

RIT

Osher Lifelong
Learning Institute

Winter 2026

Course Catalog



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

Registration Opens 12/16
RIT OLLI Courses Begin 1/12

OLLI at RIT's 2026 terms:

Winter (January 12– March 23)

Spring (April 13 – June 8)

Summer (July 6 – August 19)

Fall (September 14 – December 11)

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 29 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).

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.

Pfaudler Lecture Series

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

Listen to a thought-provoking lecture by a guest speaker. These lectures will be in the hybrid format which means that you can attend in person or via Zoom. Most lectures are recorded and available on our members-only content hub. See pages 18-20 for more information.

Social Events

An important part of the OLLI 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 OLLI 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. We have two exciting events planned for 2026: stay tuned!

Membership	Fee	Unlimited	Pfaudler	Social	Arts &	Summer	RIT		
		Courses & Recordings	Lecture Series	Events & SIGs	Lectures Events		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

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/osherr/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 osherr@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 OLLI members who gather in order to pursue and enjoy a shared interest. Don't see what you want? You can start a new SIG. Contact staff at osher@rit.edu for details.

The following SIGs are currently meeting:

SIG	COORDINATOR	DESCRIPTION
Mac Computers (OS X) iPhone/iPad (iOS)	Tom Lathrop	Discussions, problem solving, members helping members, sharing tips and tricks, and demonstrations
Mystery Novels	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
Photography	Loretta Petralis	The group focuses on reviewing members' photos and sharing camera setting and photo editing techniques.
Pickleball	Scott Mate	All playing levels including beginner are welcome.
Purls of Wisdom (knitting & needle craft)	Terri Hurley	For all experience levels, come learn and share techniques.
Travel	Jane Eggleston	Share your favorite photos, memories, and experiences of your previous travel adventures.
Walking Group	Helen Moore	This is an outdoor walking group for interested members.
Wizarding	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 Winter Course Preview and Fair Monday, December 15, 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

	9:30 – 11:00 am ET	11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET	1:30 – 3 or 3:30 pm ET
Monday	<p>Current Events W1M Adonis, Scott, & Moore (1/12-3/23)</p> <p>Timothy Snyder's Warnings about Fascism in the USA W2M Tom Jones (1/12-2/16)</p>	<p>Athenaeum Book Club W3M Murphy & Tucker (1/26 & 3/9)</p> <p>Song Writing by Example W4M Al Mathias (1/12-3/23)</p> <p>The Bridge on the River Kwai: The Real Story W5M Dick Scott (1/12)</p> <p>Antoni Gaudí: The Life and Works of Catalan's Renowned Architect W6M Jane Eggleston (2/2)</p> <p>Updates on the US Immigration Crisis: Bringing Light for a Path Through the Darkness W7M Coniff, Kothor, & Oska (2/9)</p> <p>Gustave Caillebotte: Impressionist and Art Patron W8M Chris Ryan (2/16)</p> <p>Transgender: Fact, Fiction, and the Current Environment W9M Chris Thrasher (2/23-3/9)</p> <p>The Spanish Pyrenees: Culture, History, and Geology of the Northern Aragon Region W10M Jane Eggleston (3/16)</p> <p>Drone Warfare: A Military Revolution W11M Gary Mitchell (3/23)</p>	<p>Express Yourself Through Writing Fiction W12M Gary Mitchell (1/12-3/23)</p> <p>Only Hope: My Mother and the Holocaust Brought to Light W13M Irving Lubliner (1/26)</p> <p>Artificial Intelligence: Savior of Humanity or Its Destruction? W14M Chris Thrasher (2/2)</p> <p>Northern Ireland with Johnny Dady: A Travelogue W15M Sandra Condry (2/9)</p> <p>More Space Junk W16M Tom Jones (2/23 & 3/2)</p> <p>Jack Benny: A Legend in Comedy W17M Joel Weirick (3/9)</p> <p>PowerPoint: Advanced Techniques W18M Al Mathias (3/16 & 3/23)</p>

	9:30 – 11:00 am ET	11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET	1:30 – 3:00 or 3:30 pm ET
Tuesday	<p>Discussing Finance, Economics, and Business in the News W19T Kwiek & White (1/13-3/17)</p> <p>Sherlock Holmes's Selective Justice: Letting the Perpetrator Go W20T Lisa Jadwin (1/13-3/17)</p> <p>Christianity in the West: An Historical Overview W21T John Harmon (2/17-3/17)</p>	<p>America's National Parks: Legacy Under Crisis W22T Tim McDonnell (1/13-3/17)</p> <p>Memoirs W23T Carol Samuel (1/13-3/17)</p> <p>Natural Goodness W24T Moshe Cahill (1/13-3/17)</p>	<p>Conversational French: Intermediate W25T Joy Goodman (1/13-3/17)</p> <p>Sherlock Holmes: From Holmes to Sherlock - Part 1 W26T Bill Brown (2/17-3/17)</p> <p>Women of the Gilded Age W27T Debby Zeman (2/17-3/17)</p>

	9:30 – 11:00 am ET	11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET	1:30 – 3:00 pm ET
Wednesday	<p>Discussing The New Yorker Magazine W28W Dupont & Levinson (1/14-3/18)</p> <p>Great Decisions 2026 W29W Dick Scott (1/28-3/18)</p> <p>The Struggle to Survive: Lakota Sioux of the Northern Great Plains W30W Debbie Huff (2/18-3/18)</p>	<p>Contemporary Events W31W Terri Hurley (1/14-3/18)</p> <p>Political and Economic Foundations of Capitalism and Socialism: The Moral Debate Between Locke and Marx - Part 2 W32W Walt Soffer (1/14-3/18)</p> <p>The Short and Speckled Life of the Weimar Republic W33W Roger Gans (1/14-3/18)</p> <p>Writing Workshop W34W Stringer, Hooper, Lockhart, & Perry (1/14-3/18)</p>	<p>Behind the Scores: Decoding Olympic Figure Skating W35W Jamie Orlandi (1/14-2/11)</p> <p>The Hedgehog and the Fox: An Essay on Tolstoy's View of History W36W Tom Low (1/14-2/11)</p> <p>The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness W37W Tom Low (2/25-3/18)</p> <p>Soldiers, Citizens, and Poets: Scenes from the Civil War W38W Bill McLane (1/14-3/18)</p> <p>What's New in Neuroscience: Part 2 W39W Alex Marcus (1/14-3/18)</p>

	9:30 – 11 or 11:30 am ET	12:15 – 1:30 pm ET	1:45 – 3:15 or 3:45 pm ET
Thursday	<p>Law in the News W40Th Stewart & Schnittman (1/15-3/19)</p> <p>You Be the Critic W41Th Sandra Vallot (1/15-3/19)</p> <p>A Bookshop in Berlin W42Th Pat Donaldson (3/5-3/19)</p>	<p>Pfaudler Lecture Series W43-W52 Various topics and presenters. See pages 18-20</p>	<p>Conversational Spanish: Intermediate W53Th Lewis & McCue (1/15-3/19)</p> <p>Dante's Inferno W54Th Donna Richardson (1/15-3/19)</p> <p>Retooling the Western Movie W55Th Lisa Jadwin (1/15-3/19)</p>

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Course Exchange



Tuesday

- Aviation History: Aviation Vignettes ...W56E**
Gary Hendrickson
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 1/6 – 3/10
- Intro to Prismacolor PencilsW57E**
Cris Guenter
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 1/6 – 2/10
- Let's Keep KnittingW58E**
Gale Ulvang
6:00 – 7:30 pm ET, 1/6 – 3/10

Wednesday

- Armchair National Park TourW59E**
Mike Graf
11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET, 1/7
- Masterworks of Islamic Art.....W60E**
Katherine Harper
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 1/7 – 2/4
- Surrealist Women Artists.....W61E**
Dolores Mitchell & Erika Esau
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 2/11 – 3/11

Thursday

- Armchair Tour of the World's Best Places.....W62E**
Mike Graf
11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET, 1/22
- Zen Drawing 101.....W63E**
Susan Levine
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 2/12 – 3/12

See pages 22-24 for Chico State courses.



