Luce (9/15–11/17)  
**Current Events** ..... F2M  
Adonis, Scott, & Moore (9/15–12/8)  
**Irish Literature** ..... F3M  
Jack Callaghan (9/15–10/20)  
**Major Engagements**  
**of the Civil War** ..... F4M  
Chuck Sparnacht (9/15–12/8)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET

**Athenaeum Book Club** ..... F5M  
Murphy & Tucker (9/15, 10/20, & 12/8)  
**Timothy Snyder's Warnings about**  
**Fascism in the USA** ..... F6M  
Tom Jones (9/22, 9/29, & 10/6)  
**The Azores** ..... F7M  
Jane Eggleston (9/22)  
**The Life and Work of Romero Britto**...F8M  
Estelle O'Connell (9/29)  
**(Mostly) Unknown Contemporary**  
**Female Photographers** ..... F9M  
Michelle Turner (10/6)  
**The Status of American Democracy**...F10M  
Sarah Liebschutz (10/20)  
**Marie Curie: A Pioneer in Science**... F11M  
Estelle O'Connell (10/27)  
**Your Grandmother's War:**  
**American Women's Participation**  
**in World War I** ..... F12M  
Gary Mitchell (11/3)  
**The Evolution of Toilet Paper** ..... F13M  
Sue Boardman (11/10)  
**The 14th Amendment:**  
**The Second American Revolution**... F14M  
Tim McDonnell (12/1)

1:30 – 3 or 3:30 pm ET

**Express Yourself**  
**Through Writing Fiction** ..... F15M  
Gary Mitchell (9/15–12/8)  
**Keats on Art, Shelley on Keats** ..... F16M  
Donna Richardson (9/15–11/17)  
**Parlor Music Live!** ..... F17M  
Bob Zeman (10/13, 10/27, & 11/17)  
**Waterfalls of the Finger Lakes and**  
**Western New York: Part 1** ..... F18M  
Jean Hitchcock (9/15)  
**The Life and Work of Dale Chihuly**..... F19M  
Estelle O'Connell (9/22)  
**Fall Wine and Food Pairing** ..... F20M  
Lorraine Hems (9/29)  
**Planning Today for Tomorrow:**  
**Navigating Taxes &**  
**Income in Retirement** ..... F21M  
Burrall & Skomski (10/6)  
**Legends of Comedy: W.C. Fields**..... F22M  
Joel Weirick (10/20)  
**Death in Opera** ..... F23M  
Victor Poleshuck (11/3)  
**How to Choose a Medicare Plan** ..... F24M  
David Benedict (11/22)  
**Intro to Calligraphy:**  
**The Writing Is on the Wall** ..... F25M  
Lorrie Frear (11/10)

## Tuesday

9:30 – 11:00 am ET

**Clay Tablets to E-Books:**  
**A History of Libraries** ..... F26T  
Chris Ryan (9/16–11/18)  
**Marvelous Mathematics** ..... F27T  
Ed Salem (9/16–11/18)  
**Romeo and Juliet** ..... F28T  
Richard Mallory (9/16–12/9)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET

**The Colorado River:**  
**Storied Past, Contentious Present,**  
**and Uncertain Future** ..... F29T  
Jones & McDonnell (9/16–11/18)  
**Memoirs** ..... F30T  
Carol Samuel (9/16–12/9)  
**A Pocketful of Poems:**  
**Poetry without Tears** ..... F31T  
Lisa Jadwin (9/16–12/9)

1:30 – 3:00 or 3:30 pm ET

**The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica**.... F32T  
Bill McLane (9/16–11/18)  
**Conversational French (Intermediate)** .. F33T  
Joy Goodman (9/30–12/9)  
**GOAT: Greatest of All Time in Sports**... F34T  
Mate & Neugass (10/28–11/18)  
**Introduction to Wood Carving** ..... F35T  
Martin & Schneider (10/7–10/28)  
**Let's Read Some (sort of) Modern Plays**..... F36T  
Gary Mitchell (9/16–12/9)

## Wednesday

9:30 – 11:00 am ET

**Discussing**  
**The New Yorker Magazine** ..... F37W  
Dupont & Levinson (9/17–12/10)  
**Bob Dylan: A Complete Unknown**..... F38W  
Michael Tanenhaus (9/17–10/22)  
**Prosecution Case Studies** ..... F39W  
Rick Resnick (9/17–10/22)  
**More than Words:**  
**How Talking Sharpens the Mind**  
**and Shapes Our World** ..... F40W  
Michael Tanenhaus (10/29–12/10)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET

**Contemporary Events** ..... F41W  
Terri Hurley (9/17–12/10)  
**Political and Economic Foundations**  
**of Capitalism and Socialism:**  
**The Moral Debate between**  
**Locke and Marx - Part 1** ..... F42W  
Walt Soffer (9/17–12/10)  
**War: What Is it Good For?** ..... F43W  
Gans & Cahill (9/17–12/10)  
**Writing Workshop** ..... F44W  
Strining et al (9/17–12/3)

1:00 or 1:30 – 3:00 pm ET

**Bugs Rule!** ..... F45W  
John Jaenike (9/17–12/10)  
**Ikebana:**  
**The Japanese Art of Flower Arranging**.. F46W  
Nora Walter et al (9/17–10/15)  
**On Consolation** ..... F47W  
Tom Low (9/17–11/5)  
**What's New in Neuroscience** ..... F48W  
Alex Marcus (9/17–12/10)  
**The Great Financial Crisis of 2008:**  
**Its Causes and Economic Aftermath** .... F49W  
Glenn Barlis (10/29–12/10)

## Thursday

9:30 – 11 or 11:30 am ET

**Dorothy L. Sayers's Greatest Novel:**  
**Gaudy Night** ..... F50Th  
Lisa Jadwin (9/18–12/11)  
**Mozart: His Life and His Music** ..... F51Th  
Victor Poleshuck (9/18–12/11)  
**You Be the Critic** ..... F52Th  
Sandra Vallot (9/18–12/11)

12:15 – 1:30 pm ET

**Pfaudler Lecture Series** ..... F53–F62  
Various topics and presenters.  
See pages 21–23

1:45 – 3:45 pm ET

**Conversational Spanish:**  
**Intermediate Level** ..... F63Th  
Lewis & McCue (9/18–12/11)  
**Fascinating Women** ..... F64Th  
Debby Zeman (9/18–10/16)  
**Hearing, Hearing Loss,**  
**Hearing Devices, and Beyond**..... F65Th  
Elizabeth Cook (9/18–10/23)  
**Sherlock Holmes: From Silents**  
**to Today at the Cinema** ..... F66Th  
Bill Brown (10/30–12/11)

KEY:



Hybrid



In-Person Only



Zoom Only

## Monday

**Hail to the Celts** .....F67E  
Lynn H. Elliott  
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 9/8 – 11/10

## Tuesday

**Intro to Drawing and Painting on the iPad** .....F68E  
Cris Guenter  
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 9/30 – 10/21  
**Intro to One-Point and Two-Point Perspective Drawing** .....F69E  
Cris Guenter  
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 10/28 – 11/4  
**Let's Keep Knitting** .....F70E  
Gale Ulvang  
6:00 – 7:30 pm ET, 9/9 – 11/4

## Wednesday

**Create Your Own Unique Cartoon Characters** .....F71E  
Dick Kennedy  
1:00 – 2:00 pm ET, 9/10 – 10/8  
**Women Artists Who Challenged Norms** .....F72E  
Dolores Mitchell  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 9/10 – 10/1  
**Chico State Faculty Lecture Series** .....F73E  
Sandra Flake  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 10/8 – 11/12

## Thursday

**Arts of Zen Buddhism** .....F74E  
Katherine Harper  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 9/11 – 11/13

See pages 25-27 for Chico State courses.



Arizona State University

## Monday

**Mathematical Modeling in Biology & Medicine** .....F75E  
Julia Inozemtseva  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 9/22  
**Lessons from the Past: Infectious Disease Spillovers, Climate Change, & Toxic Environment** .....F76E  
Dr. Jane Buikstra  
1:30 – 2:30 pm ET, 10/27  
**Fortunato Film School: Casablanca** .....F77E  
Joe Fortunato  
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 12/1 & 12/2

## Wednesday

**Imprisoned Minds: Lost Boys, Trapped Men & Solutions from Within the Prison** .....F78E  
Dr. Kevin Wright & Erik Maloney  
12:00 – 3:00 pm ET, 11/12

## Thursday

**When Ideas Became Art: The Revolution in Modern Art & Music** .....F79E  
Dr. Deborah Robin  
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 10/30  
12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, 11/6

## Friday

**Decoding Food Labels: The Nutrition Science Behind Your Grocery Store Visits** .....F80E  
Dr. Christina Shepard  
1:30 – 3:00 pm ET, 9/26  
**Ukraine & Russia I & II: Past, Present, and Future** .....F81E  
Dr. Hilde Hoogenboom  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 10/3 & 10/10  
**Viva Italia! The Culture, History, & Heart of Italy** ....F82E  
Dr. Jennifer Abrams  
12:30 – 2:00 pm ET, 11/14 & 11/21

See pages 27-30 for Arizona State University courses.



## Monday

**A Book Study: Aging, Zombie Cells, and the Fountain of Youth** .....F83E  
Halonen, Fleischner, & Sohrer  
12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, 9/15 – 12/8  
**Exploring the Icy Worlds of the Outer Solar System** .....F84E  
Janet Wood  
12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, 10/20  
**Mexican Muralism – Art, History, Legacy** .....F85E  
Isabel Aaronson  
2:00 – 3:30 pm ET, 10/13 – 11/3

## Tuesday

**History and the Old Testament** .....F86E  
Jesse Frey  
2:00 – 3:30 pm ET, 9/16 – 12/9  
**The People's Art: Folkways in the Russian North** .....F87E  
Carol Rudie  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 9/16 – 10/7

## Wednesday

**American Education at the Crossroads: Challenges and Solutions** .....F88E  
Bill Symonds  
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 11/5 – 12/10  
**Chen Village Tai Chi Basics** .....F89E  
Randall Krause  
2:00 – 3:00 pm ET, 9/17 – 10/29  
**Art Talks with Martin Randall** .....F90E  
Martin Randall  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 10/29 – 11/19

## Thursday

**Life and Music of Pyotr Tchaikovsky** ....F91E  
Lee Kaufman  
12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, 9/18 – 11/6  
**The Magic Behind Film and TV Scores – Part I** .....F92E  
Michael Agron  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 9/18 – 12/4

## Friday

**Astronomy/Geosciences** .....F93E  
Guy Jette  
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 10/3 – 11/7

See pages 31-35 for University of Arizona courses.



# Monday


## OLLI at RIT Fall 2025 Course Schedule

### Brilliant Corners: An Anthology of Jazz ..... F1M

**[NEW COURSE]** This course offers a selection of topics providing insight into some of the creative forces and historical contexts that have shaped jazz across generations. Topics include how jazz works—the fundamentals; the groundbreaking contributions of J. J. Johnson to modern jazz trombone; an inventive, non-chronological journey through the evolution of jazz piano; diverse interpretations of two classic standards *Body and Soul* and *You Go to My Head*; the impact of Blue Note Records and the legacy of the Port of Harlem Jazzmen; and pioneering figures who elevated jazz violin. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Peter Luce** has taught jazz history courses at Osher at RIT and the Chautauqua Institution. Beyond jazz, his interests include drawing, photography, and hiking.

