

RIT | Osher Lifelong
Learning Institute

Spring 2025

Course Catalog



**A Vibrant Learning
Community for Adults**
rit.edu/osher

**Registration Opens 4/1
RIT OLLI Courses Begin 4/14**

Osher's 2025 terms:

Winter (January 13 – March 24)

Spring (April 14 – June 9)

Summer (July 7 – August 20)

Fall (September 15 – December 12)

There are multi-week breaks between each term.



University Benefits:

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

RIT Student ID Card

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

Audit RIT Undergrad Courses:

- Members can audit eligible undergraduate classes university wide (see page 35 for more details)

Audiology Services:

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

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

Membership Benefits

Unlimited Courses

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

Pfautler Lecture Series

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

Listen to a thought-provoking lecture by a guest speaker. These lectures will be in the hybrid format which means that you can attend in person or via Zoom. Most lectures are recorded and available on our members-only content hub. See pages 19-20 for more information.

Social Events

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

SIGs (Special Interest Groups)

A SIG is an informal community of Osher members who gather in order to pursue and enjoy a shared interest. All members are encouraged to join an existing SIG or to initiate the formation of a new SIG. See page 5 for more information.

Arts & Lectures Event Series

This enrichment series, made possible by our endowment from The Bernard Osher Foundation, brings us entertaining artists and expert speakers at no additional charge to members.

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

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

Which membership suits your needs?

We have varying levels of membership to fit your individual needs.

You can begin your membership during any of our terms.

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

Full-Year Membership

A Full-Year individual membership begins in whichever term you join and entitles you to four terms of **all** our available Osher Institute benefits in the chart on the previous page, including unlimited classes and events, and access to our library of course/lecture recordings **plus** RIT University benefits such as a student ID card and access to auditing RIT classes. The annual fee is **\$365**. Renewable.

Single-Term Membership

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

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

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

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

Community Group Membership

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

The Summer Seminar Committee of OLLI at RIT is excited to announce its 2025 program consisting of three trips and their accompanying lectures.

Summer Seminar OLLI at RIT



Registration for trips opens **Tuesday, April 8**

For additional trip details and registration information:

<https://www.rit.edu/osher/2025-summer-seminar-and-trip-series>

Trip 1: Buffalo

Thursday, June 26, 2025

\$100 for members and guests

Events/Locations:

- Visit the Buffalo AKG Art Museum (formerly known as Albright-Knox Art Gallery)
- Enjoy Lunch at the Pearl Street Grill
- Tour the Historic Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House

Trip 2: Canandaigua/Victor

Thursday, July 17, 2025

\$110 for members and guests

Events/Locations:

- Tour Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion State Historic Site
- Lunch Buffet at New York Kitchen overlooking Canandaigua Lake
- Tour Ganondagan State Historic Site (Victor, NY) – Seneca Art and Cultural Center, Seneca Bark Longhouse, and Mother Earth Walk

Trip 3: Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada

Thursday, August 7, 2025

\$199 for members and guests

Events/Locations:

- Visit Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada
- See *Anything Goes* at the Shaw Festival
- Enjoy dinner at Table Rock Restaurant, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

Join a SIG!

A SIG (Special Interest Group) is an informal community of Osher members who gather in order to pursue and enjoy a shared interest. Don't see what you want? You can start a new SIG. Contact staff at osher@rit.edu 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	<i>Coming in Summer 2025!</i> All playing levels including beginner are welcome. More details to come.
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 wizarding experience.



Members of the Walking SIG on an outing during the 2024 annual picnic

Join us at our Spring Course Preview and Fair Monday, March 31, 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

Monday

9:30 – 11:00 am ET

Current Events..... Sp1M
Scott, Moore, & Adonis (4/14–6/9)
Major Civil War Battle in the East..... Sp2M
Chuck Sparnrecht (4/14–6/9)
Rochester International Jazz Festival 2025: A Preview..... Sp3M
Peter Luce (5/5–6/9)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET

Albert Paley in Rochester..... Sp4M
Peter Luce (4/21 & 4/28)
Athenaeum Book Club..... Sp5M
Maureen Murphy & Lois Tucker (5/5 & 6/9)
Reason and Religious Belief: Part 3..... Sp6M
Walt Soffer (4/14–6/9)
Transgender: Fact, Fiction, and the Current Environment..... Sp7M
Chris Thrasher (4/14)
Alexander's Great City..... Sp8M
Chris Ryan (4/21)
Ranking the US 2025: "Top 10" Lists..... Sp9M
Doug Stowell (4/28)
Alaska: "The Last Frontier"..... Sp10M
Jane Eggleston (5/5)
An Adventure in Uganda and Rwanda with a Gorilla Trek... Sp11M
Victor Poleshuck (5/12)
Meet the Storytellers: Part 2..... Sp12M
Jim Hooper (5/19)
Tunisia: Past and Present..... Sp13M
Michelle Turner (6/2)

1:30 – 3 or 3:30 pm ET

Express Yourself Through Writing Fiction..... Sp14M
Gary Mitchell (4/14–5/19)
James Fenimore Cooper's The Last of the Mohicans..... Sp15M
Donna Richardson (4/21–6/9)
Anastasia: A Ballet Reimagined..... Sp16M
Kate Duffy (4/14)
A World of Sound: The Latest in Hearing Technology...Sp17M
Amanda Picoli (4/21)
Adventuring with Ingress..... Sp18M
Pat Donaldson (4/28)
An Introduction to Bonsai..... Sp19M
Mark Arpag (5/5)
Spiritualism in American History... Sp20M
Daniel Gorman Jr. (5/12)
The Victorian Way of Death..... Sp21M
Gary Mitchell (6/2)

Tuesday

9:30 – 11:00 am ET

Immigration, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers: What Is it All About?..... Sp22T
Mike Coniff & Berka Mou (4/15–6/3)
Just Thinking..... Sp23T
Ed Kwiek (4/15–6/3)
Secret Writing: A History of Cryptography..... Sp24T
Richard Mallory (4/15–5/13)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET

Is There Hidden Math in Plants?..... Sp25T
Wolf Seka (4/15–5/6)
Memoirs..... Sp26T
Carol Samuel (4/15–6/3)
Vaccination..... Sp27T
Roger Gans (4/15–6/3)