Tuesday

- Understanding Islam: History, Beliefs and Living Tradition.....W64E**
Samih Baalbaki
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 1/27 – 3/17
- Art Talks with Martin RandallW65E**
Martin Randall
3:00 – 4:30 pm ET, 1/27 – 2/24
- The Pyramid Age: How Ancient Egypt Reached for the Sky.....W66E**
Nic Richmond
5:00 – 6:30 pm ET, 3/3 – 3/17

Wednesday

- Chen Village Tai Chi BasicsW67E**
Randall Krause
1:30 – 2:30 pm ET, 1/28 – 3/4
- Art Talks!
Great Shots in PhotographyW68E**
Carlye Dundon
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 3/11 – 4/15
- The Best of Alfred Hitchcock, Part 3 ...W69E**
Jay Sherwin
3:00 – 4:30 pm ET, 2/11 & 2/18

Thursday

- Hooray for Hollywood Musicals:
From Astaire to HamiltonW70E**
Michael Agron
3:00 – 4:30 pm ET, 1/29 – 4/23

Friday

- Astronomy/GeosciencesW71E**
Guy Jette
3:00 – 4:30 pm ET, 2/6 – 3/13
- The Hohokam Archaeological Culture:
Imagery and Timekeeping in StoneW72E**
Allen Dart
5:00 – 6:30 pm ET, 1/30 & 2/6

See pages 24-27 for University of Arizona courses.

Monday

- Bumble Bee Conservation
Through Community ScienceW73E**
Amy Dolan
12:30 – 2:30 pm ET, 3/2

Thursday

- The History & Intersection of
Sports & Politics.....W74E**
Ben Feinberg
8:00 – 9:30 pm ET, 3/19 – 4/2

Friday

- The Mind Behind The Music:
Discovering BeethovenW75E**
Dr. Nurit Jugend
3:00 – 4:30 pm ET, 1/30
- Behind the Robes:
Inside the U.S. Supreme CourtW76E**
Dr. Terry McAteer
12:30 – 2:30 pm ET, 2/27

See page 28 for Arizona State University courses.

Monday

OLLI at RIT Winter 2026 Course Schedule

Current Events **W1M**

[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 OLLI 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 OLLI classes and participating as a course leader.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

TEN Weeks: **January 12 – March 23**

(No class January 19)



Hybrid



Timothy Snyder's Warnings about Fascism in the USA **W2M**

Professor Timothy Snyder is at the University of Toronto where he focuses on Eastern Europe. He has written extensively about threats to freedom and democracy in Europe and our country. In 2017 he published a short book, *On Tyranny*, consisting of 20 lessons garnered from his 20th century history studies. We will read this book closely and discuss its relevance to the present situation in the USA. **Required Text:** *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder, ISBN 9780804190114 **Enrollment Limit:** 20 in person and 15 on Zoom *Discussion*

Tom Jones is retired from the University of Rochester where he was Professor of Electrical Engineering. He has taught science- and technology-related courses at OLLI at RIT for 10 years. Recently he discovered Prof. Timothy Snyder's writings about the fascism and tyranny threatening our country and wants to start a conversation about the future of our democracy.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

FIVE Weeks: **January 12 – February 16**

(No class January 19)

Hybrid

Athenaeum Book Club **W3M**

[NEW CONTENT] In this peer-led course, we will read and discuss two books each term. (4 fiction, 2 non-fiction which are chosen by members in the first fall session.) Nominating book members also lead a planning meeting with volunteer class members and lead the class session. **Required Text:** January 26: *How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child* (non-fiction) by Sandra Uwiringiyimana and Abigail Pesta, ISBN 9780062470140 and March 9: *Becoming Madam Secretary* (fiction) by Stephanie Dray, ISBN 978-0593437056 **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. She enjoys summers at her Cape Cod home.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

TWO Weeks: **January 26 & March 9**

Hybrid

7

Song Writing by Example.....

W4M

[NEW COURSE] In this course we'll visit famous song writers and the tunes that made them famous. We'll analyze each tune by identifying features that are at its core and compare it with others that share similar features in order to give us the knowledge to create our own original tunes. While no music knowledge is required, we will look at a small amount of music notation accessed through extremely simple apps. Participants are welcome to bring their creative efforts from home to share in class. **Website:** https://youtu.be/_KhEIL9Powc *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Al Mathias has been professionally involved in music and music education for 50+ years. He has led courses in music history by period, classical music composition, jazz music topics, and strategic thinking. He has performed with music ensembles including string quartets, symphonic orchestras, concert jazz bands, and jazz ensembles playing violin, viola, jazz guitar, classical guitar, and vibes.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TEN Weeks: **January 12 – March 23**
(No class January 19)



Hybrid REC

The Bridge on the River Kwai: The Real Story

W5M

[NEW CLASS] Why did the survivors who labored on the Japanese "Death Railway" from Bangkok to Rangoon during WWII despise 1957's Best Movie *The Bridge on the River Kwai* and the novel *The Bridge Over the River Kwai* by Pierre Boulle? If you plan to join us, try to rewatch the movie and/or read the book prior to class. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Dick Scott has lead many courses on the Pacific War. He loves myth busting—the bigger the myth, the better the bust. This topic is one of his favorites.

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



Hybrid REC

Antoni Gaudí: The Life and Works of Catalan's Renowned Architect.....

W6M

[NEW CLASS] Antoni Gaudí (1852–1926) is considered a genius by many. He was a Catalan architect known for his unique and individualistic style, and many of his buildings are considered masterpieces of Catalan Modernisme, most of which are located in Barcelona. Seven of his works are designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Gaudí's most famous works include Sagrada Família, Park Güell, Casa Batlló, and Casa Milà (also known as La Pedrera). In 1883 he began the Sagrada Família Cathedral, his most significant work to which, 32 years later, he was entirely devoted. While the Cathedral is still not completed, it is getting closer to the projected completion date of 2036. There is nothing like it in the world! Personal insights and photos from an October 2025 trip to Barcelona will be shared. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Jane Eggleston is a retired geologist who has been a member of OLLI at RIT since 2013. She has led numerous courses on a variety of topics such as evolution, plastics, New Zealand, Monet, sea turtles, the Azores, and volcanoes. She enjoys travel, and several of her courses have been inspired by experiences during those trips.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week: **February 2**



Hybrid REC

Updates on the US Immigration Crisis: Bringing Light for a Path Through the Darkness

W7M

[NEW CONTENT] The immigration policies of this Federal Administration have shown aggressive actions to deport people who have fled their homeland out of desperation from threats and violence. Now they find themselves under threat of detention and deportation without any due process. This session looks at the current processes used by ICE and its effects on those who are targeted. *Audio/Visual, Discussion*

Mike Coniff is the founder and CEO of Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services which serves 1,000+ refugees in the area.

[NEW CO-LEADERS] **Djifa Kothor** is a refugee from Togo, and **Paul Oska** is a Haitian pastor serving local Haitians who are threatened with indiscriminate deportation.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week: **February 9**



Hybrid REC

Gustave Caillebotte: Impressionist and Art Patron W8M

[NEW CLASS] Gustave Caillebotte was a French Impressionist painter and, due to his family's wealth, a collector of his fellow artists' work. He didn't begin to paint seriously until after his military service in the Franco-Prussian War in 1871, and by 1876 eight of his paintings were accepted to the Second Impressionists Exhibition. This class will examine his work and his influence on the Impressionist movement through his support for his fellow artists. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Chris Ryan, a retired librarian and lifelong research nerd, is interested in all aspects of the 19th century, including its art movements. She has offered classes in the past on Art in America in the Gilded Age and Impressionist artist Berthe Morisot.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ONE Week: **February 16**



Hybrid



REC

Transgender: Fact, Fiction, and the Current Environment W9M

This class will cover what it means to be transgender throughout history and today: how transgender individuals are being treated under the current US administration, bathroom bills, transgender individuals in sports, and the current hysteria and transphobia in society. We will also cover medical interventions, dysphoria, and how transgender individuals try to alleviate their distress.