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



 In-Person Only  REC

### Current Events ..... F2M

**[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 at RIT courses and enjoys both presenting and attending. **Helen Moore** worked in Rochester news behind the scenes as a photo journalist. **Rachel Adonis** is retired from a career in financial services and has enjoyed attending Osher classes and participating as a course leader.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TWELVE Weeks: September 15 – December 8**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)

 Hybrid  REC

### Irish Literature ..... F3M

This course will present various aspects of Irish culture and tradition reflected through prose, poetry, and multimedia. Our focus this term will be on authors James A. Joyce and Somerville and Ross as well as storyteller and humorist Hal Roach.

**Enrollment Limit: 15** *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

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

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**SIX Weeks: September 15 – October 20**

 In-Person Only

### Major Engagements of the Civil War ..... F4M

**[NEW COURSE]** We will cover several of the major battles of the Civil War (Bull Run, Antietam, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Shiloh, and Vicksburg) examining why the battles were fought, who the main characters were (mostly commanders), and the outcomes. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Chuck Sparnecht** has taught US history classes at Penfield High School, RIT, Nazareth University, and St. John Fisher University. As an Osher at RIT course leader, he covers many eras of the nation’s history with a concentration in the Civil War era.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TWELVE Weeks: September 15 – December 8**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)

 Hybrid  REC


## Athenaeum Book Club.....F5M

[NEW CONTENT] In this peer-led class, we will read and discuss six books (four fiction and two non-fiction) during the fall, winter, and spring terms. The first book we will read was selected by the group last spring, *Demon Copperhead*, and will be discussed on 10/20. During the first class session on 9/15, come prepared to nominate titles for the remaining five books.

**Required Text:** *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, ISBN 9780063251922 **Optional Text:** *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens **Enrollment Limit: 35** Discussion, Peer Group

**Maureen Murphy** is a retired social worker. She has been a lifelong reader (especially of historical novels). She also enjoys spending summer time at her lake cottage, travelling, and knitting. **Lois Tucker** is an avid reader and an over 20-year member of this group.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**THREE Weeks:** September 15, October 20, & December 8

 Hybrid  REC



## Timothy Snyder's Warnings about Fascism in the USA.....F6M

[NEW COURSE] Timothy Snyder is Professor of History at Yale University with a focus on Eastern Europe. He has written extensively about threats to freedom and democracy in Europe and our country. In 2017 he published *On Tyranny* which contains 20 lessons garnered from his European studies. We will engage in a close reading and discuss the book's relevance to the USA's current situation.

**Required Text:** *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder, ISBN 9780804190114 **Enrollment Limit: 25** Discussion

**Tom Jones** is a retired Professor of Electrical Engineering from the University of Rochester. In the past he has mostly taught science- and technology-related Osher at RIT courses.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**THREE Weeks:** September 22, 29, & October 6



 Hybrid  REC

## The Azores.....F7M

[NEW CLASS] Situated in the Atlantic Ocean, these volcanic islands have a fascinating and rich geological and cultural history which are apparent in the charming architecture, the numerous volcanic features, and the gorgeous landscapes. Numerous photos, taken by the course leader, help to illustrate the unique Azores. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

**Jane Eggleston** has been an OLLI at RIT member since 2013 and has led numerous courses on a variety of topics. She enjoys travel, organizing trips, and leading the Travel SIG. Her recent travels in March 2025 inspired this course.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**ONE Week:** September 22

 Hybrid  REC

## The Life and Work of Romero Britto.....F8M

[NEW CLASS] This Brazilian artist, painter, serigrapher, and sculptor combines elements of cubism, pop art, and graffiti in his work. He uses vibrant colors and bold patterns as a visual expression of hope, dreams, and happiness. His work has been licensed for many major brand names. Audio/Visual

The course leader will be presenting remotely via Zoom.

Having previously attended classes and events as a guest of her husband Ed, **Estelle O'Connell** joined Osher at RIT in 2017 and has enjoyed taking classes and leading courses in virtual travel and the arts and humanities.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**ONE Week:** September 29

 Hybrid  REC



## (Mostly) Unknown Contemporary Female Photographers .....F9M

**[NEW CLASS]** Many of today's talented female photographers are working in various genres and styles (fine art, commercial, fashion, portrait, landscape, surreal, abstract, etc.) but are mostly unknown to the public. This class will introduce us to them and their wonderful work. We may even have time to view the art of one or two local talented female photographers.

*Discussion, Lecture*

**Michelle Turner** is a former educator, teacher, and administrator. She has led many classes at Osher, most dealing with art, travel and photography although her most recent class was Exploring TED Talks.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE Week:**

**October 6**



Hybrid



## The Status of American Democracy .....F10M

**[NEW CLASS]** Since ratification of the Constitution in 1788, the United States has been viewed as a nation governed by liberal democratic principles. Turbulent times during the intervening centuries have challenged the resilience of our democracy. This course will examine the civic foundations of democracy, expansion of presidential power over time, and will demonstrate how confidence in the health of American democracy has declined in the 21st century and why, since the election of Donald Trump, the topic is timely. Are you optimistic about democracy in the United States? *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Sarah Liebschutz** is a political scientist, Distinguished Professor Emerita at Brockport State University of NY. Her teaching and publications focus on American federalism. She has taught several courses at Osher at RIT since 2019.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE Week:**

**October 20**



Hybrid



## Marie Curie: A Pioneer in Science .....F11M

**[NEW CLASS]** A Polish and naturalised-French physicist and chemist, Nobelist Marie Curie conducted pioneering research on radioactivity. She was the first woman to win this distinguished prize, the first person to win it twice, and the only person to win in two scientific categories. *Audio/Visual* **The course leader will be presenting remotely via Zoom.**

Having previously attended classes and events as a guest of her husband Ed, **Estelle O'Connell** joined Osher at RIT in 2017 and has enjoyed taking classes and leading courses in virtual travel and the arts and humanities.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE Week:**

**October 27**



Hybrid



## Your Grandmother's War: American Women's Participation in World War I .....F12M

**[NEW CLASS]** American women played dramatic and groundbreaking roles in World War I. We will examine these roles, focusing primarily on activities that involved military service (Yeomanettes, Marinettes, Hello Girls, and Nurses) as well as surveying welfare services and charitable endeavors. This class will give you a solid appreciation for the importance of these contributions. Be prepared to learn the amazing history behind "your grandmother's war." *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Gary Mitchell** is a graduate of West Point and a military history enthusiast. For the past 10 years he has researched extensively the role of American women in wartime. He is enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge on this topic.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE Week:**

**November 3**



Hybrid





## The Evolution of Toilet Paper.....F13M

[NEW CLASS] The COVID pandemic made us appreciate things that we generally take for granted. One essential is toilet paper. This led to thinking about the evolution of toilet paper and the plumbing that supports its use. This class will follow the story from ancient Egypt through medieval Europe to the high tech of tomorrow. *Lecture*

**Sue Boardman**, a graduate of RIT, has taught previous OLLI at RIT one-session classes. She has a curiosity about a wide variety of things as well as an irreverent sense of humor. Osher provides her the opportunity to indulge both.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**ONE Week: November 10**



 Hybrid  REC

## The 14th Amendment: The Second American Revolution.....F14M

[NEW CLASS] Most of us believe that our basic rights as Americans come from the Bill of Rights which is partly true. Many states, especially in the South, ignored these rights before the Civil War. Passed during Reconstruction and pushed through by “Radical Republicans”, the 14th Amendment defined citizenship and “equal protection under the law”, but it did not guarantee equal protection for every American. Currently, the Amendment is in crisis. Class discussion will be encouraged. *Audio/Visual, Discussion*

**Timothy McDonnell**, Professor Emeritus at Monroe Community College, has taught courses in the geosciences and has been leading OLLI at RIT courses since 2006.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**ONE Week: December 1**

 Hybrid  REC

## Express Yourself Through Writing Fiction.....F15M

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, Reading, Writing*

**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.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**TWELVE Weeks: September 15 – December 8**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



 Hybrid

## Keats on Art, Shelley on Keats.....F16M

[NEW COURSE] John Keats did “cease to be” at only 25 before arriving at a mature philosophy, but he did realize some of the best poems ever written about the experience of appreciating art, and what art can accomplish. We’ll read his poems about art, and finish with his acquaintance, Percy Shelley’s, poetic elegy on Keats and art—*Adonais*. Required texts will be emailed to participants by the course leader. **Website:** [sites.google.com/view/keatsshelley](https://sites.google.com/view/keatsshelley) *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

**Donna Richardson** is Emerita Professor at St. Mary’s College of Maryland where she taught literature for over 30 years. Her areas of enthusiasm include pretty much anything written in poetic form (especially British Romantic poetry), Tolstoy, Greek epic and tragedy, and James Fenimore Cooper.

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



 Hybrid  REC

## Parlor Music Live!.....F17M

[NEW COURSE] Piano arrangements of contemporary popular songs by E. Duchin, G. Shearing, A. Previn, R. Williams, C. Cavallaro, D. Brubeck, A. Tatum (maybe!), E. Garner, G. Greeley, J. Harnell, and others will be played. The emphasis will be on simply enjoying live music, with brief backgrounds on the arrangers and context provided. *Audio/Visual*

**Bob Zeman** is an amateur pianist (20+ years of lessons and over 70+ years of playing) who has collected arrangements by then-popular pianists throughout this period. A physicist by training, he has taught Osher at RIT courses on “Ououmuamua” and Exosemiotics.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**THREE Weeks: October 13, October 27, & November 17**

 Hybrid  REC

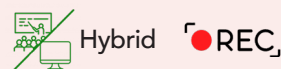
## Waterfalls of the Finger Lakes and Western New York: Part 1 .....F18M

[NEW CLASS] The Finger Lakes and Western New York are home to over 1,000 beautiful waterfalls. Many are located in New York's state parks and some in small towns; all can be visited with minimal preparation and travel. Enjoy their beauty through the many photographs the course leader will share and learn a little about each of these astonishing works of nature.

Audio/Visual, Lecture

[NEW CLASS LEADER] **Jean Hitchcock**, retired from servicing large commercial/business insurance accounts, joined Osher at RIT in January 2018. She loves learning and taking Osher courses as well as tutoring and volunteering. She enjoys travel, photography, and the beautiful Finger Lakes region of NY.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**ONE Week: September 15**

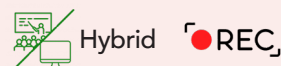


## The Life and Work of Dale Chihuly .....F19M

[NEW CLASS] Dale Chihuly is an American artist who works with a variety of media including glass, paint, charcoal, neon, ice, and Polyvitro. His work is included in over 200 museum collections and has been exhibited in fine art institutions, historic cities, and gardens worldwide. Learn how Chihuly redefines glass art with his innovative techniques, immersive installations, and public exhibitions, and discover how he advocates for art accessibility and supports artists and communities through his foundation and programs. *Audio/Visual* The course leader will be presenting remotely via Zoom.