1:30 – 3:00 or 3:30 pm ET

Conversational French: Intermediate...Sp28T
Joy Goodman (4/15–6/3)
Flickstory: Tales from the Soviet Union..... Sp29T
Schlosky, Maxwell, Clifford, & Scott (4/15–6/3)
Language, Meaning, and Method: Wittgenstein's Blue Book..... Sp30T
Moshe Cahill (4/15–5/20)

Wednesday

9:30 – 11:00 am ET

Discussing The New Yorker Magazine..... Sp31W
Joan Dupont & Steve Levinson (4/16–6/4)
Investment Concepts and Ideas for Retirees..... Sp32W
Phil Weisberg (4/16–6/4)
Irish Literature..... Sp33W
Jack Callaghan (4/16–5/7)

11:15 am – 12:45 pm ET

Contemporary Events..... Sp34W
Terri Hurley (4/16–6/4)
The Erie Canal at 200..... Sp35W
Timothy McDonnell (4/16–6/4)
Seminar in Medical Ethics..... Sp36W
Victor Poleshuck (4/16–6/4)
Writing Workshop..... Sp37W
Strining, Hooper, Lockhart, & Perry (4/16–6/4)

1:30 – 3:00 pm ET

Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics..... Sp38W
Tom Low (4/16–6/4)
Catastrophic Volcanic Eruptions Through History..... Sp39W
Jane Eggleston (4/16–5/7)
The Future of Health, Medicine, and Biotechnology: Part 7..... Sp40W
Alex Marcus (4/16–6/4)
Romantic Period Music: Follow the Virtuoso..... Sp41W
Al Mathias (4/16–6/4)
The Scourge of Syphilis..... Sp42W
Debbie Huff (5/14 & 5/21)

Thursday

9:30 – 11 or 11:30 am ET

Great Expectations and the World of Charles Dickens.... Sp43Th
Lisa Jadwin (4/17–6/5)
Regarding Hitchcock..... Sp44Th
Mary Ann Satter (4/17–6/5)
You Be the Critic..... Sp45Th
Sandra Vallot (4/17–6/5)

12:15 – 1:30 pm ET

Pfandler Lecture Series..... Sp46–Sp53
Various topics and presenters.
See pages 19–20

1:45 – 3:45 pm ET

Conversational Spanish: Intermediate Level..... Sp54Th
Kathy Lewis & Michael McCue (4/17–6/5)
From Idea to Presentation using AI... Sp55Th
Bill Brown (5/15–6/5)
Law in the News..... Sp56Th
Mike Schnittman & Sue Stewart (4/17–6/5)



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

OLLI Course Exchange

Tuesday

Music of the Movies..... Sp80E
Lee Kaufman
12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, 5/13 – 6/17
Introduction to Hinduism: History, Religion, Culture, Philosophy... Sp81E
Pravin Soni
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 5/13 – 6/17

Wednesday

Four Topics From 20th Century Philosophers..... Sp82E
Robert Yanal
2:00 – 3:30 pm ET, 5/14 – 6/4
Chen Village Tai Chi..... Sp83E
Randall Krause
2:30 – 3:30 pm ET, 5/14 – 6/18
So You Want to be a Writer?..... Sp84E
Ed Linz
2:00 – 3:30 pm ET, 5/21

Thursday

Gentle Energizing Movement, Relaxation, and Meditation..... Sp85E
Randall Krause
12:00 – 1:30 pm ET, 5/15 – 6/12

See pages 31-32 for University of Arizona courses.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Course Exchange



OLLI Course Exchange

Tuesday

Aviation History: American Aviation After World War II Sp57E
Gary Hendrickson
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 4/22 – 6/24

Exploring Color with Watercolors..... Sp58E
Cris Guenter
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 4/22 – 5/27

Let's Keep Knitting..... Sp59E
Gale Ulvang
6:00 – 7:30 pm ET, 4/22 – 6/24

Armchair National Park Tour Sp60E
Mike Graf
11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET, 5/6

Taking and Editing Photos on Your iPhone..... Sp61E
Cris Guenter
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 6/3 & 6/10

Wednesday

Will: An English Playwright in Times of Radical Change..... Sp62E
Lynn H. Elliott
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 4/23 – 6/25

The Arts and People of Japan Sp63E
Katherine Harper
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 4/23 – 6/25

Thursday

Learn How to Draw Sp64E
Susan Levine
1:00 – 2:30 pm ET, 4/24 – 6/26

See pages 22-24 for Chico State courses.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
at Dartmouth

OLLI Course Exchange

Monday

Whose Declaration?: Reflecting on the Meaning and Significance of the Declaration of Independence..... Sp65E
Tom Hodgson
9:00 – 11:00 am ET, 4/14 – 5/19

Tuesday

Josh Gibson or Ty Cobb? African Americans in Baseball, 1860–Present ... Sp66E
Richard Neugass
2:00 – 3:30 pm ET, 4/8 – 4/29

The U.S. Constitution: The Great American Mulligan..... Sp67E
James Bays
11:30 am – 1:30 pm ET, 4/29 – 5/20

The First Hundred Days..... Sp68E
Maynard Goldman
10:00 am – 12:00 pm ET, 5/6 – 6/10

"A Sort of National Property:" British National Parks Are a Different Kettle of Fish Sp69E
Martin Jeffries
3:30 – 5:30 pm ET, 5/6 – 6/17

Wednesday

A Historic Turning Point for America and the World..... Sp70E
Sarwar Kashmeri
9:00 – 11:00 am ET, 4/9 – 5/28

Politics and the American Working Class Sp71E
Robert Grafstein
2:00 – 4:00 pm ET, 4/16 – 4/30

Mussolini —The Rise and Fall of the First Fascist..... Sp72E
Bob Rougvie
9:30 – 11:30 am ET, 5/14 – 6/4

Early U.S. Women's Movement: Inspiration for Today..... Sp73E
Valerie Miller
2:00 – 5:00 pm ET, 6/4 – 6/11

Thursday

Giving Voice to Values: Having Difficult Conversations in a Polarized World ... Sp74E
Shawn Martin
4:00 – 6:00 pm ET, 4/24 – 5/22

The Scramble for Africa (Or, How the African Countries Got Their Shapes)... Sp75E
L. Jon Grogan
3:00 – 5:00 pm ET, 5/1 – 5/29

See pages 24-28 for Dartmouth courses.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Arizona State University

OLLI Course Exchange

Monday

Will AI Destroy Our Economic, Social & Political Systems? Sp76E
Dr. Braden Allenby
1:30 – 3:00 pm ET, 6/2

Evidence for Evolution..... Sp77E
Dr. Johnnie Hendrickson
4:00 – 5:30 pm ET, 6/16 & 6/23

Fortunate Film School: E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial..... Sp78E
Joe Fortunato
2:00 – 3:30 pm ET, 6/16 & 6/17

Friday

Unlocking the Older Americans Act: What You Should Know..... Sp79E
Dr. Aaron Guest
1:30 – 3:00 pm ET, 6/20

See pages 29-30 for Arizona State University courses.