Chris Thrasher is a retired software engineer who, over the course of 35 years, conducted research and product development in document understanding and artificial intelligence. She is a transgender woman who is involved with the local LGBTQ+ community and is looking forward to sharing her knowledge.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

THREE Weeks: **February 23 – March 9**



Hybrid



REC

The Spanish Pyrenees: Culture, History, and Geology of the Northern Aragon Region W10M

[NEW CLASS] The northern Aragon region of Spain contains a large section of the Spanish Pyrenees Mountains. The area contains majestic mountains, broad river valleys, and lush forests. The people have lived there for hundreds of years, largely in small villages with houses and barns of stone, and each family having parcels of land for farming. The Moors occupied the land starting in 600 AD but by 1000 AD the Christians had settled there, turning the Moors' fortresses (atop the mountains) into churches, and houses were then built on the hillsides near the churches. Many of the old traditions and festivals still continue as do their practices to keep away evil spirits. Much of the material for this course was gleaned from an eight-day trip to this area in October 2025, living in a 17th century farmhouse, hiking the mountains, and visiting villages, monasteries, convents, cathedrals, and towns, tasting regional foods, and meeting local residents. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Jane Eggleston is a retired geologist who has been a member of OLLI at RIT since 2013. She has led numerous courses on a variety of topics, including evolution, plastics, volcanoes, New Zealand, the Azores, Monet, and sea turtles. Many of her courses have come from experiences during international travel. In October 2025 she visited the Spanish Pyrenees in the Aragon region and learned a lot about the culture, history, and geology of the area. She was enamored with the richness of the history and its traditions and the strong ties the people have to their heritage.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ONE Week: **March 16**



Hybrid



REC

Drone Warfare: A Military Revolution W11M

[NEW CLASS] Drone warfare has roots reaching back to WWII, but the War in Ukraine has forced a radical re-evaluation of military tactics. The dominant land weapon, the tank, has been shown to be extremely vulnerable to cheap, mass-produced drones. Air force deep strike capabilities are being usurped by drones with increasing range and growing warhead size. Even naval vessels are targets of these destructive weapons. In this class we will study the history of drone warfare, review the present state of drone warfare with a focus on Ukraine, and extrapolate future trends in drone warfare. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Gary Mitchell is a graduate of West Point and a student of military history. He follows current trends in weapons and warfare and has been fascinated (and alarmed) by the emergence of drone warfare. This revolution in the fundamental ways in which wars will be fought will require military institutions and theorists to be agile and untethered to the past.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ONE Week: **March 23**



Hybrid



REC

Express Yourself Through Writing Fiction **W12M**

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
TEN Weeks: **January 12 – March 23**
(No class January 19)



Only Hope: My Mother and the Holocaust Brought to Light **W13M**

Before she passed away in 1974, Felicia Bornstein Lubliner wrote about her internment in ghettos and concentration camps (Auschwitz and Gross-Rosen) in Nazi-occupied Poland. Her powerful stories have been published by her son, course leader Irving Lubliner, who also contributed the foreword and afterward to her book. He will share excerpts from the book, shedding light on his mother's experiences and her indomitable spirit as well as his experience as a child of Holocaust survivors and his process in bringing the book to fruition. **Optional Text:** *Only Hope: A Survivor's Stories of the Holocaust* by Felicia Bornstein Lubliner, ISBN 9781733884709 **Course Website:** <http://www.onlyhopebook.com> Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Irving Lubliner teaches math, music, and literature classes for OLLI at Southern Oregon University. Specializing in math education, he taught for 40 years, led teaching seminars in 39 states, and gave 350 conference presentations, including several keynote addresses. In 2019 he created Felabra Press and published his mother's Holocaust-themed writings.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
ONE Week: **January 26**



Artificial Intelligence: Savior of Humanity or Its Destruction? **W14M**

[NEW CLASS] This class will cover the current state of artificial intelligence, where it might be going, and the implications for our world.

Chris Thrasher is a retired software engineer who, over the course of 35 years, conducted research and product development in document understanding and artificial intelligence.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
ONE Week: **February 2**



Northern Ireland with Johnny Dady: A Travelogue **W15M**

[NEW CLASS] Johnny Dady, a well-known Rochester-area Irish folk-singer, leads an annual 10-day tour to Ireland. This fall the tour group wandered through several cities and villages, some castle and monastery ruins, the Peace Wall in Derry-Londonderry, the Titanic Museum in Belfast, and pubs with live music in the evenings. One high point of the tour was an impromptu concert at the family home of Tommy Makem (of the Clancy Brothers) and another was the Giant's Causeway. It rained every day. Audio/Visual, Lecture

For the past 10 years, **Sandra Condry**, a retired psychologist, has become an active member of the Rochester and OLLI communities. She enjoys traveling and is fitting in as much as she can. She takes a ridiculous number of pictures and videos which she justifies through her one-session travel classes. She engages in folk dancing, folk singing, and learning how to write.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
ONE Week: **February 9**



More Space Junk W16M

[NEW CONTENT] Space junk (in the past consisting primarily of old, defunct satellites and booster rockets) is becoming increasingly dominated by small spacecraft inserted into low orbit by Elon Musk's Starlink. Each launch inserts about 40 or more individual satellites into orbit, but now, one or two of these units is deorbiting every day! While they present minimal safety hazard to us, they are cluttering the low-orbit region above us and could make this region unusable (astronomers do not like them at all). We will investigate this growing problem. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Tom Jones is a retired Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Rochester. He has been interested in space exploration since his parents put long pants on him.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

TWO Weeks: **February 23 & March 2**



Hybrid

REC

Jack Benny: A Legend in Comedy W17M

[NEW CLASS] Benjamin Kubelsky was born in Chicago in 1894 and embarked on a career in show business initially in vaudeville as a violinist. He changed his name to Ben K. Benny because of pressure from a violinist who had a similar sounding name. Eventually he changed his name to Jack Benny because, once again, another performer had a similar name. While in the Army during WWI, he performed his violin act for his fellow soldiers who did not appreciate it. He began to add ad-libs to his act which ushered in his transition to comedy. He honed a vain, parsimonious, and tonedeaf character while developing a superb sense of timing. This class will follow the arc of his 63-year entertainment career from vaudeville, to radio, to movies and eventually to television and will reveal that his stage persona was 180 degrees different than his real life. *Audio/Visual, Discussion*

Joel Weirick has been a member of OLLI at RIT for three years and previously had participated in OLLI at Arizona State University in Phoenix. Having grown up watching a lot of television, he became particularly interested in comics/comedians. One comic who caught his attention was Jack Benny whose show he watched weekly. He previously led a OLLI class on W.C. Fields. By watching comics he honed his own sense of humor which has helped him through his career and everyday life. He tries to find humor in nearly every situation.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

ONE Week: **March 9**



Hybrid

REC

PowerPoint: Advanced Techniques W18M

[NEW COURSE] This course is for sophisticated PowerPoint users and is designed with the assumption that you're able to: create PowerPoint presentations, use the fundamental copy and paste functions, and modify both text and graphic "objects" and their parameters. By the end of this course, you will learn how to make a template with a main menu and navigation buttons and then reuse it, as needed, for future projects. You will also be able to make menus that access screens both inside and outside of the project, add animation of text and graphics, control the order of animation on a screen, design a non-linear project that avoids redundancy by accessing other projects (essentially by identifying slides for export to a separate project), and calling, via links, the external project as needed. **Website:** https://youtu.be/1n3BR_tMfCY
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

AI Mathias has been teaching computer courses (programming, literacy, applications, and professional development) for 25+ years.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

TWO Weeks: **March 16 & 23**



Hybrid

REC

Discussing Finance, Economics, and Business in the News **W19T**

[NEW COURSE] This course is a discussion class in which students can review finance, economics, and business topics. The format will be similar to our OLLI's Current Events course: at the beginning of each class, students will be welcome to suggest topics for the day and will provide introductions and closing remarks which will summarize the points made in the discussions. Alternatively, topics can be suggested in advance of a class; the student suggesting the topic can optionally provide supporting material to be read by the class to prepare. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading*

Ed Kwiek has his MBA from the Simon School at the University of Rochester and has held several management positions during his 33-year career at IBM. **Peter White** has a JD from New York Law School and an MBA from NYU and served as the in-house corporate tax counsel at Kodak for 27 years.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

TEN Weeks: **January 13 – March 17**



Hybrid



Sherlock Holmes's Selective Justice: Letting the Perpetrator Go **W20T**

[NEW COURSE] We'll consider eight short Sherlock Holmes stories in which Holmes decides to let the perpetrator go free. Holmes claims "I think there are certain crimes which the law cannot touch." We'll consider his personal sense of morality and its implications for the tradition of detective fiction. Stories will include *A Scandal in Bohemia*, *Silver Blaze*, *The Abbey Grange*, and *The Blue Carbuncle*. The course leader will provide PDFs of the stories so no book purchase is necessary.