Having previously attended classes and events as a guest of her husband Ed, **Estelle O'Connell** joined Osher at RIT in 2017 and has enjoyed taking classes and leading courses in virtual travel and the arts and humanities.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**ONE Week: September 22**

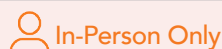


## Fall Wine and Food Pairing .....F20M

[NEW CLASS] Join RIT's Certified Sommelier, Lorraine Hems, to sample delectable wines and delicious food while learning about vineyards, winemaking, and the foundational flavors of food and wine and discover how regional wines and food pairings have a natural affinity—"what grows together, goes together". **Enrollment Limit: 40** Discussion, Lecture, Workshop  
**This course has a required \$25 fee, payable online when you register, for the cost of the wine and foods you will be tasting.**

**Lorraine Hems**, BS, MS, CS, CWE, is a lecturer at RIT's Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management and an instructor at the New York Kitchen in Canandaigua. She is a Certified Sommelier with The Court of Master Sommeliers and holds several other wine and spirits certifications. After becoming a Certified Wine Judge through American Wine Society, she became an instructor for the program. Lorraine enjoys attending and presenting at conferences as well as judging competitions around the world.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**ONE Week: September 29**

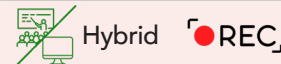


## Planning Today for Tomorrow: Navigating Taxes & Income in Retirement .....F21M

[NEW CONTENT] The course will address these questions: How much risk should I be taking in my investments? What rate of return do my investments need? How do I make sure I can stay retired? What strategies should I use when filing for Social Security? Do I need life insurance? Will I outlive my money? How can I generate additional income in retirement? Is there room for charity in my plan; how can I save on taxes; and what do the latest tax law changes mean for me? Hal and John will wrap up with a Q&A session and will offer confidential, no-obligation, complimentary one-on-one consultations to all interested attendees. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Hal Burrall** is executive director of planned giving ([www.legacyrit.org](http://www.legacyrit.org)) at RIT, and **John Skomski** is retirement sustainability specialist and partner at Best Times Financial ([www.besttimesfinancial.com](http://www.besttimesfinancial.com)) and offers securities and advisory services through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**ONE Week: October 6**







## Legends of Comedy: W.C. Fields .....F22M

**[NEW CLASS]** William Claude Dukenfield was born in Philadelphia and as a teen left home and embarked on a career in show business initially in vaudeville. His specialty was juggling interspersed with humorous running commentary. He eventually found his way into the motion picture business performing in two-reel silent movies including gags that he perfected in vaudeville. This class will follow the arc of his career through video clips and lecture from vaudeville to talking movies and reveal how a curmudgeonly misanthrope developed his persona and controlled his own filmmaking to achieve comedic perfection for his many fans. This will be the first of several presentations highlighting the legends of comedy. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**[NEW COURSE LEADER]** **Joel Weirick** and his wife began attending Osher at RIT classes at Arizona State University in Phoenix during winters there. They moved from Auburn to North Chili to be near their grandchildren and resumed their Osher affiliation at RIT. Joel is a retired federal employee who has been involved in community theater and writing groups.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**ONE Week:** **October 20**



 Hybrid 

## Death in Opera .....F23M

**[NEW CLASS]** From being dragged down to hell to marching to the guillotine to going over a parapet to being shoved into an oven or poisoned with mushrooms, death in opera is often maximally dramatic. Expanded from a class in the Death and Renewal course in the winter of 2024, this class will examine 13 dramatic, heart-wrenching, sometimes violent, profoundly moving opera deaths, all presented with English subtitles. Bring your Kleenex! *Audio/Visual*

**Victor Poleshuck** is a retired physician with a lifelong love of classical music and opera.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**ONE Week:** **November 3**



 Hybrid 

## How to Choose a Medicare Plan .....F24M

**[NEW CONTENT]** Learn about 2026 premiums, deductibles, and co-insurance costs; review and compare Medicare Advantage and Medigap Plans to determine which best meets your specific needs; and find out how Part D works. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**David Benedict** is a Medicare counselor at Lifespan who enjoys helping seniors make informed decisions about their healthcare coverage.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**ONE Week:** **November 10**

 Hybrid 

## Intro to Calligraphy: The Writing Is on the Wall.....F25M

**[NEW CLASS]** This interactive and informal workshop will introduce participants to the lowercase letters of the Chancery Cursive (Italic) alphabet using calligraphy markers. Following demonstrations of letters on the wall of the room and using provided model sheets, participants will quickly gain an understanding of the systematic design of the Italic alphabet, its proportional relationships, and subtle nuances. This is a relaxing class that is perfect for those who are new to calligraphy or lettering systems. **Enrollment Limit: 12** *Audio/Visual, Writing, Workshop* **This course has a required \$5 fee, payable online when you register, for calligraphy markers/supplies that will be provided to you by the course leader.**

**[NEW CLASS LEADER]** **Lorrie Frear** is a professor in the School of Design in the College of Art and Design at RIT where she teaches typography, calligraphy, and other design courses. She is committed to creating collaborative interdisciplinary learning experiences for students within RIT and other universities. Lorrie has led calligraphy workshops at many universities and organizations around the US. In her classes there is an emphasis on current design issues/challenges, creativity, critical thinking, individual development, and a passion for lifelong learning.



Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**ONE Week:** **November 10**

 In-Person Only

### Clay Tablets to E-Books: A History of Libraries .....F26T

**[NEW COURSE]** The human urge to gather, store, and study what Carl Sagan called our “communal memory” has a long history. From the early days of civilization through modern times, libraries have been the repositories for this memory. From clay tablets to paper books and beyond, as the formats for recording our stories have changed, so have libraries adapted to meet the needs of their users. This course will trace library history from Assyrian King Ashurbanipal in the 7th century BCE to our own communities in the 21st century. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

**Chris Ryan** is a retired librarian with a lifelong interest in history. She has led numerous classes on art and history and is always interested in sharing the results of her research with others.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TEN Weeks:** September 16 – November 18  Hybrid 

### Marvelous Mathematics .....F27T

**[NEW COURSE]** Mathematics has a remarkable beauty. We will examine mathematical thought and ideas throughout history including contributions from Babylonia, India, the Arabic world, Greece, Egypt, Europe, and the modern world. Specific ideas will be treated with careful note sets on topics like numbers, calculus, Fourier signals, and digital logic. There is no pressure; there are no exams. Sit back and enjoy the marvelous beauty of mathematics. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Ed Salem** is an Emeritus Professor of Engineering at RIT. He has led many science, technology, and mathematics courses during his 25-year membership at Osher at RIT.



Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TEN Weeks:** September 16 – November 18  In-Person Only 

### Romeo and Juliet .....F28T

**[NEW COURSE]** Everyone thinks they know Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*. But overuse and over familiarity have reduced the title to the status of a cliché. Today we mostly see the play through the lens of 400 years worth of unsuccessful reinterpretations. We will return to the original play before our happy-ending culture ripped the heart out of this tragedy. To do this we will look into the long history of the story before Shakespeare and watch two quite different performances of the play. In addition we will sample a number of musical works inspired by the story.

**Website:** <http://thoughtlab.photography> *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*



**Richard Mallory** has been an Osher at RIT member since 2012 and has led over 30 courses on a variety of topics.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TWELVE Weeks:** September 16 – December 9  
 (No class week of Thanksgiving)  Hybrid 

### The Colorado River: Storied Past, Contentious Present, and Uncertain Future ..... F29T

**[NEW COURSE]** The Colorado River is neither the longest nor the largest of our rivers, but it flows through the most dramatic scenery in the USA. It is the very lifeblood of over 40 million people. A significant fraction of our country’s produce and animal products is grown with its waters, and the power produced by its system of massive hydroelectric generators lights up the entire Southwest. Unfortunately, the waters of the Colorado are over-allocated. Now, after 25 years of serious drought with no end in sight, the river’s very well-being is in serious jeopardy. In this course we will describe the river’s astonishing geology and geography, some early and modern history, its politics, and its very uncertain future. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*


**Tom Jones** has rafted four times down the Colorado River and once on the Green River. His love of and reverence for the Grand Canyon knows no bounds. **Tim McDonnell** understands the geology and geography of the Colorado Basin and will explain its unique relationship to the river. Together they will tell us why this iconic American river is in peril.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**TEN Weeks:** September 16 – November 18  Hybrid 

## Memoirs .....F30T

Have you thought about writing your life story but don't know where to begin? Have your children or friends asked you to write down some of the stories you have shared verbally? Each week participants will write to create the gift only they can give—their personal story. Only you can create and give such a personal gift for generations to come. The cost is time and energy, the reward—priceless! *Reading, Writing*

A member of Osher at RIT since 2001, **Carol Samuel** is an enthusiastic Memoirs course leader. As a retired obstetrical nurse, she believes there is much convincing evidence for the value of writing memoirs.



Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 16 – December 9**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)  Hybrid

## A Pocketful of Poems: Poetry without Tears.....F31T

**[NEW COURSE]** Many people dislike poetry because it seems difficult or even impossible to understand. We'll read accessible and important poems that will leave attendees with increased confidence in their ability to understand poetry and a new love for words and metaphors. We will have lots of discussion but no homework or advance reading.

**Enrollment Limit: 20** *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

**Lisa Jadwin** is a retired professor of English and film. She enjoys sharing literature and movies with other Osher at RIT members and teaches in-person classes with lots of discussion.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 16 – December 9**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)  In-Person Only 

## The Ancient Civilizations of Mesoamerica.....F32T

**[NEW CONTENT]** This foundational cultural anthropology course has been enhanced and expanded with new theory, rare photos, new maps and LIDAR discoveries, and other graphics. Many recent and extraordinary new archaeological findings have completely altered our understanding of the scope and sophistication of Mesoamerican cultures. We 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 these fascinating civilizations. **Optional Text:** *Mexico: From the Olmecs to the Aztecs* (7th edition) by Michael D. Coe and Rex Koontz, ISBN 9780500290767

*Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Retired after a career as a Marine Corps officer, journalist, educational psychologist, and college teacher of anthropology, sociology, and psychology, **Bill McLane** has also done archaeological research in Mexico through the Museo Nacional de Antropología and University of Pennsylvania.



Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**TEN Weeks:** **September 16 – November 18**  Hybrid 

## Conversational French: Intermediate .....F33T

**[NEW CONTENT]** With written and pictorial materials, we'll converse in French on a variety of topics such as food, meals, and favorite restaurants; travel; sports and outdoor activities; work and leisure activities; favorite books and films; and anything else the class would like to discuss. There may be a little grammar review, but the primary focus will be increasing participants' vocabulary and conversational ability. Optional reference texts will be discussed in class. **Enrollment Limit: 15**

*Audio/Visual, Discussion*

**Joy Goodman** spent most of her career practicing law in Montreal where she lived with her husband, a native Montrealer. While English is her native language, she speaks and writes French fluently.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**TEN Weeks:** **September 30 – December 9**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)  Hybrid 



## GOAT: Greatest of All Time in Sports.....F34T

[NEW COURSE] Each week we will nominate 10 athletes from the winter and summer Olympics, football, baseball, golf, boxing, hockey, auto racing, basketball, and bowling to be voted the Greatest of All Time. The class participants will vote weekly for the greatest in each sport, and in the final week we will choose the GOAT from all the sports. *Audio/Visual, Discussion*

**Scott Mate** is a retired district manager who joined Osher at RIT in the summer of 2024. He is the current chair of the Pfaudler Lecture Series committee and started the Pickleball SIG in the summer of 2025. **Richard Neugass**, a 13-year member from Osher at Dartmouth, has great respect and knowledge of professional sports players and teams. He's most interested in the transformative power that sports play in modern societies around the world.

Tuesdays:  
**FOUR Weeks:**

1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**October 28 – November 18**

 **Zoom Only** 

## Introduction to Wood Carving.....F35T

[NEW COURSE] Participants will learn all the basics of woodcarving, including the five basic cuts, safety, and the use of tools while carving and painting a 4" wizard refrigerator magnet. No prior woodworking knowledge or experience needed.

**Enrollment Limit: 10** *Discussion, Lecture, Workshop* **Required Tools to Purchase and Bring to Class:** [carving knife](#) (recommended starting knife: Flexcut KN13), [carving glove](#) (recommended: glove that's cut/puncture resistant), [sharpening device](#) (recommended: leather strop), [pencil](#) (recommended: blue drafting pencil), [6-inch ruler](#) (recommended: plastic & bendable), and [acrylic paint](#) and [small paint brushes](#) (recommendations will be discussed in class). A variety of items will be available for use during class sessions. Course leaders will provide wood, pattern, sealer, and magnets.