KEY: Hybrid In-Person Only Zoom Only

Monday

OLLI at RIT Spring 2025 Course Schedule

Current EventsSp1M

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

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

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
EIGHT Weeks: April 14 – June 9
(No class May 26)



Hybrid 


Major Civil War Battles in the EastSp2M

[NEW COURSE] This is not a course that covers the whole Civil War. Rather, it will address six of the major battles (Bull Run, Antietam, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Cold Harbor and Petersburg) that were waged in the East and how they affected the war and the nation. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Chuck Spanneck has led several Osher at RIT courses over the years primarily covering the Civil War. He taught at both the high school and college levels.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
EIGHT Weeks: April 14 – June 9
(No class May 26)



Hybrid 


Rochester International Jazz Festival 2025: A PreviewSp3M

[NEW CONTENT] The 22nd edition of the Rochester International Jazz Festival will run from June 20 through June 28, 2025. In a nutshell, there will be nine days of concerts (over 300) performed by 1,800 artists on 20 stages in downtown Rochester. This course and guide will help you find your way around the festival, but mostly it will offer day-by-day highlights of artists and groups worth checking out. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Peter Luce has led jazz history and appreciation courses at Osher at RIT and the Chautauqua Institution. For over two decades he has been a regular attendee at the Rochester International Jazz Festival which he has attended every year since its inception in 2002. This nine-day music festival offers him a unique opportunity to discover emerging talented instrumentalists and singers, enriching his knowledge and passion for jazz.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
FIVE Weeks: May 5 – June 9
(No class May 26)



In-Person Only 

Albert Paley in RochesterSp4M

[NEW COURSE] Renowned metal sculptor Albert Paley has earned international acclaim for his breathtaking monumental works that transform public spaces. While his distinctive creations grace cities worldwide, the Rochester area holds a special collection of his most striking pieces. This course will explore Paley's Rochester installations with a special focus on his revolutionary approach to metalwork and sculptural design. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

As an amateur artist **Peter Luce** has long been fascinated by Albert Paley's imagination and creative energy. In preparing for this course, he delved deeper into Paley's diverse artistic expressions, especially in iron and steel, but also gold, glass, printmaking, and wool which Peter cites as having been even more of an enlightening experience than he had expected.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TWO Weeks: April 21 & April 28



In-Person Only 

Athenaeum Book Club.....Sp5M

[NEW CONTENT] We will read and discuss two books this spring term: *American Mother* (May) and *James* (June). Please come to this peer-led class having read each book so we can have meaningful discussions. **Required Text:** *American Mother* by Diane Foley & Colum McCann, ISBN 9781639735679 and *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett, ISBN 9780385550369.

Enrollment Limit: 35 Discussion, Reading, Peer Group

Maureen Murphy is a retired social worker who has been a lifelong pleasure reader. Other interests include travel, knitting, and spending summers at her Lake Ontario cottage. **Lois Tucker**, a retired counselor and founding member of the Athenaeum Book Club, enjoys summers at her Cape Cod home.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
TWO Weeks: May 5 & June 9



Hybrid REC

Reason and Religious Belief: Part 3.....Sp6M

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] We will discuss competing conceptions of God; classical and contemporary arguments for and against God's existence; the relation between faith and reason; the relation between evil and God's existence and nature; the relation between human freedom and God's omnipotence and omniscience; the nature, possibility, and believability of miracles; the relation between science and religion; and death and the possibility of immortality.

Required Text: *Philosophy of Religion: An Anthology* edited by Louis Pojman & Michael Rea, 7th edition, ISBN 9781285197326 Discussion, Lecture

Walt Soffer, Ph.D., is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Geneseo State University of NY and recipient of the 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.

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 14 – June 9
(No class May 26)



Hybrid REC

Transgender: Fact, Fiction, and the Current Environment.....Sp7M

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

Chris Thrasher is a retired software engineer who, over the course of 35 years, did 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
ONE Week: April 14



Hybrid REC

Alexander's Great City.....Sp8M

[NEW CLASS] Founded by Alexander the Great in 331 BCE, the city of Alexandria stood for many years as the cultural and intellectual center of the Mediterranean world. Today when we think of Alexandria, we probably focus on its legendary library and great lighthouse. This class will provide more details on its structures and the people whose lives have contributed to the city's reputation throughout history. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Chris Ryan, a retired librarian, loves to study history and enjoys sharing the results of her explorations with others.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week: April 21





Hybrid REC

Ranking the US 2025: "Top 10" ListsSp9M

[NEW CONTENT] Where does the US compare relative to other nations in meeting the challenges that exist in 2025? We will examine 20 topics including taxes, economy, environment, education, energy, healthcare, climate change, immigration, safety, prosperity, music, personal happiness, et al. The "Top 10" format provides a quick snapshot of the rankings. Our sources are international surveys by highly credible and impartial worldwide organizations. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Doug Stowell is a consumer and political polling veteran in US and EU markets. His career includes market research director for the Xerox Corp; US clients director for the UK polling firm NOP, Ltd; and senior polling executive for Wirthlin Worldwide in Washington, DC. He launched Market Resource Associates in 2008 and is a member of the Furman University OLLI.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week: April 28