Enrollment Limit: 25 *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Lisa Jadwin taught English and film at the college level for more than 35 years. She is an OLLI participant as well as a course leader. Now retired, she is a reader, gardener, musician, artist, and lifelong horsewoman. Her courses are taught mostly through discussion, and course members are encouraged to express their ideas.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

NINE Weeks: **January 13 – March 10**



Hybrid



Christianity in the West: An Historical Overview **W21T**

[NEW CONTENT] This course is a history of Christianity covering the early church, the Reformation, and establishment in America up to the present day. *Lecture*

John Harmon has a Ph.D. in Tudor Stuart England and the Renaissance/Reformation from the University of Rochester. He taught at the University for several years but has spent most of his career in public corporations, including Kodak and Pitney Bowes. He has taught courses at OLLI in the history of Christianity and Islam and Christianity in America. He has taught similar courses for several church adult education programs. This course will combine material from those courses and introduce new material.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

FIVE Weeks: **February 17 – March 17**



Hybrid



America's National Parks: Legacy Under Crisis **W22T**

[NEW COURSE] Our invaluable national parks have been called "America's best idea" because they preserve scenic wonders, protect endangered species, and interpret the history and diverse cultures of the nation. In 1916 Congress created the National Park Service (NPS) to protect these important resources. Mistakes have been made over the years, but the NPS has mostly done admirable work. This will be the emphasis of this course, but we also need to talk about the crisis the parks face in the current political climate. To save our parks, we need to educate ourselves.

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

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

TEN Weeks: **January 13 – March 17**



Hybrid



Memoirs

W23T

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

Carol Samuel has been an OLLI at RIT member since 2001 and Memoirs course leader for 22 years. As a retired obstetrical nurse, she believes writing one's memoirs is an important legacy to create for posterity.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TEN Weeks: **January 13 – March 17**



Natural Goodness

W24T

[NEW COURSE] How do we talk about what is good, right, or virtuous? Philosophers Philippa Foot and Elizabeth Anscombe argued that our moral judgments grow out of the way we live and the shared practices of human life. Their ideas were shaped by the later work of Ludwig Wittgenstein. We will look closely at how moral language works and ask: what do we mean when we call something "good" or "just"?; how do our everyday "forms of life" shape our sense of right action?; and what might it mean to think of virtue in natural, human terms rather than abstract or divine ones? No background in philosophy is required—only curiosity, careful reading, and readiness for discussion. **Optional Text:** *Natural Goodness* by Philippa Foot, ISBN 9780199265473 *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Moshe Cahill is an analytic philosopher with specialization in metaphysics, logic, history of philosophy, Kant, and Wittgenstein. He has enjoyed learning and sharing philosophy with his fellow Osherites.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TEN Weeks: **January 13 – March 17**



Conversational French: Intermediate

W25T

[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: **January 13 – March 17**



REC

Sherlock Holmes: From Holmes to Sherlock - Part 1

W26T

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] Based on his book *From Holmes to Sherlock*, Mattias Bostrom traces the history of the Holmes character from inception to modern times alongside the personal history of the Conan Doyle family over the same period. This course will cover the period from roughly 1885 to the end of WWI. **Optional Text:** *From Holmes to Sherlock: The Story of the Men and Women Who Created an Icon* by Mattias Bostrom, ISBN 9780802126603
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

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

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
FIVE Weeks: **February 17 – March 17**



REC

[NEW COURSE] Women of the Gilded Age broke down barriers that permitted new perspectives in these spheres: literature (Edith Wharton), humanitarianism (Clara Barton), and the Gilded Age elite (Caroline Astor). We will hear their stories and discover their contributions to a new age. Lecture

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

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

FIVE Weeks: **February 17 – March 17**



Hybrid



Wednesday

OLLI at RIT Winter 2026 Course Schedule

Discussing The New Yorker Magazine **W28W**

[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 January 5, 2026 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 OLLI 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 she goes nowhere without a knitting project. They've been leading this class since Fall 2010.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

TEN Weeks: **January 14 – March 18**



Hybrid

Great Decisions 2026

W29W

[NEW COURSE] The Foreign Policy Association (FPA) is generally considered to be objective, non-partisan, and apolitical. For over 100 years its mission has been to develop awareness and understanding of US foreign policy through its Great Decisions course. The FPA annually publishes a book and video lectures on foreign policy to be presented in classrooms across the country. **Strongly Recommended Text:** *Great Decisions 2026* by the Foreign Policy Association, ISBN 9780871242966 will be available for purchase at fpa.org by January 1, 2026. The print version is highly recommended; the e-book format is NOT useful in class. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Dick Scott has presented many courses at OLLI at RIT. His experience as an ICBM Launch Officer over a half century ago continues to influence his opinions about our foreign policy.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

EIGHT Weeks: **January 28 – March 18**



Hybrid



The Struggle to Survive: Lakota Sioux of the Northern Great Plains

W30W

In the mid-1800s the world of the Lakota Sioux of the Northern Great Plains was challenged as the unceasing wave of white immigration threatened its territories. The ensuing decades-long struggle would create the western states we know today but spell the end to the Lakota way of life. We will examine that struggle not only from our own written history but also from Native American oral histories. A third view comes from the halls of Washington and its failed Indian policies and the political maneuverings in Congress to win or maintain control of Republican or Democratic policies of the US government through political control of the new western states. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

While traveling the back roads of the west, **Debbie Huff** became fascinated with the vastness of the Great Plains and the tribes who had thrived there for decades before the encroachment of white settlers. Having taught several courses on the history of the American West, she will now focus on the Sioux and its struggles to keep its traditional way of life as the West changed in the late 19th century.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

FIVE Weeks: **February 18 – March 18**



Hybrid



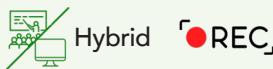
Contemporary Events

W31W

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

Terri Hurley has been an OLLI 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
TEN Weeks: **January 14 – March 18**



Political and Economic Foundations of Capitalism and Socialism:

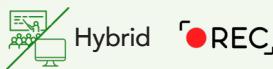
The Moral Debate Between Locke and Marx - Part 2

W32W

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] For Locke competitive economic acquisitiveness is the core of justice. 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 the following questions: Are all human beings equal? Should a just government secure private property rights? Can liberal government combine individual freedom and political authority? Can Lockean government secure consent of the governed? By what right does the majority govern? Can the rule of law and separation of powers secure individual rights? Do economic interests determine history? Must capitalists exploit workers? Would socialism emancipate human beings? Would a socialist economy work? Can we have Marx without Stalin? 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 **Participation in Part 1 of this course is not a prerequisite.** 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
TEN Weeks: **January 14 – March 18**



The Short and Speckled Life of the Weimar Republic

W33W

[NEW COURSE] The Weimar Republic (1918-1933) was an experiment in democracy between the Second and Third Reichs. It was conceived at the end of WWI, plagued by an abortive German revolution, hyperinflation, the Great Depression, and the growing cloud of Nazism. It was an era of experimentation: socially (see Broadway's Cabaret), artistically (the Bauhaus, German Expressionism, painters Max Beckman and George Grosz), cinematically (Metropolis, The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari), and politically (socialists, communists, and Nazis). We'll examine all of this and the Republic's dreadful end with the Enabling Act of 1933. Draw parallels at your own risk. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Roger Gans is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Rochester. He has been leading courses at OLLI for about a decade in subject areas including various aspects of science, both the actual science and its history, scientific aspects of philosophical topics, and theater from the perspective of an actor and director. Weimar popped up from time to time, and this seemed to him a good time to look more deeply at what happened in Germany between the wars.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TEN Weeks: **January 14 – March 18**



Writing Workshop

W34W

[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 OLLI friends. **Enrollment Limit: 15** Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Writing, Workshop

Our team of writers who lead this class includes: **Jeanne Stringing**, a Writing Workshop course designer who worked in Brighton and Webster schools; **Jim Hooper**, a teacher and manager of human service providers; **Diana Lockhart**, a lover of words, sucker for superior sentence structure, and adorer of alliteration; and **Kim Perry**, recently retired marketing manager, content creator, and editor who is now immersed in writing what she enjoys.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TEN Weeks: **January 14 – March 18**