[NEW COURSE LEADERS] **Bob Martin** and **Gayle Schneider**, members of the Genesee Valley Woodcarvers Club ([gvwoodcarvers.com](http://gvwoodcarvers.com)), are skilled carvers as well as attentive and patient teachers. Bob's current carvings transform natural pieces of wood into interpretive birds. Gayle's work is more representative, but some of her carvings are quite whimsical.

Tuesdays:  
**FOUR Weeks:**

1:30 – 3:30 pm  
**October 7 – 28**

 **In-Person Only**

## Let's Read Some (sort of) Modern Plays.....F36T

[NEW COURSE] In this course we will read four modern plays that span from the 1970s to the 2010s: *Proof* by David Auburn, *Equus* by Peter Shaffer, *In the Next Room (or the vibrator play)* by Sarah Ruhl, and *Mirror, Mirror* by Sarah Treem. Subjects range from sexual farce to teen romance (straight and LGBTQ+). In class we will discuss the playwright, the staging, and read the entire play aloud, with attendees taking various parts. Due to limited available parts in some of the plays, not everyone may get to read each week. **Enrollment Limit: 12** *Discussion, Lecture* **This course has a required \$20 fee, payable online when you register, for hard copies of each of the four plays that will be provided to you by the course leader.**

**Gary Mitchell** has been a fan of the theater since he acted in his third-grade play, a pursuit he continued through college. He belongs to a group that reads a play a month and wanted to bring his excitement about modern drama to interested readers.

Tuesdays:  
**TWELVE Weeks:**

1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**September 16 – December 9**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)

 **In-Person Only**

# Wednesday

## OLLI at RIT Fall 2025 Course Schedule

### Discussing *The New Yorker Magazine*.....F37W

[NEW CONTENT] Using the current issue as a jumping-off point, we conduct lively discussions in topics ranging from today's culture, current events, fiction, history, and, of course, the famous cartoons. When appropriate very short videos are shown that provide background to articles being discussed. We stay one week behind the current issue so that you have time to read it. We will start with the September 8, 2025 issue. **Required Text:** A copy of *The New Yorker*, either paper or e-version  
**Enrollment Limit: 20** Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading

**Steve Levinson**, a retired chemist from Eastman Kodak, is currently the president of Image City Photography Gallery where he exhibits new work every month. He still has a lingering Brooklyn accent, even though he left after high school to attend Rensselaer. **Joan Dupont** is a lapsed civil engineer who worked for the NYS Department of Transportation. She joined Osher at RIT after retirement in 2010 and immediately felt she had found her "tribe". She enjoys puzzles of all kinds, gardening, visits to her son (and the beach) in San Diego, and goes nowhere without a knitting project. They've been leading this class since Fall 2010.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 17 – December 10**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid

### Bob Dylan: A Complete Unknown.....F38W

[NEW COURSE] The biopic, *A Complete Unknown*, has renewed interest in Bob Dylan, in particular his emergence and evolving personas as a music and cultural icon in Greenwich Village. We will begin with a discussion and analysis of the movie, focusing on the script, some central scenes, and how, for purposes of storytelling, the movie diverges from the historical record. The movie will provide the framing for five subsequent classes that examine Dylan before he moved to the Village, his emergence as a performer and songwriter in 1961 and 1962, and his evolution, focusing on his performances in Newport in 1963-1965. **Optional Text:** *Dylan Goes Electric!: Newport, Seeger, Dylan, and the Night That Split the Sixties* by Elijah Wald, ISBN 9780062366696 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

**Michael Tanenhaus** retired from the University of Rochester in 2021. He has led Osher at RIT courses on a variety of topics related to language and cognitive science. In 2021 Tanenhaus began an ongoing deep dive into the emerging scholarly literature on Bob Dylan to develop courses on Dylan.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**SIX Weeks:** **September 17 – October 22**



Hybrid



### Prosecution Case Studies.....F39W

[NEW COURSE] The course will provide case studies of federal and state prosecutions that occurred in the recent past in the Western District of New York. The course leader and his invited guest speakers will discuss high profile and interesting cases that they prosecuted. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

**Rick Resnick** is a retired Assistant United States Attorney who specialized in complex fraud, including health care fraud, corporate fraud, tax fraud, public corruption, and false-claims-act cases. He recently was a guest speaker at OLLI at RIT's Law in the News course and discussed cases that he prosecuted.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**SIX Weeks:** **September 17 – October 22**



Hybrid



## More than Words: How Talking Sharpens the Mind and Shapes Our World..... F40W

[NEW COURSE] We will discuss a popular science book by Maryellen MacDonald about “talking”. Humans can transform internal ideas into talk, but talking isn’t just for communication. We process speech much faster and with less effort than we create it. The complex processes in the brain that allow us to talk impact other areas of our lives in surprising ways. MacDonald explains the cognitive and brain mechanisms that underlie talking, and how talking shapes attention, memory, learning, how we regulate our emotions, and our cognitive health as we age. **Required Text:** *More than Words: How Talking Sharpens the Mind and Shapes Our World* by Maryellen MacDonald, ISBN 9780593545270 (hardcover) or ISBN 9780593545294 (e-book) *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

**Michael Tanenhaus**, a psycholinguist and cognitive scientist, retired from the University of Rochester in 2021. He has led Osher at RIT courses on a variety of topics. In 2018 he was awarded the Rumelhart Prize from the Cognitive Science Society for his research on language comprehension ([www.rumelhartprize.org](http://www.rumelhartprize.org)).

Wednesdays:

9:30 – 11:00 am

**SIX Weeks:**

**October 29 – December 10**

(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid

REC

## Contemporary Events..... F41W

[NEW CONTENT] We will engage in a lively, orderly discussion involving contemporary events submitted by members of the class. *Discussion*

**Terri Hurley** has been an Osher at RIT member for over 15 years. She moved here from California and often shares her different viewpoints with the class.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**TWELVE Weeks:**

**September 17 – December 10**

(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid

REC

## Political and Economic Foundations of Capitalism and Socialism: The Moral Debate between Locke and Marx – Part 1 ..... F42W

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] For Locke competitive economic acquisitiveness is the core of justice and civic morality. For Marx the moral society is “an association, in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all.” We will address these, and more, questions: Are all human beings naturally equal? Can liberal government combine individual freedom and political authority? By what right does the majority govern? Can the rule of law and separation of powers secure individual rights? Can socialism be democratic? **Required Texts:** *Second Treatise of Government* by John Locke, ed. C.B. Macpherson, ISBN 091514493X and *The Marx-Engels Reader*, 2nd Edition, ed. Robert C. Tucker, ISBN 039309040X *Discussion, Lecture*

**Walt Soffer**, Ph.D., is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Geneseo State University of NY and recipient of the Career Service Award and Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. His teaching and publications have been principally in the areas of ancient philosophy, modern philosophy, phenomenology and existentialism, history of political philosophy, ethics, philosophy of religion, and interdisciplinary humanities.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**TWELVE Weeks:**

**September 17 – December 10**

(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid

REC



## War: What Is it Good For? .....F43W

[NEW COURSE] The song answers: "Absolutely nothing!", and civilians in a war zone may echo that sentiment. We are the most successful of mammals on Earth. War hardly seems like a positive activity for humanity. Yet humans have been warring for our entire recorded existence (some history books read like lists of wars), and there are billions of us. It might be good for something? We'll look at war (and wars) and what various people (philosophers, scientists, generals, etc.) have to say about war, violence, and historical change. Some of what they say may startle you. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

**Moshe Cahill** is a philosopher, and **Roger Gans** is an Emeritus Professor at the University of Rochester. Each has led many courses at Osher at RIT.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**TWELVE Weeks:**

**September 17 – December 10**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



In-Person Only



REC

## Writing Workshop .....F44W

[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 in small groups with class members. We cover a variety of genres and styles in a friendly environment, and participants get to make new Osher friends.

**Enrollment Limit: 15** *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Writing, Workshop*

Our Osher course leader team includes **Jeanne Strining**, a Writing Workshop course designer who taught in Brighton and Webster schools; **Jim Hooper**, a teacher and manager of human service providers; **Diana Lockhart**, a lover of words, a sucker for superior sentence structure, and an adorer of alliteration; **Kim Perry**, a recently retired marketing manager, content creator, and editor who is now immersed in writing what she enjoys; and **Sandy Condry**, a retired psychologist who relocated from Ithaca 10 years ago and has recently begun writing about entertaining events in her life.

Wednesdays:

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ELEVEN Weeks:**

**September 17 – December 3**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



In-Person Only

## Bugs Rule! .....F45W

[NEW COURSE] Insects are the most diverse group of animals in the history of life on earth. They play essential roles in almost all terrestrial ecosystems but are also major agricultural pests and disease vectors. In this course we will discuss the diversity and evolution of insects, ecosystem services they provide for humans and other organisms, and the ongoing "insect apocalypse". We'll also consider several special topics, including social insects, defense, flight, heritable endosymbionts, selfish genetic elements, and enjoying bugs with your grandkids. Finally two outside guest speakers will discuss their areas of expertise. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

**John Jaenike** taught in the Biology Department at the University of Rochester before retiring in 2020. His research dealt with the evolution and ecology of insects, mostly mushroom-feeding flies, with particular focus on host-parasite interactions, selfish genetic elements, and maternally-transmitted microbial symbionts. John previously taught several Osher at RIT courses on birds.

Wednesdays:

1:30 – 3:00 pm

**TWELVE Weeks:**

**September 17 – December 10**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid



REC


## Ikebana: The Japanese Art of Flower Arranging.....F46W

[NEW COURSE] Ikebana is practiced worldwide, and millions of people have tried their hand at it. In this hands-on course, we will demonstrate four of the many schools of Ikebana and work with students to do their own flower arrangements in the manner of each school. Instructors will aid and gently critique each student's work. **Enrollment Limit: 13** Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Workshop

**This course has a required \$20 fee, payable online when you register, for a suiban (a shallow, basin-like container) and kenzan (a pin frog, aka a flower frog, used to hold flowers in place) that will be provided by the course leaders.**

**Additional Required Supplies to Bring to Class:** flowers (types/amounts will be specified in the weekly class details) in a bucket with about 2" of water, heavy-duty scissors or garden clippers, a small bowl to cut stems in, a one-gallon jug of water with a lid, and a small clean towel for resting your clippers on and for cleaning up.


[NEW COURSE LEADERS] **Nora Walter** is the current president of the Rochester Chapter 53 of Ikebana International. Joining her are instructors **Gail Newman** (Ichiyo School, Junior Master), **Fauzia Jamshed** (Hijiri Ikenobo School, Shihan 1st Grade Master), **Faye Phillips** (Sogetsu School, Second Sanyo), and **Saskia Eller** (Ohara School, Associate 1st Master).

Wednesdays: 1:00 – 3:00 pm  
**FIVE Weeks:** September 17 – October 15  In-Person Only

## On Consolation.....F47W

[NEW COURSE] How have writers and thinkers dealt with the pains of loss and death without the consolations of revealed religion? Ignatieff surveyed the lives and works of 17 writers and thinkers. We will read and discuss Ignatieff's book and some of the works that he cites. **Optional Text:** *On Consolation: Finding Solace in Dark Times* by Michael Ignatieff, ISBN 9780805055214 **Website:** [sites.google.com/armstrong-low.com/on-consolation/home](https://sites.google.com/armstrong-low.com/on-consolation/home) Discussion, Lecture, Reading



**Tom Low** is a long-time Osher at RIT course leader, having led courses on thinkers and writers both ancient (Socrates, Aristotle) and modern (Camus, Orwell, Arendt).