 Hybrid 

Alaska: "The Last Frontier"Sp10M

[NEW CLASS] Four Osher at RIT women traveled to Alaska late last summer. Opting not to do the "cruise thing," they wanted to explore areas off the typical tourist route, meet Alaskan residents, and move at their own pace. This presentation will interweave their experiences during this three-week adventure with highlights of Alaskan history and geography, traditions and culture of its native Americans, and many spectacular wonders of the state. Plentiful photos will illustrate their experiences during three weeks in this great land of Alaska. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

During her 12 years at Osher at RIT, **Jane Eggleston** has led numerous full-term and one-session courses on a wide variety of topics such as evolution, plastics, and travel. She also leads the Travel SIG and enjoys traveling and organizing trips and relishes the opportunity to research and present courses as well as taking many. Her career was in geology.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week: May 5



 Hybrid 

An Adventure in Uganda and Rwanda with a Gorilla TrekSp11M

[NEW CLASS] Come along on a remarkable visit to Uganda and Rwanda. In addition to great safari-game viewing, we will visit Murchison Falls where the Nile River is forced through a narrow gorge creating a phenomenal waterfall. Learn about the Rwandan Tutsi genocide and the attempts at reconciliation and forgiveness. Finally, we'll go for a trek and visit a family of mountain gorillas at 9,000 feet in the Volcanos National Park. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Victor Poleshuck is a retired physician with a love of travel. He has traveled to all seven continents and to 95 countries.

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



 Hybrid 

Meet the Storytellers: Part 2Sp12M

[NEW CONTENT] Osher at RIT members create hundreds of short stories each year. They produce tales and memories in each of our writing courses. Attend and witness a one-time combined presentation of curated new flash fictions and accounts: expect a playful reunion story, a heart-wrenching goodbye, a relatives WWII descent from a B-17 to a POW camp, a funny tale, a mystery, and a surprise. We will also pay a special tribute as the session coincides with the 100th birthdays of two of Osher's late writing-course founders: Bob Whelan and Pat Edelman. Come in person, enjoy refreshments, and 'meet the storytellers.' *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Peer Group*

Jim Hooper is a six-year member of Osher at RIT who has led previous courses. For 25 years he coordinated regional presentations by "The Monroe Players".

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
ONE Week: May 19

 Hybrid 

Tunisia: Past and PresentSp13M

[NEW CLASS] Join the course leader as she discusses her recent visit to Tunisia. When visiting North Africa, tourists often visit Morocco but rarely add Tunisia to their travels which means they often miss a unique opportunity. She will discuss her perceptions of the modern country as well as share her research of its history with special focus on Tunis and Carthage. Videos and her own photos will assist with our understanding of the complex history and culture of the country. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Michelle Turner is a retired educator who has traveled extensively and exhibits her travel photos in local galleries as well as at Osher at RIT. She has presented many classes and one sessions over the years, often on photography, art, and travel, and her favorite classes combine all these areas.

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



Hybrid 

Express Yourself Through Writing FictionSp14M

[NEW CONTENT] Each week share your stories with a community of supportive writers in an atmosphere that encourages growth and risk taking. Assignments are built around a learn-by-doing philosophy using an 800-word-flash-fiction model. All genres of fiction are welcome, and all skill levels from beginner to world-famous author are embraced. Whether you write for personal pleasure or with an eye towards eventual publication, this course has something for you. **Enrollment Limit: 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
SIX Weeks: April 14 – May 19



Hybrid

James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*Sp15M

[NEW COURSE] Cooper's 1826 novel was internationally considered the greatest American novel in the 19th century. So why is it seldom read now? It is generally condemned as an apology for colonialism. But read on its own terms (and in the context of Sir Walter Scott, Milton, and Milton's Romantic revisers) it is a profound, still highly relevant, critique of America's Original Sin – ethnocentrism, and its ideal character will provide a model for mitigating it. **Required Text:** *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper, ISBN 9780140390247 **Website:** sites.google.com/view/thelastofthemohicans **Enrollment Limit: 25**
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Donna Richardson is Professor Emerita of St. Mary's College of Maryland where she taught almost everything imaginable in the English department for over 30 years. Her areas of interest include all British poetry, particularly Romantics; Tolstoy; and James Fenimore Cooper.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
SEVEN Weeks: April 21 – June 9
(No class May 26)



Hybrid 

Anastasia: A Ballet ReimaginedSp16M

[NEW CLASS] Anastasia is a groundbreaking collaboration between Rochester City Ballet (RCB) and the Society for Chamber Music Rochester. The partnership highlights the post-pandemic need for arts organizations to support one another, ensuring creativity continues to thrive. Katherine Duffy, principal dancer at RCB with the title role of Anastasia, will share her insights on the ballet and its journey from conception to bringing the story to life on stage as well as how this project exemplifies that collaboration strengthens the arts – proving that when we lift each other up, we create something truly extraordinary. *In-person attendees will have the opportunity to win two free tickets to opening night (May 9 at 7 p.m.) of this family-friendly production that features the gorgeous music of Tchaikovsky's Souvenir de Florence as well as Glière along with the late Ukrainian composer, Hanna Havrylets.*

[NEW COURSE LEADER] **Katherine Duffy** is a distinguished dancer and arts advocate originally from Readington, NJ. She has been a company member with RCB since 2017, following her time with the Philadelphia Ballet. In September 2023 she was appointed Director of Development for RCB, where she leads grant writing, outreach, and donor relations – all while continuing to shine as a principal dancer.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
ONE Week: April 14



Hybrid 

A World of Sound: The Latest in Hearing TechnologySp17M

[NEW CLASS] This class will explore the basics of, and latest innovations in, hearing aids as well as cochlear implants and assistive listening devices. Learn about the features, benefits, and practical applications of these technologies, which empower you to make informed decisions about your hearing health. Whether you're a current hearing aid/cochlear implant user or simply curious about the future of sound, this class will provide valuable insights into the evolving landscape of hearing technology. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Amanda Picioli, M.E.D., Au.D., CCC-A is the chairperson of Communication Studies and Services at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at RIT. She is a graduate of Geneseo State University of New York (BS), Smith College (M.E.D.), Syracuse University (MS), and the University of Florida (Au.D.). Dr. Picioli practices as an audiologist/cochlear implant specialist. She is proud of staying current in her field by maintaining a focus on all aspects of hearing loss and Deafness including an expertise in technology.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
ONE Week: April 21