In-Person Only

Behind the Scores: Decoding Olympic Figure Skating

W35W

[NEW COURSE] Ever wonder why one skater scores higher than another—or how someone can fall and still win gold? This course unpacks the mystery behind figure skating's beauty, strategy, and controversy. We'll explore how the judging system evolved from the beloved "6.0" to today's complex International Judging System and what those numbers really reflect. You'll learn how to recognize differences in program difficulty, what to listen for from commentators, and how choreography, artistry, and risk-taking all play into the results. We'll also look at the ongoing impact of Russian doping scandals as well as how Russia's invasion of Ukraine—and its subsequent ban from international competition—continues to shape the sport's global landscape. As we look ahead to the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milan-Cortina, we'll examine who to watch, how the Team Event works, and which countries are emerging as new powerhouses. Whether you're a casual Olympic viewer or lifelong fan, you'll come away with a deeper understanding of what's really happening—both on and off the ice—behind the scores. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Like many people, **Jamie Orlandi** grew up a casual figure-skating fan, but she became an avid one after the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics. Since then she's spent countless hours watching, reading, and attending live events from US Nationals to the World Championships. Jamie enjoys sharing figure skating with others—explaining not just the jumps and scoring, but the intrigue behind it: the coaches, choreographers, federations, and judging politics that shape every result. Her other interests include classical music, baseball, classic TV, and local history.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

FIVE Weeks: **January 14 – February 11**



Hybrid



REC

The Hedgehog and the Fox: An Essay on Tolstoy's View of History

W36W

[NEW COURSE] We will read and discuss some essays of Isaiah Berlin, including the above named. He wrote widely about the history of ideas and political theory. Have you heard of his *Two Concepts of Liberty?* **Optional Text:** *The Hedgehog and the Fox: An Essay on Tolstoy's View of History*, ISBN 9780691156002 and *Four Essays on Liberty*, ISBN 9780192810342, both by Isaiah Berlin *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Tom Low has led more than 20 courses in his years at OLLI on subjects as varied as Marxism, John Locke, Plato, Aristotle, the Spanish Civil War, and Antarctic exploration.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

FIVE Weeks: **January 14 – February 11**



Hybrid



REC

The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness

W37W

[NEW COURSE] You are an inmate in a Nazi death camp where a dying SS trooper asks you to forgive him for his atrocities. Can you do so? Should you do so? We will read and discuss Simon Wiesenthal's *The Sunflower*. The discussion will also include formal reconciliation efforts in Rwanda and South Africa. **Optional Text:** *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness* by Simon Wiesenthal, ISBN 0805241450 *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Tom Low has led more than 20 courses at OLLI at RIT in history, philosophy, and, especially, ethics.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

FOUR Weeks: **February 25 – March 18**



Hybrid



REC

Soldiers, Citizens, and Poets: Scenes from the Civil War

W38W

[NEW CONTENT] This Civil War course will meet at the crossroads of political ideology, military history, military strategy and tactics, literature, oratory, journalism, photography, song, and poetry—all contributing elements in our attempts to better understand the War of the Rebellion, the effects of which continue to the present and shape our Union. We will humbly study the military actions of Grant, Meade, Lee, and Longstreet and also peruse the words of Lincoln and Whitman, Emily Dickinson and Frances Watkins Harper, William Seward and William Tecumseh Sherman, Ambrose Bierce and Stephen Vincent Benét, and others. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Now retired, **Bill McLane** worked as a journalist, Marine Corps intelligence officer, college teacher, and educational psychologist. A Pennsylvanian, he has been a student of the Civil War since stepping foot on Little Round Top in 1953. More recently he has studied at The Gettysburg College Civil War Institute.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

TEN Weeks: **January 14 – March 18**



Hybrid



REC

What's New in Neuroscience: Part 2

W39W

[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. Selected topics on health, medicine, and biotechnology may also be discussed. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Alex Marcus is a retired physician with training and experience in internal medicine, neurology, and psychiatry. He has been leading OLLI courses on the human brain since 2005.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm



TEN Weeks: January 14 – March 18



Thursday

OLLI at RIT Winter 2026 Course Schedule

Law in the News

W40Th

[NEW CONTENT] Every day the news is full of stories that involve the law or lawsuits. Currently the US Supreme Court is hearing several important cases challenging actions of the Trump Administration as well as various state actions such as limiting transgender athletes' participation in sports. In this course we will explain the cases and answer your questions. We often have guest speakers—retired judges and other lawyers—with knowledge of the issues involved. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Mike Schnittman and **Sue Stewart** are retired lawyers who have been OLLI members for several years.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am



Hybrid

TEN Weeks: January 15 – March 19



You Be the Critic

W41Th

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



Hybrid

TEN Weeks: January 15 – March 19

A Bookshop in Berlin

W42Th

[NEW COURSE] *A Bookshop in Berlin* is a memoir written by a Polish Jewish woman who opens a French language bookshop in Berlin on the eve of World War II. The memoir covers her flight from Germany to Paris and on to the south of France. As the Vichy government comes under the German thumb, she has to cope with restrictions on her movements, deportation raids, and making harrowing decisions. Should she go to the legally required refugee check-ins? Admit to being a Jew? Escape to Switzerland? Hide with friends? We will read and discuss the book and make comparisons between her story and that of other refugees, including those currently residing in the US. **Required Text:** *A Bookshop in Berlin: The Rediscovered Memoir of One Woman's Harrowing Escape from the Nazis* by Francoise Frenkel, ISBN 1501199854 *Discussion, Reading*

Pat Donaldson is a retired Xerox engineer. One of the joys of retirement has been learning about history, literature, and music not covered in a physics degree. She's previously led OLLI courses on some of her hobbies: genealogy, country dancing, and the mobile game Ingress. This course was triggered by a random book picked up at the library which deeply affected her.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am



Hybrid

THREE Weeks: March 5 – March 19



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

Members can register for Pfaudler 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/oshier/calendar>).



Week One: January 15

Is It Up to Civil Society to Preserve America's Conservative Institutions? W43Th



Lauren Hall, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, **College of Liberal Arts at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)**

Lauren Hall is an academic leader, author, podcast host, professor, radical moderate, mother, and indifferent gardener. She works to help people break out of false binaries and black-and-white thinking, which encourages a deeper, multidimensional understanding of our social and political world. Lauren will discuss American conservative institutions and pose several key questions: Has principled conservatism been lost? Have too many Americans



become politically homeless? What if the answers no longer rest with political parties but with civil society itself? What role do each of us play?

Week Two: January 22

How Dare the Sun Rise: A Story of Survival, Justice, and the Power of Witness W44Th



Sandra Uwiringiyimana, Human Rights Activist and Author of *How Dare the Sun Rise*

In this lecture Sandra Uwiringiyimana explores the realities of conflict, displacement, and the ongoing struggle for justice faced by survivors of violence around the world. Drawing from her lived experience as a refugee and her work as a human rights advocate, she examines the human cost of war, the challenges of rebuilding after trauma, and the urgent need for global attention to overlooked conflicts and marginalized communities. Sandra will discuss how personal storytelling can drive change, the role of young people in activism, and what it means to create hope and resilience after profound loss. A book signing of ***How Dare the Sun Rise*** will follow the lecture.



Week Three: January 29

Ugandan Water Project: Where Mission Meets Miracles W45Th



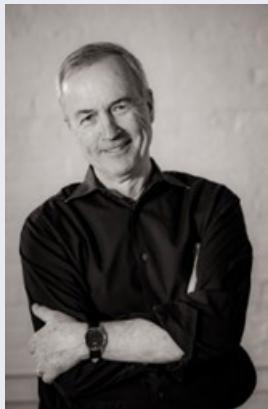
James Harrington, CEO and Founder, **Ugandan Water Project**

In this lecture James Harrington shares how the Ugandan Water Project partners with local leaders to bring reliable, sustainable water solutions to communities across Uganda. With one in five Ugandans facing severe water shortages, and many spending over 30 minutes each day walking to a protected water source, the lack of water access leads to lost time, lost education, and higher health risks. James will discuss how rainwater collection systems, borehole wells, water filters, and household connections are transforming daily life and generating new opportunities for families to learn, work, and thrive. Drawing from years of on-the-ground experience, he will explore how collaborative development, local empowerment, and long-term sustainability intersect to break cycles of poverty and create lasting change.