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**EIGHT Weeks:** September 17 – November 5  Hybrid 

## What's New in Neuroscience.....F48W

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] In this course we will look at what research in neuroscience is teaching us about how the brain and mind work. We will also learn about using that knowledge to provide better care for patients. The role of AI, brain imaging, immunology, and genetics will be included. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture



**Alex Marcus** is a retired physician who practiced neurology and psychiatry. He has been leading Osher at RIT courses on the human brain since 2005.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**TWELVE Weeks:** September 17 – December 10  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)  Zoom Only 

## The Great Financial Crisis of 2008: Its Causes and Economic Aftermath..... F49W

[NEW COURSE] This crisis revealed significant problems with the orthodox economic theory (neo-liberalism). This course will examine the economic history leading up to the crisis; the causes and effects of the crisis; and the after effects of the crisis on economic, social, and political discourse. Short readings will be provided. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

**Glenn Barlis** has conducted OLLI at RIT courses in economics, investing, and mathematics. He has degrees in electrical engineering, business administration, and computer science.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm  
**SIX Weeks:** October 29 – December 10  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)  Hybrid 



# Thursday

## OLLI at RIT Fall 2025 Course Schedule

### Dorothy L. Sayers's Greatest Novel: *Gaudy Night*.....F50Th

[NEW COURSE] *Gaudy Night* is perhaps the crowning achievement of the Golden Age detective-fiction writer Dorothy L. Sayers. It features both Lord Peter Wimsey and Harriet Vane working together to solve a mystery in one of the first Oxford colleges for women, combining detection, romance, and the politics of education in a single volume. We will read slowly to allow plenty of room for discussion. **Required Text:** *Gaudy Night* by Dorothy L. Sayers, any edition including e-books  
**Enrollment Limit:** 25 *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*



**Lisa Jadwin** is a retired English professor who loves to share literature, history, and film with other people. She likes to teach texts that might be unfamiliar to Osherites. Her courses are in-person and discussion-based. This is her third year as a member and course leader at OLLI at RIT.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 18 – December 11**  In-Person Only  REC,  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)

### Mozart: His Life and His Music .....F51Th

[NEW COURSE] Who really was Mozart? “An idiot touched by the hand of God” or a mature and extraordinarily gifted musician? Using a series of lectures by Robert Greenberg as core material, we will explore Mozart’s life and sample his remarkable musical output, including symphonies, concertos, chamber music, and operas. Last offered in winter 2020, this course was interrupted by the pandemic and has been expanded and revised. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*


**Victor Poleshuck** is a retired physician with a lifelong love of classical music.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 18 – December 11**  Hybrid  REC,  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)

### You Be the Critic .....F52Th

Class members select three movies weekly and are expected to independently view at least one of the three (two at local movie theaters and one streaming on Netflix or Amazon Prime). This offers class participants the opportunity to engage in discussion of the films by commenting on exploration of themes and plot twists, cinematography, acting, directing, characters, and hidden meanings. A fun-filled movie discussion class, we dive into the films then rate them on a scale of 1-10 with no pressure but plenty of laughs and learning. *Discussion*

**Sandra Vallot** is a lifelong movie fan who enjoys viewing films across genres either in the theater or through streaming platforms and then discussing them with members from a wide variety of backgrounds and expertise.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 18 – December 11**  Hybrid  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)

## Pfudler Lecture Series: Thursdays 12:15 – 1:30 pm ET

Members can register for Pfudler lectures when they register for classes. Non-members may register via the links found in each lecture event on our calendar (<https://www.rit.edu/osher/calendar>).



### Week One: September 18

#### A Legacy of Financial Wisdom: Empowering the Next Generation Through CARE..... F53Th



Hon. John Ninio II, US Bankruptcy Judge Western District of NY (Ret.) and Founder, Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) Program

As a Federal Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of NY, Judge Ninio was absolutely shocked by what he saw. People from every demographic, age group, income level, educational level, and geographic area were making the same financial mistakes and not understanding how they were being taken advantage of by the financial industry. He concluded that we had a national epidemic of financial illiteracy. To combat this issue, Judge Ninio founded the volunteer-driven CARE program, a national, nonprofit organization providing students and young adults with the skills they need to make smart financial decisions.



### Week Two: September 25

#### Seniors Rock Radio: Shining a Bright Light on Aging and Celebrating Life Every Week ..... F54Th

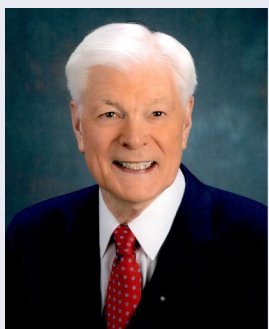


Joanna Palvino, Executive Producer and Host, Seniors Rock Radio  
Retiring after years as an account executive in media advertising, Joanna Palvino found her passion for everything elder. She now hosts the weekly Seniors Rock Radio Show on News Radio WHAM 1180. As a wife, mom, and nana, her mission is to make getting older a little more fun for everyone!



### Week Three: October 2

#### Reflections on 58 Years at the News Anchor Desk ..... F55Th



Don Alhart, Retired News Anchor and Associate News Director, WHAM-TV

Don Alhart began his career in broadcasting as a summer relief engineer at WROC-TV, in Rochester, NY, before securing a job in the summer of 1965 as a reporter for WOKR-TV, Channel 13. He has been honored five times with the prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award for excellence in television news and has received honors both for *Writing* and for *Best Newscast*. In 2010 Don was inducted into the New York State Broadcasters' Association Hall of Fame and holds the Guinness World Record for Longest Career as a Television News Broadcaster (58 years and 1 day).





**Week Four: October 9**  
**Leading Through Change: Shaping the Future of Health Care at UR Medicine ..... F56Th**



Kathy Parrinello, RN, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer, Strong Memorial and Highland Hospitals

Join Kathy Parrinello for an inside look at how UR Medicine is responding to today’s most pressing health care challenges. Amid the closure of local hospitals and a resulting shortage of inpatient beds, Strong and Highland have implemented strategic initiatives to meet growing demands while maintaining quality and access. In this timely talk Dr. Parrinello will share how UR Medicine is navigating the evolving health care landscape.



**Week Five: October 16**  
**Mindfulness in Action: Practical Tools to Reduce Stress and Empower Daily Life ..... F57Th**



Aubree M. Guiffre, Ph.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Family/Marriage, URM

Discover how mindfulness can be a powerful tool for managing stress and improving overall well-being. In this interactive session Dr. Aubree M. Guiffre will explore what mindfulness truly is (and isn’t), the science behind its benefits, and how it can be integrated into everyday life. Whether you’re new to mindfulness or looking to deepen your practice, you’ll leave with practical strategies to feel more present, focused, and empowered. The session includes a guided mindfulness exercise and time for Q&A and reflection.



**Week Six: October 23**  
**Breaking the Story: Inside Investigative Journalism .....F58Th**



Jennifer Lewke, Award-Winning Investigative Reporter, WHEC-TV News 10

Go behind the scenes of real investigative journalism with Jennifer Lewke, award-winning reporter for WHEC-TV News 10. With more than a decade of experience exposing government corruption, consumer scams, and taxpayer waste across New York State, Jennifer will take you inside the high-stakes world of broadcast investigations. She’ll share how stories are sourced, what it takes to verify facts under pressure, and how she builds reports that often go live at 6 p.m. the same day. Learn about the tools and tenacity required to hold powerful institutions accountable—and the personal stories that drive her work. This is a unique opportunity to hear directly from one of Rochester’s most respected investigative journalists and see how local news can spark real change.



**Week Seven: October 30**  
**Breaking the Silence: Innovative Approaches to Preventing Domestic Violence and Building Safer Communities .... F59Th**



Meaghan de Chateauvieux, President and CEO of Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester

Domestic violence remains a pervasive public health and safety crisis that affects individuals, families, and communities across all demographics. In this powerful talk Meaghan de Chateauvieux will explore the often-misunderstood dynamics of abusive relationships and the complex barriers survivors face when seeking safety. Drawing from more than a decade of leadership and advocacy, Meaghan will highlight innovative strategies being implemented in Rochester, including multi-agency partnerships, survivor-centered support, and new responses that include children and pets.



## Week Eight: November 6

### Conducting Change: Innovation and Expansion at the RPO ..... F60Th



Curtis S. Long, President and CEO, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO)

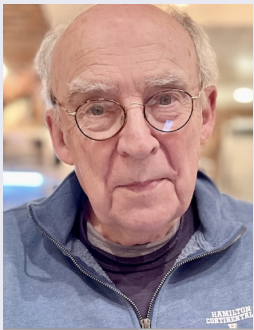
In a time of rapid cultural and economic change, how does a major symphony orchestra stay relevant, financially strong, and artistically vibrant? Join Curtis Long for an inside look at how the RPO is navigating the evolving world of performing arts. From building new audiences and expanding access to embracing diverse programming and venues, Curtis will share how the RPO is honoring its rich legacy while shaping a bold future. He will also discuss key

challenges in orchestra management today—including fundraising, finance, programming, and community engagement—and the innovative strategies the RPO is using to address them.



## Week Nine: November 13

### Remarkable Rochesterians: Celebrating 15 Years of Local Legends ..... F61Th



Jim Memmott, Retired Reporter and Senior Editor, *Democrat and Chronicle* and Journalism Instructor, University of Rochester

For more than 15 years, journalist and storyteller Jim Memmott has been uncovering the hidden heroes, community builders, and fascinating figures who have shaped Rochester's identity—past and present. In his long-running *Remarkable Rochesterians* column for the *Democrat and Chronicle*, Jim has celebrated individuals whose lives and legacies deserve the spotlight even if they never sought it. In this engaging and reflective talk, Jim will share highlights from his ever-growing list, discuss how he finds and researches these compelling stories, and explore why local history—and the people who make it—still matter today.



## Week Ten: November 20

### Leading Locally: Challenges, Progress, and Civic Transformation in Brighton NY ..... F62Th



William W. Moehle, Brighton Town Supervisor

What does it take to lead a small town through change, growth, and political realignment? Bill Moehle will reflect on more than a decade of leadership, community engagement, and strategic planning. He'll discuss how Brighton has navigated complex challenges—from development pressures to environmental initiatives—while building broad community partnerships and fostering civic pride. Bill will also explore the town's significant political shift—from decades of Republican control to Democratic leadership—and what that transformation reveals about local governance.