Hybrid

Adventuring with IngressSp18M

[NEW CLASS] Ingress is a mobile app based on Google Maps that encourages the user to get out, explore, and interact with places of cultural and historical significance such as public art installations, landmarks, murals, street art, and monuments. You can find walking tours and hiking trail systems in cities you're visiting and likely never knew existed. Although this app is actually a game that gives the player points for their visits, you can enjoy the sites without "playing" the game. It's fun to just get out and moving while exploring Rochester and beyond. *Lecture*

Pat Donaldson is a retired Xerox engineer, a country dancer, a genealogy buff, and a lover of the outdoors. She has previously taught Osher at RIT courses on her hobbies.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
ONE Week: April 28



Hybrid



An Introduction to BonsaiSp19M

[NEW CONTENT] This class will consist of a lecture presentation and a demonstration. After an introduction to bonsai and a bit of its history, the course leader will start a small nursery plant on its slow journey to becoming a real bonsai tree. The demonstration will involve pruning and shaping, wiring, root pruning, and potting – all during which he will provide his usual illuminating commentary. At the end some brave, lucky person in the class, chosen by lot, will become the caretaker of his creation and take it home and start worrying about it. The class is for anyone interested in bonsai. **Enrollment Limit: 30**
Discussion, Lecture

Mark Arpag, who made a similar presentation here two years ago, is president of the Bonsai Society of Western New York. He creates and styles bonsai and mentors others in the art. He has received recognition for his creations in bonsai shows around the US. Mark has demonstrated ability to create beautiful bonsai in front of live audiences.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
ONE Week: May 5



In-Person Only



Spiritualism in American HistorySp20M

[NEW CLASS] This class will provide a narrative overview of modern spiritualism, the 19th-century practice of contacting deceased spirits. We will cover the major influences on and the forerunners of spiritualism; the Fox Sisters' rise to fame in 1848; and the spread of spiritualism during the Civil War era. The lecture will also cover the decline of spiritualism between 1880 and 1930 as well as the movement's current legacy. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

[NEW COURSE LEADER] **Daniel (Dan) Gorman Jr.** is an historian of American religion and culture. Currently he is a postdoctoral associate at the University of Rochester where he also received his Ph.D. His dissertation is a cultural biography of a 19th-century spiritualist.

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
ONE Week: May 12



Hybrid



The Victorian Way of Death.....Sp21M

[NEW CLASS] The Victorians made a spectacle out of death. They both feared it and were fascinated by it. The hothouse atmosphere of romanticism combined with growing urbanization and increasing life spans contributed to a culture of death that demanded elaborate public and personal displays of inconsolable loss. Our own rituals of death and mourning directly descend from the practices put in place by the Victorians. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Gary Mitchell is a research junkie with a large resource library. He becomes fascinated with something, researches it in detail, then shares what he's learned. Appropriately for the topic of this class, his wife insists she has to die first so she isn't stuck with disposing of his "junk."

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

ONE Week:

June 2



Hybrid



Tuesday

OLLI at RIT Spring 2025 Course Schedule

Immigration, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers: What Is it All About?.....Sp22T

[NEW COURSE] Immigration is a major topic of national discussion. Our goal is to inform class participants what US immigration is all about. We will include the various types of immigration, its history, its challenges, and its benefits. We will use professionals from various parts of the country who are involved in different aspects of current issues as well as firsthand experiences of refugees and asylum seekers. This course will provide a comprehensive unbiased picture of the current situation. **Website:** <https://www.rochesterrefugeeservices.org/> *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

[NEW COURSE LEADERS] **Mike Coniff** is the founder and CEO of Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services, Inc. (RRRS) and CEO of Mary's Place Refugee Outreach Center. Both organizations have been in existence since 2010 to serve and house thousands of refugees and asylum seekers. **Berka Mou** is from Morocco and speaks five languages. She is a retired teacher and an active case manager at RRRS.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

EIGHT Weeks:

April 15 – June 3



Hybrid



Just Thinking........Sp23T

[NEW COURSE] This introductory course is not about thinking about justice; it's just about thinking. Through interactive discussions and thought-provoking videos, we will explore how to analyze information, evaluate arguments, and make confident decisions. We will discuss identifying and avoiding logical fallacies, understanding probability, the differences between correlation and causation, and tribalism and how thinking with other people can influence our own critical thinking and decision-making. No prior knowledge of the subject matter is required. Course goals are to inspire curiosity about the way we think, introduce logical thinking concepts, and promote further self education regarding the way we think.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

[NEW COURSE LEADER] **Ed Kwiek** obtained a BA in Psychology from Syracuse University and an MBA from University of Rochester's Simon School. His career at IBM included teaching, course development, and management positions. He taught courses on backyard vineyards and home wineries at the NY Wine and Culinary Center. Ed strives to create engaging learning experiences.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

EIGHT Weeks:

April 15 – June 3



Hybrid



Secret Writing: A History of CryptographySp24T

[NEW COURSE] Writing was invented about 5,500 years ago. Not long after it probably occurred to people that they would want to keep some things they wrote private. From then until now – from teenager's diaries, to personal financial data and medical records, to national defense secrets – there has been an 'arms race' between those who want to keep secrets and those who want to steal them. This class explores that history from wax tablets in the Classical era to sophisticated computers in the 21st century. **Website:** <http://thoughtlab.photography> *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Richard Mallory has been an Osher at RIT member since 2013 and has led over 30 previous classes on a wide range of subject matters.

Tuesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

FIVE Weeks:

April 15 – May 13



Hybrid



Is There Hidden Math in Plants?Sp25T

[NEW COURSE] Plants and other living things have fascinated people for millennia, mostly observationally, and for the last 200 - 300 years also scientifically. In this course we will observe and discuss the fascinating symmetries hidden in nature (pinecones, sunflowers, etc.). Many of these observations can be explained by the Fibonacci series. We will discuss historical, mathematical, and physical insights into these plant properties which requires only casual knowledge of mathematics or physics. Some of the same ideas also translate into the animal kingdom – including us. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Wolf Seka has been an Osher at RIT member since 2017. He holds a Ph.D. in physics (UT Austin, 1965) and has done experimental physics research in five different countries (Canada, France, Italy, Switzerland) and since 1976 at the University of Rochester Laser Lab. He has given a number of Osher courses on physics-related issues of general interest.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
FOUR Weeks: April 15 – May 6



Hybrid  REC

MemoirsSp26T

[NEW CONTENT] Everyone has a life story worth preserving. While writing your memoirs can take time and energy, it can also be personally fulfilling and beneficial to document your light-hearted and/or serious life experiences. In this non-critical course, you will write at home and then share in class the unique gift you are creating for posterity. *Reading, Writing*

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

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 15 – June 3



Hybrid

VaccinationSp27T

[NEW COURSE] Vaccination is a major successful public health measure. Smallpox is gone; polio is on its way out; and the incidence of the childhood diseases that the older of us had is way down. We'll look at the history of many infectious diseases, their causes and their vaccines, how the immune system works, and how vaccines work (in cooperation with the immune system). We may digress into other public health issues, and we'll spend a day or so on the connection between vaccines and autism (spoiler: there is none). Let's agree to avoid politics! *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Roger Gans is Professor Emeritus at the University of Rochester. He has led several science-based courses at Osher at RIT over the past decade.

Tuesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 15 – June 3



Hybrid  REC

Conversational French: IntermediateSp28T

[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
EIGHT Weeks: April 15 – June 3



Hybrid  REC

Flickstory: Tales from the Soviet UnionSp29T

[NEW COURSE] We will look at four films that document the struggles of the soviet people. *Mr. Jones* (2019) is based on the true story of the British journalist Gareth Jones who uncovers the truth of the devastating famine ('Holodomor') in 1933 Ukraine. *The Way Back* (2010) is about four prisoners who escape from a Soviet gulag in WWII. *Bridge Of Spies* (2015) is set during the Cold War and tells the story of lawyer James B. Donovan who is entrusted with negotiating the release of Francis Gary Powers in 1960 in exchange for Rudolf Abel, a convicted Soviet KGB spy held by the US. *K-19: The Widowmaker* (2002) focuses its story on the 1961 tragedy of the Soviet Hotel-class submarine K-19. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Robert Schlosky, Mike Maxwell, Gene Clifford, and Dick Scott are experienced course leaders who have led numerous Osher at RIT classes.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 15 – June 3



Language, Meaning, and Method: Wittgenstein's Blue BookSp30T

[NEW COURSE] The *Blue Book* is a pivotal text that bridges Wittgenstein's early and later philosophy. It challenges traditional notions of meaning, private language, and philosophical method, urging us to see language as rooted in practice rather than abstract definitions. **Required Text:** *The Blue and Brown Books* by Ludwig Wittgenstein 9780061312113
Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Moshe Cahill, an analytic philosopher with specializations in metaphysics, logic, history of philosophy, Kant, and Wittgenstein, enjoys learning and sharing philosophy with his fellow Osherites at RIT.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
SIX Weeks: April 15 – May 20



Wednesday

OLLI at RIT Spring 2025 Course Schedule

Discussing The New Yorker MagazineSp31W

[NEW CONTENT] Using the current issue as a jumping off point, we conduct lively discussions of a very broad range of topics, 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 you have time to read it. We will start with the April 7, 2025 issue. **Required Text:** Hard copy or e-copy of *The New Yorker* magazine by subscription, individual issue purchase, or library copy. **Enrollment Limit: 20** *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading*

Joan Dupont and Steve Levinson really enjoy having an opportunity to discuss articles they read in *The New Yorker* magazine with class members whose understanding of the topics really furthers their appreciation of this amazing magazine.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4

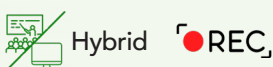


Investment Concepts and Ideas for RetireesSp32W

[NEW COURSE] Retirees are in an investment stage where income and income preservation are important, yet there is also a need for growth. The investment climate is constantly changing; while concepts are standards, ideas are always in a state of flux. The course leader's references include brokerage websites, Morningstar, Yahoo Finance, and Barron's. Class members are invited to add concepts and ideas of their own while remembering that those and the course leader's opinions should be taken with caution. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

Phil Weisberg is a registered investment advisor who has led this course as well as many others at Osher at RIT in the past.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



Irish Literature.....Sp33W

[NEW CONTENT] This course will present various aspects of Irish culture and tradition reflected through prose, poetry, and multimedia. Our focus this term will be on authors James A. Joyce and Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde as well as storyteller and humorist Hal Roach. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading*

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

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am
FOUR Weeks: April 16 – May 7



Hybrid

Contemporary Events.....Sp34W

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

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

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



Hybrid



The Erie Canal at 200.....Sp35W

[NEW COURSE] In 1825 the State of New York officially opened the Erie Canal with wild celebrations. Building this waterway was an incredible undertaking that included many obstacles, but "Clinton's Ditch" became an overnight success. Now the Erie is 200 years old. Is it still relevant today? We will discuss this and other topics in this course. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Timothy McDonnell has been leading courses at Osher RIT since 2006. Tim is a Professor Emeritus at Monroe Community College where he taught courses in the geosciences. His main focus is on geography which is important to understanding the impact of the Erie Canal.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



Hybrid

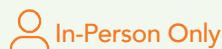


Seminar in Medical Ethics.....Sp36W

After defining morals and ethics, the principles of medical ethics will be presented. Case-based discussions will explore issues in patient-physician relations, reproductive medicine (including abortion and assisted reproduction), individual autonomy, justice, pregnancy, end-of-life matters, and cutting-edge issues (including genetics, gene editing, xenotransplantation, cloning, and stem cell research). **Enrollment Limit: 15** *Discussion, Lecture*

Victor Poleshuck is Clinical Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Emeritus, University of Rochester School of Medicine and former Chair of the Ethics Committee and former Chair of the Ethics Consultation Service, Rochester General Hospital.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



In-Person Only

Writing Workshop.....Sp37W

[NEW CONTENT] Following the Writing Workshop format, each class starts with a short lesson about some aspect of the writing craft. Participants then have time to write on a topic of their choice and conference with class members. We cover a variety of genres and styles in a friendly environment. **Enrollment Limit: 20**

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Writing, Workshop

Our Osher course-leader team of **Jeanne Stringing**, **Jim Hooper**, and **Diana Lockhart** include respectively: a Writing Workshop course designer who taught in Brighton and Webster (NY) schools; a teacher and manager of human service providers; and a lover of words, sucker for superior sentence structure, and adorer of alliteration. This term they are joined by **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
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



In-Person Only

Aristotle's *Nicomachaen Ethics*Sp38W



[NEW COURSE] Aristotle takes an “uncommon common sense” approach to the perennial questions of virtue – living, and living well. We will read and discuss his 2,400-year-old *Ethics*. Rather than being daunted by a great man’s finished, definitive work, we might perhaps think of the questions we might put to a lecturer, or the contributions we may make to a seminar.