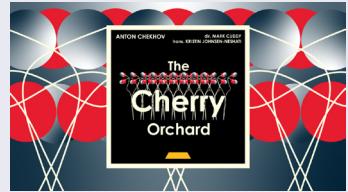
Week Four: February 5

The Birth of Modern Drama in the Late 19th Century W46Th



Mark Cuddy, Founding Artistic Director, The Classics Company and Artistic Director Emeritus, Geva Theatre

Mark Cuddy, acclaimed director and arts leader, will explore the explosive artistic shift that transformed theater at the end of the 19th century. Playwrights such as Anton Chekhov, Henrik Ibsen, August Strindberg, George Bernard Shaw, and Oscar Wilde radically redefined dramatic storytelling which ushered in the era of modern drama. Mark will describe the social, political, and artistic forces that shaped this movement, with particular attention to the works of Chekhov and the cultural atmosphere of pre-revolutionary Russia. Drawing from his career, spanning more than 100 productions and leadership roles at six theaters nationwide, Cuddy will also reflect on his 27 years at Geva Theatre and share highlights from his extensive directorial portfolio. His insights offer a rare perspective on how classic works continue to resonate with contemporary audiences and why they remain essential to the American theatrical landscape.



Week Five: February 12

Hospice and Palliative Medicine: A Spectrum of Care that Is Important to Everyone W47Th



Chin-Lin Ching, MD, UR Medicine

Many people confuse palliative care with hospice care, and there remains stigma around discussing serious illness, death, and dying in America. The reality is that we will all encounter serious illness in our lives whether for ourselves or for a loved one. This presentation will explore the similarities and differences between palliative care and hospice care, why understanding these concepts matters, and why conversations about them should not be taboo.



Week Six: February 19

Going Solo: One Visual Storyteller's Approach to Covering Local News W48Th



Seth Voorhees, Multimedia Journalist, Spectrum News

Seth Voorhees, award-winning local news reporter and photojournalist, will share his process for producing, shooting, writing, and editing news stories. He will explain his technique for crafting compelling, people-centered visual narratives while showcasing some of his favorite clips. Seth will also discuss how newsrooms have evolved during his more than 30 years in the profession. Known for his versatility, Seth can cover an important issue one day and a heartwarming feature the next, all while shooting and editing nearly all his own stories.



Week Seven: February 26

Genesee Country Village & Museum: Sharing the History, Art, and Nature of Western New York for 50 Years

W49Th



Becky Wehle, President & CEO, Genesee Country Village & Museum

Genesee Country Village & Museum in Mumford, NY is the largest living history museum in the state and the third largest in the country featuring dozens of 19th-century buildings all of which were moved to the site. It also houses an art gallery and a nature center which attracts over 90,000 worldwide visitors annually. Join Becky Wehle to learn about the 50-year history of this organization and what it takes to keep 68 200-year-old structures, 4,000 pieces of historic clothing, 600 acres, and two oxen moving forward!



Week Eight: March 5

Visual Storytelling in Action: A Photojournalist's Perspective

W50Th



Tina MacIntyre-Yee, Photojournalist, *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester NY)

Photojournalism reflects our lives through time and helps us understand issues and how we connect with our wider community. This presentation will explore these elements together with the importance of visual storytelling. Tina MacIntyre-Yee, a seasoned photojournalist, has been a staff photographer and videographer for the *Democrat and Chronicle* since 2002. She will showcase many of her award-winning photographs and share insights from her long and varied career. You may also recognize Tina from her work on the sidelines at Buffalo Bills home games.



Week Nine: March 12

Echoes of Tradition: Exploring the Didgeridoo and Aboriginal Culture

W51Th



Larry Iwan, Musician and Didgeridoo Enthusiast

The didgeridoo is a traditional folk instrument of the Australian Aboriginal people—a 1 to 2 meter-long horn made from a termite-hollowed eucalyptus trunk. With no valves or fingerholes, it produces a low-pitched single note with a few overtone “toots.” Players create rhythms and tonal variations using breath control, mouth movements, and vocalization. Fascinated by this haunting, mystical sound and its deep cultural roots, Larry Iwan purchased a didgeridoo, learned to play, and eventually traveled to Australia to meet Aboriginal people and receive instruction from master players. He will share the sounds of the didgeridoo and insights into how modern culture has impacted these ancient traditions.



Week Ten: March 19

The Little Theatre in Focus

W52Th



Ayette Jordan, Executive Director, The Little Theatre (Rochester NY)

Ayette Jordan will lead a discussion on the history and legacy of The Little Theatre, one of Rochester's cultural landmarks. She will address challenges faced in recent decades (including competition from corporate movie theaters) and share insights on new leadership, emerging opportunities, and the vision for the theater as it approaches its 100th anniversary in 2029.



Conversational Spanish: Intermediate W53Th

[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:** *La Casa en Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, ISBN 9781644734285 **Enrollment Limit: 12** *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading, Peer Group*

Kathy Lewis has been participating in OLLI at RIT's Conversational Spanish class for over a decade. 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

TEN Weeks: **January 15 – March 19**



Hybrid

REC

Dante's Inferno W54Th

[NEW COURSE] This is a 700-year-old classic for a reason. Join the journey with Dante and his guide, Virgil, through Hell. Through reading selected cantos, you will experience one of the greatest analyses of human psychology and morality. While doing so you can determine which circle of Hell you and your friends (not to mention today's politicians) would have ended up in and why. Dante assigns a circle to biblical and fictional priests, politicians, and poets from the classical time to his contemporaries. Each canto is arranged as a simple prose dual-language translation followed by a short commentary.

Required Text: *Dante's Inferno: The Divine Comedy*, translated by John Sinclair, ISBN: 9780195004120

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/infernoosher> **Enrollment Limit: 25** *Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

Donna Richardson is Professor Emerita of St. Mary's College of Maryland where she taught English literature for over 30 years. Her main areas of interest are British Romantics and pretty much any older poetry plus Tolstoy and Greek literature.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:45 pm

TEN Weeks: **January 15 – March 19**



Hybrid

REC

Retooling the Western Movie W55Th

[NEW COURSE] We'll watch and discuss five "westerns" that revisit the original "cowboys and Indians" movie form, and consider how they adapt, change, and update the genre. We'll watch each film in class and then discuss it in alternating weeks. Movies will include *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *High Noon*, *Thelma and Louise*, *City Slickers*, and *No Country for Old Men*. Movies will be shown in class, but you can also watch them at home. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Lisa Jadwin taught English and film at the college level for more than 35 years. She is an OLLI participant as well as a course leader. Now retired, she is a reader, gardener, musician, artist, and lifelong horsewoman. Her courses are taught mostly through discussion, and course members are encouraged to express their ideas.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:45 pm

EIGHT Weeks: **January 15 – March 5**



Hybrid

REC

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.



OLLI at Chico State

Aviation History: Aviation Vignettes **W56E**

This continuation of personal experiences from the instructor's participation in military, agricultural, and aerial firefighting aviation will include stories from the early days of flight to modern adventures of the 21st Century. You'll learn about airplanes and the characters who flew them, from Orville Wright to Burt Rutan (1903-2025).

Gary Hendrickson's father was a pilot in World War II and operated an agricultural aviation business. Gary soloed a 1946 Aeronca at age 15. He attended Sacramento City College and Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, majoring in aeronautical engineering and minoring in history. He flew jet fighters off and on aircraft carriers, then returned to civilian flying as a certificated flight and ground school instructor. He was a pilot in command of fire bombing aircraft for 35 years and operated an agricultural aviation business for 46 years. Hobbies include restoring antique airplanes, hunting, fishing, and a passion for history.