## Conversational Spanish: Intermediate Level .....F63Th

[NEW CONTENT] Would you like to maintain and improve your Spanish in a fun and supportive small group environment? Then this is the class for you! As a group we agree on the format and share the responsibility for moderating each session. We all read the same section of a book as homework (around 30-45 minutes) before each class and bring in supplemental materials for additional interest. We try to keep all conversation in Spanish, helping each other with unfamiliar words and grammar. This is a no-pressure environment. **Required Text:** *Learn Spanish with Short Stories - Intermediate* by various authors, ISBN 9798344347646 **Enrollment Limit: 12** Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading, Peer Group

**Kathy Lewis** has been participating in Osher at RIT's Conversational Spanish class for over 10 years. She enjoys the collaborative nature of the class, and it has enabled her to keep up her Spanish. **Michael McCue** studied Spanish in high school and college. While he has used his Spanish in his work and travels, he is still learning and has not mastered the subjunctive forms.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:15 pm  
**TWELVE Weeks:** **September 18 – December 11**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid



## Fascinating Women .....F64Th

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] This course will showcase women such as Maya Angelou, Vera Wang, Rosa Parks, Malala Yousafzai, and even an athlete, Caitlin Clark, plus several others. Each of these women has had to break new barriers and be bold in their decisions all while having inspired and entertained us immensely. Audio/Visual, Lecture

**Debby Zeman**, a retired teacher, has led several OLLI at RIT courses focused on amazing and fascinating women from all walks of life.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:15 pm  
**FIVE Weeks:** **September 18 – October 16**



Hybrid



## Hearing, Hearing Loss, Hearing Devices, and Beyond.....F65Th

[NEW CONTENT] Hearing, like eyesight, changes over time. Changes in our hearing can affect how an individual relates to his/her environment. Correction is recommended depending on the degree and type of change. Hearing aids can provide some assistance to many individuals. Discussion will include reasons why hearing loss can affect cognitive decline and Alzheimer's disease. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

**Elizabeth Cook** is an audiologist and hearing aid specialist. She has a special interest in single-sided deafness and tinnitus. She is a hearing-aid user and wants to convey the necessity of monitoring hearing and seeking appropriate correction.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:15 pm  
**SIX Weeks:** **September 18 – October 23**



Hybrid



## Sherlock Holmes: From Silents to Today at the Cinema ..... F66Th

[NEW CONTENT] We will explore the stories of Arthur Conan Doyle and their adaptations for television and the cinema. **Optional Text:** Any copy of *The Complete Sherlock Holmes* by Arthur Conan Doyle Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

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

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:45 pm  
**SIX Weeks:** **October 30 – December 11**  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



Hybrid



# OLLI Course Exchange

We are pleased to be partnering with 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.



## Hail to the Celts ..... F67E

The Celtic fringe is composed of six nations: Brittany, Cornwall, Ireland, the Isle of Man, Scotland, and Wales. Through their ancient language and culture, they are the inheritors of nearly three thousand years of unbroken cultural tradition. Welsh author Emyr Humphreys said, "At any time since the eleventh century, it could have disappeared, but for the determination of one generation or another that it should not." This class will trace the history of the Celts and their culture.

**Lynn H. Elliott** is professor emeritus and former chair of English at Chico State. In addition to his prose and award-winning plays, he is a multiple award-winning national and international screenplay writer.

Mondays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET  
**TEN Weeks: September 8 – November 10**



## Intro to Drawing and Painting on the iPad ..... F68E

This class will provide basic skills for drawing and painting on the iPad. We will navigate three digital art apps, explore techniques for creating digital drawings and paintings, practice using layers, and experience how to export completed digital images for printing. The apps featured in this class are Freeform, Sketchbook, and ArtRage Vitae Mobile Painting. **Note:** You will need an iPad and to download and install Sketchbook (free) and ArtRage Vitae Mobile Painting (\$4.99) from the App Store. Freeform is already included on the iPad. An Apple Pencil or capacitive stylus are not required for this class; however, if you have one of these, you can use it.

**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 serving as chair of the National Art Education Foundation.

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET  
**FOUR Weeks: September 30 – October 21**



## Intro to One-Point and Two-Point Perspective Drawing ..... F69E

This class offers a hands-on introduction to one-point and two-point perspective drawing, techniques that create the illusion of depth on a flat surface by using converging lines. The first session focuses on one-point perspective, while the second session covers two-point perspective. **Materials List:** Drawing paper at least 9" x 12"; #2 Pencil; Kneaded eraser; 12" ruler; Small pencil sharpener.

**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 serving as chair of the National Art Education Foundation.

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET  
**TWO Weeks: October 28 & November 4**







## Let's Keep Knitting.....F70E

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 lifelong 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  
**EIGHT Weeks:** September 9 – November 4  
 (No class 9/23)



## Create Your Own Unique Cartoon Characters .....F71E

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. All that's needed is a pencil and some inexpensive paper.

Retired graphic designer and illustrator **Dick Kennedy** received his art degree at Michigan State University in 1974. 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.

Wednesdays: 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET  
**FIVE Weeks:** September 10 – October 8



## Women Artists Who Challenged Norms .....F72E

Through lectures, videos, and discussions, we will focus on four women artists who challenged expectations of their time about their behavior and approach to subjects: Artemisia Gentileschi, Rosa Bonheur, Kathe Kollwitz, and Frida Kahlo. Additional artists will be included. Participants will receive emails with something to read, something to watch, and something to do in advance of each class meeting. **Recommended Text:** The recommended book, *Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?* by Linda Nochlin, is available at Barnes & Noble, Bookshop.org, Amazon, and other booksellers.

**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  
**FOUR Weeks:** September 10 – October 1





## Chico State Faculty Lecture Series .....F73E

Chico State's tradition of academic excellence goes back more than 130 years. With over 850 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 "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: October 8 – November 12**



## Arts of Zen Buddhism .....F74E

This class examines the precepts of Buddhism in general and of the Chan/Zen branch of Buddhism specifically. We will explore major examples of art and architecture related to Zen. A primary goal of the class is to examine the historical context for the development of the Zen arts; therefore, an examination of the social, religious, political, and cultural influences on the production of art and architecture will be important. In addition, we will consider the fundamental teachings of Buddhism and meditation as a means for developing thoughtful and humane interactions in contemporary life.

**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.

Thursdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET  
**NINE Weeks: September 11 – November 13**  
 (No class 10/2)



## Mathematical Modeling in Biology & Medicine .....F75E

This class explores how mathematics helps us uncover patterns and solve problems in medicine and biology. We'll examine how mathematical modeling is used to study disease spread and the role of superspreaders, understand hospital-acquired infections, and track the evolution of antibiotic-resistant bacteria (superbugs). The talk will also delve into models of cancer growth and how concepts like fractals and recursion appear in biological systems. From predicting outbreaks to visualizing tumor development, math provides powerful tools for addressing some of the most pressing challenges in healthcare.

**Julia (Iuliia) Inozemtseva** is a Teaching Associate Professor at Arizona State University at the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences. She moved to Arizona and joined ASU in 2017. Julia grew up in Ukraine, in the beautiful city Odesa. Julia actively advocates for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. She uses her international experience to support and advocate for women in STEM, as well as for ESL and International Students in the USA. As a proud Ukrainian, Julia actively promotes Ukrainian culture and participates in many multicultural events in Arizona.

Monday: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET  
**ONE Week: September 22**





## Lessons from the Past:

### Infectious Disease Spillovers, Climate Change, & Toxic Environment ..... F76E

How did ancient people cope with infectious diseases, climate change, and environmental toxins? Join Dr. Jane Buikstra, Regents Professor in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, to hear archaeological case studies from the ancient Andes that illustrate the unexpected origins of tuberculosis, effective pre-Colonial mechanisms for coping with El Niño events, climate change without increased violence, and the impact of both anthropogenic and natural toxic environments. We will explore the deep history and resilience of tuberculosis, how traditional Andean ontologies addressed climate change and short-term challenges, and how humans have adapted to toxic environments.

**Jane E. Buikstra** (PhD U of Chicago, 1972) is Regents' Professor of Bioarchaeology and Founding Director, Center for Bioarchaeological Research in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. Professor Buikstra was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (1987) and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2019). She is President of the Center for American Archeology (1986-present) and past president of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, the American Anthropological Association, and the Paleopathology Association. She has received the following awards: the Pomerance Award for Scientific Contributions to Archaeology (AIA, 2005), the T. Dale Stewart Award (AAFS, 2008), the Charles R. Darwin Lifetime Achievement Award (AABA, 2008), the Eve Cockburn Award for Service from the (PPA, 2011), an honorary DSc (Durham University, UK, 2014), The Lloyd Cotsen Prize for Lifetime Achievement in World Archaeology (2016), The Lucy Wharton Drexel Medal (U PA, 2018), the Gorjanovic-Kramberger Medal in Anthropology, Croatian Society of Anthropology (2018), the Aleš Hrdlička Memorial Medal, Anthropology Society of the Czech Republic, the Shanghai Archaeological Forum, Lifetime Achievement Award (2019), and the Distinguished Career Award (MAC, 2020).

Monday: 1:30 – 2:30 pm ET  
**ONE Week:** **October 27**



### Fortunato Film School: *Casablanca* ..... F77E

Why is *Casablanca* considered one of the most iconic films of all time—and does it still deserve that title? Join ASU film professor Joe Fortunato for an in-depth exploration of the 1942 classic starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. We will begin with a brief introduction to the film's historical and production background, followed by a screening of the film accompanied by live commentary from Professor Fortunato. As you watch, you'll gain behind-the-scenes insights, learn about cinematic techniques, and discover how to interpret film like a critic or scholar. After the screening, the discussion continues: what makes a film "beloved," and does *Casablanca* hold up through a modern lens? Like a book club for movie lovers, this class invites you to watch and reflect!

A native of Akron, Ohio, **Joe Fortunato** began his entertainment career as a research assistant on NBC's TODAY show. After graduating from Yale University, he came to Los Angeles and spent the next five years developing movies for television, starting at NBC and then with Steve Krantz Productions. From there, Joe joined Shukovsky English Entertainment (SEE) to help develop primetime series for the company. At SEE, he was involved with such comedies as *The Louie Show*, *Ink*, *Murphy Brown* and the CBS pilot *Lawyers*. Joe then pursued writing and spent a season as a Staff Writer for the FOX comedy *Living in Captivity* under the tutelage of *Murphy Brown* creator Diane English. From there, he co-wrote several TV pilots and a feature film, *Nowhere Man*, which was developed at Disney. Joe transitioned away from Hollywood to pursue another passion – higher education. Taking his hard-won knowledge and expertise from the entertainment industry, he received his Masters in Education at Loyola Marymount, and has been a full time faculty member at Arizona State University for the past 14 years, teaching various film, television and screenwriting classes at the Sidney Poitier New American Film School.

Monday & Tuesday: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET  
**TWO Days:** **December 1 & 2**





## Imprisoned Minds: Lost Boys, Trapped Men & Solutions from Within the Prison ..... F78E

Imprisoned Minds tells the stories of men in prison—stories few people ever hear. Authors Erik Maloney and Kevin Wright, through personal narratives and expert analysis, reveal how unimaginable childhood trauma and neglect can set young men on a path toward prison or even death. Erik is currently incarcerated, serving a life sentence, and Kevin is a criminologist at Arizona State University. Together, their goal in writing this book is to humanize people behind bars, offer practical solutions, and show that a more effective approach to criminal justice is possible. Join them as they lead this class virtually—from prison—and explore the thought-provoking question: might there be an imprisoned mind in all of us?

**Dr. Kevin Wright** is an associate professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice and is the director of the Center for Correctional Solutions at Arizona State University. His work focuses on enhancing the lives of people who live and work in prison through research, education, and community engagement. He has published over 40 articles, chapters and reports, and he is co-author of the book *Imprisoned Minds: Lost Boys, Trapped Men, and Solutions from Within the Prison* (Rutgers University Press, 2025), written alongside a man incarcerated for life. Wright was awarded the 2020 American Society of Criminology Teaching Award for creating transformational education opportunities. He received his 2010 PhD from Washington State University, where he was awarded 2022 Distinguished Alumni of the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology.

**Erik Maloney** has dedicated his life to advocating for a trauma-focused approach to rehabilitation in prisons and bringing attention to the harms of mass incarceration through his writing and work as a co-founder of the Arizona Transformation Project. Erik is the co-author of *Imprisoned Minds: Lost Boys, Trapped Men, and Solutions from Within the Prison*. He developed and teaches a class, based upon his book, which focuses on helping those who are incarcerated with him to overcome the irrational mindset (the Imprisoned Mind) that develops in response to childhood trauma.