Required Text: Any edition of *Nicomachaen Ethics* that uses the “Bekker numbers” to identify the lines.

Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Tom Low has led many Osher at RIT courses for 15 years on thinkers ancient and modern including Plato, Epictetus, and Marcus Aurelius.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



 Hybrid 

Catastrophic Volcanic Eruptions Through HistorySp39W

[NEW COURSE] Catastrophic volcanic eruptions around the globe have impacted our world through changes in paleoclimate, geography, fauna and flora, and, later, human life. We will study several of these historic volcanoes, their origin and magnitude, and the changes wrought by their eruptions. Can we predict future eruptions? *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Jane Eggleston has been an Osher at RIT member since 2013 and loves it! In addition to taking a wide variety of courses, she relishes the research required to organize and lead courses. She particularly enjoys ancient geologic and human history. Her 40-year career in geology included 28 years with the USGS, in research, publishing, and outreach.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
FOUR Weeks: April 16 – May 7

 Hybrid 



The Future of Health, Medicine, and Biotechnology: Part 7Sp40W

[NEW CONTENT] [MULTI-PART SERIES] We will continue to explore the new developments in medicine and biotechnology and how they impact our health and well being. Participation in previous parts of this course is not a pre-requisite.

Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Alex Marcus is a retired physician who has been leading courses at Osher at RIT for over 20 years on subjects relating to medicine and neuroscience. He has training and experience in internal medicine, neurology, and psychiatry.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



 Zoom Only 

Romantic Period Music: Follow the VirtuosoSp41W

[NEW CONTENT] This course focuses on the evolution of the music virtuoso as exemplified by composers from Beethoven to Brahms who started their music careers performing before composing. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture*

For the past decade at Osher at RIT, **Al Mathias** has been presenting courses in classical and jazz music history, music composition, and music’s relation to math and physics as well as a course examining strategic thinking.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 16 – June 4



 Hybrid 

The Scourge of SyphilisSp42W

[NEW CLASS] For 500 years syphilis was the scourge of Europe; the incurable epidemic with its high mortality struck fear as it spread from country to country. The population, from peasants to kings, died not just from the disease but the side effects of its caustic remedies. Though people from all social classes became ill, this talk will concentrate on those historic 19th century artists, composers, and writers who struggled with the devastating stages of known or suspected syphilis and its attached social stigma. *Audio/Visual, Lecture*

Debbie Huff’s inquiring mind frequently leads her down paths not often taken. With her interest in social history, she enjoys sharing topics of the 19th-century with fellow Osher at RIT members as she has for over a dozen years.

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm
TWO Weeks: May 14 & May 21

 Hybrid 

Thursday

OLLI at RIT Spring 2025 Course Schedule

Great Expectations and the World of Charles Dickens Sp43Th

[NEW COURSE] We'll read Dickens's *Great Expectations* slowly, discussing two worlds: that of author Charles Dickens and that of the story and world created in this extraordinary novel. **Required Text:** *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, any edition

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

Lisa Jadwin, Ph.D. is an Osher at RIT course leader and student with more than 40 years of teaching experience. She teaches through discussion, allowing participants fully to engage with the subject under discussion. She brings present-day concerns and reader perceptions to bear on part of participants' understanding of how the subject fits their day-to-day lives.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am
EIGHT Weeks: April 17 – June 5

 In-Person Only 

Regarding Hitchcock Sp44Th

[NEW COURSE] Is Alfred Hitchcock the greatest film director of all time? He was certainly one of the most influential. His legacy is "primarily dictated by his pioneering innovations in cinematic grammar." But it may be the content of his films – how he explores our "darker impulses" – that continues to disturb and fascinate viewers as well as demand and reward repeated viewings. We will examine his life and early works including such films as *The Pleasure Garden*, *The Lodger*, and *Blackmail*. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Mary Ann Satter has taught film courses for almost 50 years. As a child she fell in love with the beauty and magic of films and their power to transcend time and space and enrich our lives. She loves to help others "see into the life of things" through cinema.

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am
EIGHT Weeks: April 17 – June 5

 Hybrid

You Be the Critic: A Film Discussion Group Sp45Th

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
EIGHT Weeks: April 17 – June 5

 Hybrid

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

Members can now register for Pfudler lectures when they register for classes.

Non-members may register via the links found on our calendar (<https://www.rit.edu/osher/calendar>).



Week One: April 17

Eastman School of Music: Consequential on the World Stage Sp46Th



Kate Sheeran, The Joan and Martin Messinger Dean of the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music

As only the eighth dean in the school's 100-year history and the first female dean, Eastman alumnus Kate Sheeran has a vision that focuses on education, community, and global presence for the school that has made her a world-class musician, leader, and educator. Her expansive experiences will enrich the future of the Eastman School of Music.



Week Two: April 24

Singing from the Heart:

The Dady Brothers, Irish Music, and Ethnic Endurance in an American City (with book signing) Sp47Th



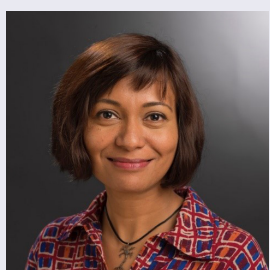
John Dady, Musician

The Dady Brothers were a musical duo who performed professionally and won the hearts of audiences and fans for more than 40 years. Their music transcends genres and generations by melding American folk roots and Irish traditional influences into an amalgam of sound that is uniquely their own. John Dady will share stories of his growing up in Rochester's 10th Ward and Irish ethnic endurance. A book signing (\$15) will follow.