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET
TEN Weeks: **January 6 – March 10**



Intro to Prismacolor Pencils **W57E**

This class will specifically introduce participants to Prismacolor pencils and how to use them. Since Prismacolor pencils have a wax base, it is important to know how to use and care for them properly. The class will cover the types of paper to use, basic procedures for color swatching, color blending strategies, layering techniques, sharpening methods, and preparing for and working on a complete colored pencil drawing. With a thoughtful approach, proper blending, and some patience, completed Prismacolor pencil drawings can look like paintings. **Materials List:** These materials are available online at Amazon, Blick.com, Jerry's Artarama, or Cheap Joe's Art Stuff. A set of 12 or more Prismacolor Pencils, Prismacolor Colorless Blender Pencil, 9" x 12" Strathmore Bristol Vellum Series 400 tablet (15 sheets/brown cover), vinyl eraser such as one of these: Pentel Hi-Polymer Block Eraser, Tombow Mono Zero Eraser, or Staedtler Mars Plastic Vinyl Eraser, Washi or painter's tape. **Optional:** Sakura Cordless Sumo Grip Electric Eraser, Dusting Brush (for drafting/drawing).

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 the past chair of the National Art Education Foundation.

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET
SIX Weeks: **January 6 – February 10**



Let's Keep Knitting **W58E**

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
TEN Weeks: **January 6 – March 10**





Armchair National Park Tour **W59E**

Take a national park tour with full-color photos, stories, park information, animal sightings, and vacation planning information about the following national parks: Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Grand Teton, Glacier, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Arches, Canyonlands, Acadia, Great Smoky Mountains, Olympic, Rocky Mountain, and Badlands, as well as Mount Rushmore National Monument. This armchair tour will leave you wanting to head immediately to that national park!

Mike Graf has written numerous books about national parks with over 95 published works. His national park adventure series, Adventures with the Parkers, has 13 books taking place in Sequoia/Kings Canyon, Zion/Bryce, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, the Great Smoky Mountains, Olympic, Glacier, the Rocky Mountains, Arches/Canyonlands, Mount Rushmore/Badlands/Wind Cave, Acadia, and Grand Teton National Parks. The series has received national attention and awards. He has also published several nonfiction books about national parks, including the recently released Pop-Up & Build: National Parks.

Wednesday: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET



ONE Week: **January 7**

W60E

The class introduces masterworks of Islam through the ages beginning with the foundational architecture from the Middle East and North Africa. We will look at the classic monuments of Iraq and Spain, Turkey, central Asia, Persia, and south Asia. We will also cover the great paintings of the eastern Islamic world.

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.

Wednesdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET



FIVE Weeks: **January 7 – February 4**



W61E

We'll look at the accomplishments of several women artists associated with surrealism, including Méret Oppenheim, Remedios Varo, Leonor Fini, Maya Deren, Dorothea Tanning, and others.

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. **Erika Esau** was born and raised in California, but lived and worked in Australia and Europe as well. She received a PhD in art history from Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania. She taught modern art history at Lawrence University in Wisconsin and at the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. She also worked at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art as a librarian in the Rifkind Collection of German Expressionist Studies. She is the author of books and articles on Californian, Australian, and German art.

Wednesdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET



FIVE Weeks: **February 11 – March 11**





Armchair Tour of the World's Best Places **W62E**

Take an armchair tour of some of the most special, historical, and fascinating places our world has to offer. Many of these locations are designated as World Heritage Sites by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), including the Great Wall of China, Africa's wildlife national parks, the pyramids of Egypt and Mexico, European castles and churches, Stonehenge, the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, New Zealand's rainforest national parks, the Dead Sea, the Olympiad, and much more.

Mike Graf has written numerous books about national parks with over 95 published works. His national park adventure series, Adventures with the Parkers, has 13 books taking place in Sequoia/Kings Canyon, Zion/Bryce, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, the Great Smoky Mountains, Olympic, Glacier, the Rocky Mountains, Arches/Canyonlands, Mount Rushmore/Badlands/Wind Cave, Acadia, and Grand Teton National Parks. The series has received national attention and awards. He has also published several nonfiction books about national parks, including the recently released Pop-Up & Build: National Parks.

Thursday: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET



ONE Week: **January 22**

Zen Drawing 101 **W63E**

Drawing as a form of relaxation and meditation? Yes! Drawing accesses parts of your brain that are not so active in our twenty-first-century life. This will give you a break from the constant input of modern life and instead put you into a relaxing, creative space. You will learn and practice several relaxing styles of abstract, non-representational drawing in which there is no wrong way to do it. No drawing experience or "talent" required. Stick-figure drawing level skill works.

A graduate of Chico State, **Susan Levine** has enjoyed teaching in several aspects of her life for many years. While working as a library clerk for elementary schools in Chico, she taught hundreds of kids to play cribbage. As a longtime adult volunteer in Girl Scouts, she helped train troop leaders to take their girls camping. She has been leading OLLI classes as a volunteer instructor since 2010. She is married to retired local CPA Bernie Levine.

Thursdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET



FIVE Weeks: **February 12 – March 12**



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
**OSHER LIFELONG
LEARNING INSTITUTE**

Understanding Islam: History, Beliefs and Living Tradition **W64E**

There are more than two billion Muslims in the world and about 50 countries where Islam is the majority religion. We will cover the history of Islam from its birth through the present day as one of the largest world religions. We will discover Islam as both a way of life and a religion, be introduced to its major texts and explore the influence of geography and cultural diversity in how these texts are applied.

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

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 8, 2026. After that date this class will begin at 2:00 pm EST.

EIGHT Weeks: **January 27 – March 17**





Art Talks with Martin Randall.....W65E

The popular Art Talks speaker Martin Randall returns to OLLI this Spring with another series of his entertaining and enlightening talks featuring a wide range of fascinating topics. Please join us for this exciting series, as we learn about the lives and works of these fascinating artists. Week 1: Love – The Greatest Emotion; Week 2: JMW Turner – Painter of Light: Of Nature, and Man; Week 3: Albert Bierstadt and Thomas Moran – American Landscapes; and Week 4: Piet Mondrian – The Journey to Abstraction.

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.

Tuesdays: 3:00 – 4:30 pm ET

zoom Only

FOUR Weeks: January 27 – February 24

Note: No class February 17

The Pyramid Age: How Ancient Egypt Reached for the Sky..... W66E

Towering above the desert sands for over 4,000 years, Egypt's pyramids remain some of the most iconic and enduring symbols of human ingenuity. In this three-session study group, we'll explore the story behind these massive monuments - from the earliest experiments in stone architecture to the construction of the Great Pyramid of Giza, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Our journey begins with the Step Pyramid of Djoser, the first of its kind, and continues through the reign of Snefru, the "Master Builder" pharaoh whose innovations laid the foundation for the Giza pyramids. We'll take a close look at the engineering techniques used to build these colossal structures, the workers who labored to bring them to life, and the religious beliefs that gave them purpose. Along the way, we'll explore enduring mysteries—including a still-unexplained void inside the Great Pyramid, uncovered by modern scanning technologies. We'll discuss what we know, what we guess, and what still puzzles experts today. Whether you're fascinated by ancient engineering, intrigued by pharaohs and the afterlife, or just want to better understand one of the world's greatest architectural traditions, this study group offers a window into a civilization that quite literally moved mountains.

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

Tuesdays: 5:00 – 6:30 pm ET

zoom Only

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 8, 2026. After that date this class will begin at 6:00 pm EST.

THREE Weeks: March 3 – March 17

Chen Village Tai Chi BasicsW67E

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: 1:30 – 2:30 pm ET

zoom Only

SIX Weeks: January 28 – March 4



Art Talks! Great Shots in Photography **W68E**

6 Exciting Lectures: Ansel Adams in the West, Rodeo Photography, 8 Great Female Photographers, Hemingway: A Life In Pictures, 50 Years of Rolling Stone Magazine, and Must Love Dogs.

Carlye Poe Dundon brings over 30 years of experience in graphic and fine art, advertising, public relations, and interior design to her work. A former art director for American Greetings and docent at the Tucson Museum of Art, Carlye blends a deep appreciation for art history with a spirit of modern creativity. Her multimedia lectures—alive with music, animation, and provocative twists—invite audiences to discover new ways of seeing and feeling the connections between art, culture, and design. She regularly shares her engaging programs with communities throughout Pima County.

Wednesdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET



SIX Weeks: **March 11 – April 15**

The Best of Alfred Hitchcock, Part 3 **W69E**

As a filmmaker, Alfred Hitchcock was adept at telling very intimate stories, often about marriage or other personal relationships. But Hitchcock was equally skilled at exploring the geopolitical issues of his time on a much larger scale. In this two-week online study group, the third installment of our “Best of Hitchcock” series, our theme will be “Domestic Drama and International Intrigue.” We’ll consider four more of Hitchcock’s best films and discuss his remarkable talent for telling stories on both a personal and global level. Students should watch the films on their own; in class, we’ll look at brief film clips and discuss key themes. Join us for another lively trip into the fascinating, unsettling world that Hitchcock created on film.

Jay Sherwin is a writer and consultant who has been watching, studying and enjoying Hitchcock films for decades. He created a walking tour of Alfred Hitchcock’s San Francisco that attracts Hitchcock fans from around the world, and he teaches courses on Hitchcock for adult learning programs nationwide, including two previous courses for OLLI at UA.

Wednesdays: 3:00 – 4:30 pm ET



TWO Weeks: **February 11 & February 18**

Hooray for Hollywood Musicals: From Astaire to Hamilton **W70E**

This all-new sequel to The Magic of Film Scores, shifts the spotlight from the score to the songs, dance and lyrical storytelling that gave film musicals their unforgettable sparkle. From the nimble tread of the feet of Fred Astaire to the hip hop history of Hamilton, we’ll journey through nearly a century of toe-tapping, heartstring-pulling movie magic. Explore the evolution of musicals on screen—from the glamour of MGM to bold, socially conscious stories. We’ll also trace rock’s rise in cinema—including a session on The Beatles films—spotlight pop and jukebox musicals of the 21st century, and dedicate a session to jazz in biographical and noir-inspired films.

Music Aficionado **Mike Agron**, raised in LA’s entertainment scene, is a former high-tech exec & entrepreneur turned storyteller who crafts dynamic seminars on music and film. He’s led hundreds of engaging sessions for the Sacramento Renaissance Society, numerous OLLIs nationwide, Osher Online, Encore Learning, and other live programs—and this spring he returns for his eighth seminar series with our OLLI.

Thursdays: 3:00 – 4:30 pm ET



Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 8, 2026. After that date this class will begin at 4:00 pm EST.

ELEVEN Weeks: **January 29 – April 23**

Note: No class April 2 & April 9



Astronomy/Geosciences.....W71E

Our exploration of the Earth, Solar System, and Universe continues. This semester we will explore the Realm of Supernovae. Focus will be on what causes these stellar explosions and how they are detected? The remnants of many Supernovae are beautiful Planetary Nebulae. Other forms of Nebulae: Emission, Reflection and Dark will also be examined. We will continue to feature our Cosmological Toolkit, tools for a greater understanding of astronomy including the Roche Limit, Tidal Lock, Elemental Abundances, the Eddington Limit and Sidereal Time. 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: 3:00 – 4:30 pm ET  **zoom Only**  **REC**

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins on March 8, 2026. After that date this class will begin at 4:00 pm EST.

SIX Weeks: **February 6 – March 13**

The Hohokam Archaeological Culture: Imagery and Timekeeping in Stone W72E

South-central Arizona's pre-1450 CE Hohokam archaeological culture is known for its distinctive pottery, seashell jewelry, carved stone artifacts, ballcourts, pyramids, and irrigation works. Less well known is Hohokam rock imagery. The Hohokam "Gila style" petroglyphs richly depict animals, people (or deities?), and geometric designs. "Hohokam Scratched" petroglyphs are rare, subtle, and enigmatic. Hohokam pictographs (rock paintings) also are rare. All three image types appear to have been created in particular ways, suggesting there were social rules for who could make them and how. And some petroglyphs provide evidence of Hohokam astronomical and calendrical observations. In this presentation archaeologist Allen Dart shows and discusses Hohokam stone imagery and timekeeping.

Al Dart, an OLLI study group leader since 2012, is the volunteer executive director of Tucson's nonprofit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. He worked as a professional archaeologist in Arizona and New Mexico since 1975 for federal and state governments, private companies, and nonprofit organizations. Al has received awards from Arizona Humanities (Outstanding Supporter), the Arizona Archaeological Society (Professional Archaeologist of the Year), the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society (Victor R. Stoner Award), the Arizona Governor's Archaeology Advisory Commission (Award in Public Archaeology), and other honors for his efforts to bring archaeology and history to the public.

Fridays: 5:00 – 6:30 pm ET  **zoom Only**

TWO Weeks: **January 30 & February 6**



Bumble Bee Conservation Through Community Science W73E

Join Amy Dolan from the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation to learn about bumble bee biology and conservation, and how community science volunteers across the U.S. are helping to map and protect these important native pollinators.

Amy Dolan is an Endangered Species Conservation Biologist with the Xerces Society and the coordinator of the Mountain States Bumble Bee Atlas, which covers Colorado, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. She is based in Grand Junction, CO.

Monday: 12:30 – 2:30 pm ET



ONE Week: March 2

The History & Intersection of Sports & Politics W74E

Sports and politics have always been connected, even when athletes and fans try to claim they're separate. From the original Olympics to Jesse Owens competing in Nazi Germany in 1936, to Muhammad Ali's resistance to the Vietnam War draft, the two have been intertwined—whether we like it or not. This course explores the historical relationship between sports and political movements, as well as how politics has shaped the world of sports. We'll examine how teams, leagues, and athletes have navigated race, gender, laws, and nationalism in a seminar setting that encourages discussion and participation.

Ben Feinberg is a law clerk at the Arizona Court of Appeals. He holds a J.D. from Arizona State University and a B.A. from Tufts University. While in law school, he worked as a legal intern for the Boston Celtics. He has previously taught both this seminar and its sequel through Tufts OLLI.

Thursday: 8:00 – 9:30 pm ET



THREE Weeks: March 19 – April 2

The Mind Behind The Music: Discovering Beethoven W75E

Beethoven is one of the most significant composers of the 18th century, thanks to his ability to explore new ideas and expand the boundaries and aesthetics of his time. One of his greatest contributions as a composer was leading the music of the Classical era into the Romantic era. Join Dr. Nurit Jugend, composer and music educator, to examine Beethoven's three main periods as a composer and discuss two of his most significant and well-known works: the majestic Symphony No. 5 and the nature-inspired Pastoral Symphony No. 6. By the end of this class, you will have a deeper understanding of Beethoven's music and his unique artistic voice.

Dr. Nurit Jugend is a composer, music lecturer, and private tutor currently residing in California. She gives music appreciation classes at seminars, conferences and special events across the USA and internationally, as well as teaches regularly at the Stanford Continuing Education Program at Stanford University.

Friday: 3:00 – 4:30 pm ET



ONE Week: January 30

Behind the Robes: Inside the U.S. Supreme Court W76E

Join Dr. Terry McAteer for this two-hour class that will take you inside the highest court in the nation and demystify its inner workings. We'll explore how cases reach the Court, what criteria the Justices use to decide which ones to hear, and the deliberative process that leads to landmark rulings. We will pull back the curtain on the often misunderstood third branch of government. Whether you're a news follower, history buff, or simply curious citizen, this course will leave you with a deeper appreciation for how the Supreme Court influences nearly every aspect of American life.

Dr. Terry McAteer is the retired Nevada County Superintendent of Schools where he served in this elected position for 22 years. He is a graduate of UC Berkeley and received his doctorate at the University of San Francisco. McAteer has taught Government and History at the high school, community college and university levels. He resides in Grass Valley, California.

Friday: 12:30 – 2:30 pm ET



ONE Week: February 27

Directions for Auditing RIT Undergraduate Courses

As a Full-Year OLLI 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 OLLI Resources webpage (<https://www.rit.edu/oshers/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 OLLI 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 OLLI 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-Req**s (pre-requisites) listed. If so you will need to contact the instructor and ask for permission to audit the course as an OLLI 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 OLLI 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 OLLI staff** at osher@rit.edu. Or bring the hard copy to an OLLI staff member. If requesting a course with pre-requisites, forward the email approval from the instructor to OLLI staff also.
5. OLLI 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 OLLI 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)**

Name: last	first	preferred (nickname)	phone number	email
street		city	state	zip
Your license plate number(s)	In case of an emergency or illness call	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 OLLI at RIT)

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

Some courses require the purchase of books or materials.

The 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.



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

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