Wednesday: 12:00 – 3:00 pm ET  
**ONE Week: November 12**



## When Ideas Became Art: The Revolution in Modern Art & Music ..... F79E

When photography arrived in the 1800s, artists faced a challenge: cameras could capture realistic images faster than paint. This technological revolution freed artists to pursue questions beyond mere representation, ultimately challenging the very idea of “What is art?” We will examine how both visual artists and musicians throughout the 20th century responded by creating revolutionary works in which ideas became more important than traditional techniques or finished products. From Duchamp’s ready-mades to John Cage’s experimental compositions, these conceptual works once puzzled audiences but now fill our most prestigious museums and concert halls. Join us to discover these fascinating ideas that have transformed modern art and music.

After retiring from a fulfilling career as a university educator and administrator, **Deborah Robin** channeled her passion for lifelong learning into an ongoing relationship with OLLI. She shares her enthusiasm for art by teaching a wide range of art history courses. Specializing in modern and contemporary art, she also devoted over a decade to volunteering as a Docent at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, helping visitors connect with and appreciate the exhibitions. Beyond the walls of the classroom and museum, Deborah finds joy in creating ceramic art and nurturing her cacti garden. Her academic journey includes a BA in English and an MA in Humanities from Florida State University, and a Doctorate in Education from Nova Southeastern University.

Thursdays 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, **October 30**  
**TWO Weeks** 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, **November 6**







## Decoding Food Labels: The Nutrition Science Behind Your Grocery Store Visits..... F80E

Grocery shopping can be overwhelming—with countless products, confusing labels, and endless marketing claims vying for your attention. Making smart choices at the store is the first step toward better nutrition and overall health for you and your family. In this engaging presentation, Tina Shepard, a Clinical Nutrition Professor at Arizona State University and a Registered Dietitian, will guide you through the essentials of smart grocery shopping. You'll learn how to: read and understand nutrition labels with confidence, identify nutrient-dense foods and avoid misleading packaging, make budget-friendly, healthy choices in every aisle, compare products to find the best options for your family's needs. Join us and gain the tools to shop smarter, eat better, and feel more in control of your health every time you step into the grocery store.

**Christina (Tina) Shepard** is a Clinical Professor and Director of the MS in Nutritional Science degree in the College of Health Solutions at ASU. She is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, a Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and a past President of the Arizona Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. She has led several ASU Study Abroad trips to Spain and Italy, teaching about the Mediterranean Diet as well as other programs to the United Kingdom. She is also a Certified Master Gardener, specializing in growing herbs and vegetables.

Friday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm ET  
**ONE Week: September 26**



## Ukraine & Russia I & II: Past, Present, and Future ..... F81E

Russia shocked the world when Putin invaded Ukraine on Thursday, February 24, 2022. Few believed that Ukraine's military would last a week. Backed by President Joe Biden's strong alliance of the U.S. and Europe, the Ukrainian military has fought the Russian military to a virtual standstill. Since Donald Trump has assumed office in January 2025, he has jettisoned the U.S. alliances with NATO, Europe, and Ukraine. Europe is undergoing its most profound transformation since the end of the Soviet Union in 1991. The NATO military alliance was strengthened when Sweden and Finland joined, but since U.S. withdrawal, Germany is rearming, and Europe now seeks a nuclear umbrella with France and the U.K. Europe is ending 50 years of cheap oil, gas, and coal imports from Russia. Six million Ukrainians have been welcomed by Europe in its worst refugee crisis. These two talks are a briefing on the history of Ukraine and Russia's relations, the war and sanctions thus far, peace talks and possible outcomes.

**Hilde Hoogenboom**, PhD, associate professor of Russian in the School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC) at ASU, with research on relationships between nineteenth-century Russian literature, culture, and history. She has a PhD from Columbia University and a Harriman Institute Certificate in Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies. Hoogenboom is an expert on Catherine the Great and her memoirs, which she translated from French for Modern Library at Penguin Random House (2005). She studied and traveled extensively in the Soviet Union and in Russia, beginning in 1982, thanks to numerous federal research grants. Her articles and books have been supported by the National Humanities Center and Social Sciences Research Council. Her current project is on corruption and civil society in Russia from the eighteenth century to the present. Dr. Hoogenboom was on the board of the Association of Women in Slavic Studies and past president of the Eighteenth-Century Russian Studies Association.

Fridays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET  
**TWO Weeks: October 3 & 10**



## Viva Italia! The Culture, History, & Heart of Italy ..... F82E

This class offers an engaging introduction to Italy's fascinating history, culture, art, and food. Led by Jennifer Adams, Ph.D., Instructor of Italian in ASU's School of International Letters and Cultures, we will tour the country's regions and highlight their exceptional culinary traditions, explore the basics of Italian art and architecture, and discover how to live the dolce vita like a true Italian. The course also includes short, practical lessons in basic Italian words and phrases useful for travel, dining, and cultural interaction.

**Dr. Jennifer Adams** is an instructor at the School of International Letters and Cultures, School of International Letters and Cultures. She was previously the higher education program coordinator at the Phoenix Art Museum. She currently teaches courses in Italian, Mafia & Film, and the Mediterranean Lifestyle for ASU.

Fridays: 12:30 – 2:00 pm ET  
**TWO Weeks: November 14 & 21**





## A Book Study: Aging, Zombie Cells, and the Fountain of Youth..... F83E

This study group is designed to be a journey through our current knowledge of the processes of aging, both at the organismal and the cellular levels, and some of the plans offered to slow or even reverse these processes. The study group will be based in part on the book *Outlive: The Science & Art of Longevity* by Peter Attia, MD, and Bill Gifford (Harmony Books, 2023). Our plan is to work our way through the book with recommended reading assignments. The co-SGLs plan to use our meeting times to expand upon the themes of each reading, to hear your comments, and do our best to respond to your questions. Extensive science background is not necessary to join this study group. Any expertise you have and wish to contribute will be a welcome addition. **For full benefit, we recommend each SG member purchase the aforementioned book**, which at this writing appears to be available for about \$20. Praise for *Outlive* from Siddhartha Mukherjee: "Peter Attia has delivered the definitive look at the complex subject of longevity. Comprehensive and rigorous, it is full of surprising insights into the diseases of aging and the tactics that can help us live longer and in better health."

**Marilyn Halonen**, PhD, retired in 2010 as Professor of Pharmacology and member of the Asthma and Airways Diseases Research Center at U Arizona where she taught classes, performed research and trained graduate students in immunology. She spent one year on sabbatical at NIH. For OLLI, she has led or co-led Study Groups on various aspects of molecular, cellular, and organismal biology, including most recently the Mysterious Workings of Our Immune System, the Biologic Songs of Our Cells, and Maps our Brains Create to Guide Us.

**Gerald M. Fleischner**, MD, is a retired physician who spent 40 years teaching, caring for patients, and doing science at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, NY. Early research training at Einstein was with the immunologist-vaccinologist Dr. John B. Robbins and the hepatologist Dr. Irwin Arias. An unquenchable curiosity about the life process has him spending much time and effort in studying genomics and evolutionary science and how they intersect the medical literature. An OLLI member for over 12 years, he has served as SGL or co-SGL in courses involving the biological sciences and medicine.

Mondays: 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET

**Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 11:00 am EST.

**TWELVE Weeks:** September 15 – December 8  
(No class week of Thanksgiving)



## Exploring the Icy Worlds of the Outer Solar System ..... F84E

The outer reaches of our solar system represent a true frontier for space exploration. Dominated by the colossal ice giant planets Uranus and Neptune, the region also plays host to diverse icy worlds and remnants from the formation of the Solar System. This class will examine the dynamic atmospheres, unique compositions, bizarre magnetic fields, and faint ring systems of both ice giant planets as well as explore the array of fascinating moons in orbit around them. While neither planet has been explored directly by spacecraft since the late 1980's, the James Webb Space Telescope's incredibly sensitive infrared instruments are allowing scientists to study both planets and their moons in unprecedented detail from afar. Not surprisingly, these observations provide stunning new insights into these distant worlds. Venturing further out we will discuss how the New Horizons mission transformed our understanding of the dwarf planet Pluto from that of a presumed "dead" ice ball into the remarkably complex and geologically active world that it actually surveyed from space. Finally, we'll examine the icy world of Arrokoth located in the vast Kuiper Belt which offers a pristine snapshot of the materials present in the outermost, coldest regions of the solar nebula when the solar system formed 4.6 billion years ago.

**Janet Wood** is a volunteer for NASA/JPL's Solar System Ambassador program coordinated by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. Ambassadors present public programs to communicate the excitement, science, and discoveries of NASA's space exploration missions. Wood became a space science enthusiast after attending The Planetary Society's "Planetfest" in 1997 in conjunction with the Mars Pathfinder Landing, and joined the Solar System Ambassador Program in 2002. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Washington, and a Master's Degree in Geoscience Education from Mississippi State University. Her special interest is in planetary science.

Monday: 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET

**ONE Week:** October 20





## Mexican Muralism – Art, History, Legacy.....F85E

Beginning in the early 1920s Mexico, following the revolution, the government commissioned artists to paint murals in public buildings to teach the people the country's history and present a powerful vision for its future. Inspired by the idealism of the Revolution, artists created epic, politically charged public murals that stressed Mexico's pre-colonial history and culture, and depicted peasants, workers, and people of mixed heritage as the heroes who would forge its future. The murals were executed in techniques including fresco, encaustic, mosaic, and relief. The "big three," Orozco, Rivera, and Siqueiros are considered the leading artists of this movement, but we'll look also at the work of some others who contributed to establishing a true Mexican style. Mexican muralism inspired a movement that spread to throughout the western hemisphere. ...and Tucson is no small inheritor of this legacy!

**Isabel Aaronson** is a former art teacher, museum buff and long time member of OLLI-UA Tucson. She has led several previous art-related study groups.

Mondays: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET  
**FOUR Weeks:** **Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 1:00 pm EST.  
**October 13 – November 3** **zoom Only** **REC**

## History and the Old Testament .....F86E

This course provides a study of the Old Testament through the perspectives of archaeology, anthropology, art history, and literary analysis. We explore the emergence of ancient Israel during the Bronze Age and its evolution under the successive power dominance of Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, Persia, Greece, and Rome. Participants will gain an understanding of how the ancient texts emerged and why they remain central to the Western religious and cultural heritage. The course incorporates both classic and modern scholarly debate, enriched by access to recent lectures and research from leading experts across various disciplines.

**Jesse Frey** is an experienced study group leader.

Tuesdays: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET  
**ELEVEN Weeks:** **Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 1:00 pm EST.  
**September 16 – December 9** (No class 11/11; no class week of Thanksgiving) **zoom Only** **REC**

## The People's Art: Folkways in the Russian North.....F87E

Throughout the history of the Russian people, unnamed folk furnished their homes, wove their cloth, and carved their tools. Equally unnamed artists embellished these necessary items in distinctive ways, creating a colorful world of decorative arts. This series of four sessions highlights the most important of these folk forms: the world of wood, textile art, communication on paper, and lacquer boxes.

**Carol Veldman Rudie** credits her interest in Russian and Soviet art to 20 years of volunteering at The Museum of Russian Art. She continues to serve as a museum guide there, although retired from her position as outreach education coordinator. Throughout, she uses her college teaching skills to research and to create presentations on various aspects of culture, history, and art. She has her MA from the University of Minnesota and additional graduate work that included Art History.

Tuesdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET  
**FOUR Weeks:** **zoom Only** **REC**  
**September 16 – October 7**



## American Education at the Crossroads: Challenges and Solutions ..... F88E

This class will build on my popular American Education class that was offered in the spring semester. We will tackle some of the most pressing issues facing our education system. The class will also include a field trip to PIMA JTED's spectacular new health care campus in Tucson. The field trip will only be open to students enrolled in this class. The class will begin with an overview of the current state of American Education, including how we lost our world leadership. We will then examine ideas for improving K-12 education; take a careful look at the unprecedented challenges facing higher education, from Harvard to the University of Arizona; and invite outside leaders to offer their perspective. This will be a 5-session course, with one session devoted to the field trip.

**Bill Symonds** has worked in education reform for more than 20 years. He led the Pathways to Prosperity Project at Harvard and then served as Director of the Global Pathways Institute at ASU until 2020. He taught the spring 2025 course on American education and has also led courses on journalism and writing at OLLI.

Wednesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET  
**FIVE Weeks:** **November 5 – December 10**  
 (No class week of Thanksgiving)



## Chen Village Tai Chi Basics ..... F89E

No previous Tai Chi experience is necessary. All the movements are slow and gentle, and no martial arts applications will be taught or practiced in this study group. These methods may help lessen body pain, correct spinal misalignment, cultivate a sense of internal energy, and rest the mind. Participants can wear comfortable, roomy, or stretchy clothing and some soft tai chi shoes or socks to wear on their feet.

**Randall Krause** served many years as an attorney and conflict resolution facilitator. Later, he studied counseling and received an M.A. in interdisciplinary consciousness studies with an emphasis in holistic health counseling, was certified and served as a personal coach and mentor. He studied Effective Communication intensively and also studied The Gremlin Taming Method for more than 10 years. In addition, Randall is a senior mentor and teacher in the Himalayan yoga meditation tradition and is registered with Yoga Alliance (YA) as an Experienced Yoga Teacher and a Continuing Yoga Education Provider.

Wednesdays: 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET  
**SEVEN Weeks:** **September 17 – October 29**



## Art Talks with Martin Randall ..... F90E

The popular Art Talks speaker Martin Randall returns to OLLI with his own independent series of Art Talks, featuring a wide range of topics, from the classics of European Art to American landscapes. Please join us for this exciting series, as we learn about the lives and works of these fascinating artists: **Week 1: Bruegel**—Turning the Mirror: Early Landscapes, and our First Glimpse of Ourselves; **Week 2: Gauguin in the South Pacific**—Visions of Paradise; **Week 3: Gustav Klimt**—Painter of Gold/The Two Worlds of Gustav Klimt; and **Week 4: Georgia O'Keeffe in New Mexico**—A New Vision of America.

**Martin Randall** has been a favorite Art Talks speaker at OLLI for the last few years as part of the past Art Talks programs, and now presents his own independent Art Talks series under the banner of Tucson Art Talks. Martin was born in London, England. His mother, an artist herself, took him to the art galleries in London from a young age, and there he learned to love art. After a career in Silicon Valley, he and his wife retired to Tucson. When he is not giving Art Talks, Martin loves to travel.

Wednesdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET  
**FOUR Weeks:** **October 29 – November 19**  
**Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 3:00 pm EST.







## Life and Music of Pyotr Tchaikovsky.....F91E

Tchaikovsky is one of the best-known classical music composers in the world. In western cultures, his name is known not only by classical music aficionados, but also by people who are not as familiar with the genre. He excelled in the business of entertaining people. Even he was tickled with his own catalog of work. While Tchaikovsky was admittedly a psychologically troubled individual, he did not let it get in the way of his amazing output. His music was genuine and unique. There is much to be learned about him, not to mention the wide scope of his music.

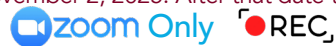
**Lee Kaufman** has taught in continuing education for Parkway School District, St. Louis Community College, Chautauqua Inst., OLLI classes at Washington University, Univ. of Cincinnati, and Univ. of Utah. He is the secretary and founder of The Elgar Society, North Am. Chapter, Co-producer of "George Gershwin Alone, Monsieur Chopin, Beethoven as I knew Him." He lives in St. Louis and tutors second graders in Clayton Schools. Before retirement Lee owned his own company in the floorcovering business for 33 years.

Thursdays: 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET

**Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 11:00 am EST.

**EIGHT Weeks:**

September 18 – November 6



## The Magic Behind Film and TV Scores – Part I.....F92E

In this nine-week seminar, discover how film music enhances storytelling, mood, and character. When we talk about film scores, we're not just talking about background music — we're talking about the emotional engine of a film. Music defines characters, sets tone and place, builds suspense, and blends jazz, classical, and pop styles into lasting cinematic impressions. We'll trace the evolution of film scores — beginning with the landmark *The Jazz Singer* (1927) — and examine how music has become an essential part of the cinematic experience. We'll explore how composers shape emotion across genres: Drama, Romance, Comedy, Film Noir, Adventure, Action, Science Fiction, Westerns (and Spaghetti Westerns), Foreign Films, and the iconic James Bond franchise. Meet some of the most influential composers — including Max Steiner, Bernard Herrmann, Lionel Newman, Elmer Bernstein, Henry Mancini, John Barry, Nino Rota, Ennio Morricone, Mikis Theodorakis, Michel Legrand, Quincy Jones, John Williams, and others — who helped shape the sound of modern film. Perfect for film and music lovers fascinated by the hidden heartbeat of the screen — where music makes the story unforgettable.

**Mike Agron** – Music Aficionado – Born in LA's entertainment scene, Mike is a former high-tech exec and entrepreneur who now creates and delivers dynamic, story-driven seminars on music and entertainment. With a storyteller's eye and a DJ's ear, he's led 15 acclaimed seminar series, each spotlighting a different facet of music and entertainment, for the Sacramento Renaissance Society and national lifelong learning groups including OLLI, Osher Online, Encore Learning, and more.

Thursdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET

**Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 3:00 pm EST.

**NINE Weeks:**

September 18 – December 4

(No class 10/23 & 10/30; no class week of Thanksgiving)





## Astronomy/Geosciences.....F93E

Our exploration of the Earth, Solar System, and Universe continues. This semester we will explore the Galactic Realm. Beginning with the Milky Way Galaxy we delve into the fascinating diversity of galaxies and galaxy types throughout the Universe. We will deep dive into ancient and mysterious Globular Clusters. What are they, how did they form, and what keys to the Universe might they hold? We will feature our Cosmological Toolkit, tools for a greater understanding of astronomy including Lagrange Points, Roche limits, the Milankovitch Cycles, the Eddington Limit and stellar size. As always we will discuss 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. And of course there will be 'Geo-feature of the Week', 'What's for Launch?', and 'Books of the Week.' Please join us for this continuing journey of discovery and adventure. Being in an earlier Astronomy/Geosciences class 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 guest speaker at the University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy on Maui.

Fridays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET

**Note:** Daylight Savings Time ends on November 2, 2025. After that date this class will begin at 3:00 pm EST.

**SIX Weeks:**

**October 3 – November 7**

**zoom Only** **REC**

# 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>). **If you have ever been associated with RIT in any way (former staff/faculty, student, parent of a student, etc.) you likely already have a UID. Contact registrar@rit.edu to check before submitting a form.** 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. Go to the Student Information System (SIS) webpage (<https://www.rit.edu/infocenter/>) to search for eligible\* undergraduate courses you're interested in. Click **Public Class Search > TigerCenter Class Search**. *There is not a printed RIT course catalog.*
  - a. In the "Public Features" section, click on the orange Class Search button.
  - b. On the next page, make sure to choose the correct semester in the "Select a term box".
  - c. Type in a search term, e.g., Italian.
  - d. 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).
  - e. Click "Save Options".
  - f. Click the orange "Search" button.
  - g. Peruse the list of courses, and click on a course to view its details.
  - h. 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](mailto: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. Once your RIT Computer Account is set up, you can use it to log in to SIS (<https://www.rit.edu/infocenter/>) to view the course(s) you're enrolled in and any tasks or forms you might need to complete as an auditor.
7. After your Computer Account is activated, a **MyCourses account** will also be activated within 8 hours (updates to MyCourses are made between 4-5am, 11am-12pm, and 4-5pm Eastern). 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 "**RIT Guest 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. Wellness courses require a fee.*

# 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

**Membership Type:** ☐ Full-Year (\$365) ☐ Single-Term (\$165) ☐ Convert Single-Term to Full (\$200) ☐ Supporting (\$175)

<b>Name:</b>	last	first	preferred (nickname)	phone number	email
street		city		state	zip
<b>Your license plate number(s)</b>	<b>In case of an emergency or illness call</b>			name/relationship	
				phone number	
physician				phone number	
I agree to abide by the policies and procedures of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT					
signature:					date

## Payment for Membership or Renewal

☐ Pay by credit card (circle one)



☐ Pay by check: (payable to Osher at RIT)

### Support Osher's future

Would you like to add a donation amount to your total? \$

Thank you for your support!

DONATIONS MADE BY CHECK **MUST** BE IN A CHECK SEPARATE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

person's name as printed on credit card	total payment	expiration date	3-digit security code (found on back of card)
signature			

## Course Registration

course #	course title & in-person OR zoom	course #	course title & in-person OR zoom

*We'd like to know more about you. Please complete the Member Profile on the other side.*



## How Did You Hear about Us?

- |                                       |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio        | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement          | <input type="checkbox"/> Word of Mouth               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Google or Other Search | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Article or Blog Post   |  |

## Member Profile

We ask each member to provide us with information about him/herself. This information is kept strictly private and is used to help us meet your membership expectations (social events, special-interest groups, and committees). Please take a few minutes to provide us with this information.

**Please indicate your life experiences.** (Check all that apply)

- |  |                                     |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administration              | <input type="checkbox"/> Homemaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Military            | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Work              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Journalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Ministry            | <input type="checkbox"/> AED/CPR Trained             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Law        | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-Employed       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Science/Mathematics |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services/Social Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine   | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology          |  |

**Helping out at Osher** Because we are member-led, we rely on active participation to run the organization. Service is greatly needed. Please check all areas in which you would consider volunteering.

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Lectures                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Market Research/Survey | <input type="checkbox"/> Pfaudler Lecture Series    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom A/V Support (Wizards) | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance             | <input type="checkbox"/> Member Relations       | <input type="checkbox"/> Social                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course Leader                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising         | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member Recruitment | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Seminar/Trip Series |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing           | <input type="checkbox"/> Osher Newsletter       | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology/Computers       |

**Please indicate course areas that are of interest to you.** (Check all that apply)

- |   |                                     |                                       |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance    | <input type="checkbox"/> Math/Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers      | <input type="checkbox"/> Geography  | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Events | <input type="checkbox"/> History    | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy   | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama          | <input type="checkbox"/> Languages  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics      | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |                                       |  |

**Do you have any ideas for courses you would like to lead or like to see led?** Please describe the course(s) and indicate whether you would like to pursue this with a member of the Course Offerings Committee.

------------------

### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- |   |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entered into ProClass    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entered into Spreadsheet |

RECEIVED BY:

DATE:

# 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.
  3. Access to the Copyrighted Work is limited, either by password or other protection device, to members of the RIT Community that are enrolled in the online or Distance learning course.
  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](mailto: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.

# RIT



## **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT**

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

**Come for the courses. Stay for the people.**  
**[www.rit.edu/osher](http://www.rit.edu/osher)**

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