Week Three: May 1

RIT's Role in a Better Model to Diagnose and Treat Osteoarthritis Sp48Th



Moumita Das, Associate Professor, RIT School of Physics and Astronomy, College of Science

Collaborating with scientists from RIT and Cornell, Professor Moumita Das will present findings from her research exploring cartilage tissue's unique properties. Knee and elbow cartilage is only a few millimeters thick yet it can bear loads ten times the body's weight and withstand over 100,000 loads throughout a person's lifespan. However, this tissue does not regenerate and damage can lead to osteoarthritis. The goal

is to map the properties of healthy and damaged cartilage tissue, allowing doctors to predict when surgical intervention is necessary – just from imaging.



Week Four: May 8

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: The 1971 Attica Uprising and the 30-Year Civil Rights Litigation that Followed

Sp49Th



The Honorable Ellen M. Yacknin, Retired Rochester City Court Judge

As a Federal Court law clerk in Buffalo, Judge Yacknin discovered a dormant complaint that the Court was about to dismiss. Her actions and subsequent involvement in the ensuing civil rights litigation helped to achieve the Attica Prison Settlement, the largest prisoners' rights settlement in US history.



Week Five: May 15

Separation of Church and State: The Wall Comes Tumbling Down.....Sp50Th



Daan Braveman, Distinguished Lecturer of Constitutional Law at Syracuse University College of Law

The Supreme Court has endorsed Thomas Jefferson's observation that the First Amendment erects a "wall of separation" between Church and State. This discussion will explore the evolving contours of the Constitution's religion clauses and the current stability of that wall.



Week Six: May 22

Eyeing the Future: Eye Health as You AgeSp51Th



Drs. Rajeev Ramchandran & Brooke Donaher, Flaum Eye Institute

Discover how the eye ages over time and learn about the factors contributing to eye diseases such as cataracts, glaucoma, and macular degeneration. Experts from University of Rochester School of Medicine's Flaum Eye Institute will share valuable insights into the connection between eye health and overall well-being and what you can do to keep your vision sharp.



Week Seven: May 29

How Community Baseball Impacts All of UsSp52Th



Dan Mason, General Manager, Rochester Red Wings Baseball

Did you know Rochester's pro baseball history dates back to 1885? Today the Rochester Red Wings, a pro baseball franchise since 1957, supports the community through various initiatives including charity promotions, community events, and partnerships with local organizations, aiming to create lasting memories and foster a sense of unity through baseball (Milo the Bat Dog, RPO Night at the stadium, fireworks displays, et al). As General Manager for 31 years, Dan Mason has a unique perspective on what constitutes success, how community baseball affects each one of us, and what it has meant to the City of Rochester. He will also tell us about the Red Wings players who have achieved stardom.



Week Eight: June 5

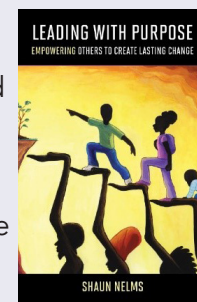
Leading with Purpose (with book signing)Sp53Th



Dr. Shaun Nelms, Vice President for Community Partnerships and Special Advisor to the President at the University of Rochester

Dr. Shaun Nelms is a distinguished author and leader in education and school transformation. As an inspiring and dynamic speaker, we have invited him to speak at Osher at RIT for a third time. In 2023 he published *Leading with Purpose: Empowering Others to Create Lasting Change* (available on Amazon and all audiobook platforms). Drawing from real-life experiences, Dr. Nelms combines practical strategies with heartfelt storytelling to illustrate how leaders can foster equity, innovation, and meaningful change.

A book signing will follow; please pre-purchase a copy (B&N, Amazon).

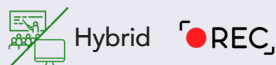


Conversational Spanish: Intermediate LevelSp54Th

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

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

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:15 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 17 – June 5

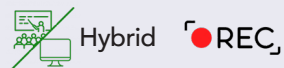


From Idea to Presentation using AISp55Th

[NEW COURSE] Using various AI tools, we will research and create a presentation. We will learn how to use prompt engineering concepts to interact with our stored data to enhance our understanding of that data and explore how to research your idea. Most of the demonstrations will use Gamma as well as Google tools like Plus, Gemini Advanced, and NotebookLM, but the concepts can be applied in other large language models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT, Perplexity, Claude, and Storm.
Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

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

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:15 pm
FOUR Weeks: May 15 – June 5

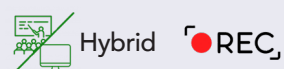


Law in the NewsSp56Th

[NEW CONTENT] Each week we are inundated with local and national news articles involving the law. We will review recent cases as they appear in the news and learn how the case was brought as well as the reasoning behind the outcome. Members of the class will be encouraged to suggest newsworthy cases, and guest speakers will shed additional light on them.
Discussion, Lecture

Mike Schnittman is a retired lawyer who has been an Osher at RIT member since he retired in 2011 and has led courses in law (Law 101) and literature (Roth, Hemingway, Salinger, and Orwell). **Sue Stewart**, also a retired lawyer, has been an Osher at RIT member since 2018 and has previously co-led Law in the News.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:15 pm
EIGHT Weeks: April 17 – June 5



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.



Aviation History: American Aviation After World War II Sp57E

In the years following the end of World War II, American aviation benefited from the infrastructure created by the needs of the military services. General aviation experienced a rapid growth of light aircraft production and operations. The airline industry benefited from a worldwide network of airports and trained personnel. The military embraced the performance of jet engines and the concept of long-range strategic airpower. This was a period of peaceful uses of aviation, with personal participation by the instructor.

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: April 22 – June 24



Exploring Color with Watercolors Sp58E

How do you know what colors to use and which ones to mix when working on a painting? Having an understanding and some experience with color helps artists make informed decisions and choices in developing their paintings. Using watercolors, participants will explore different color schemes and how they can affect the mood and impact of a painting. Each week will feature a different color scheme, a color exercise, and/or a painting. **Materials List:** A set of pan or tube watercolors; An assortment of watercolor brushes, round and flat; Watercolor paper, hot press 140 lb. and/or cold press 140 lb. (9" x 12" is a good size); Washi or painter's tape; Board, tray, or corrugated cardboard for taping down painting.

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

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET
SIX Weeks: April 22 – May 27



Let's Keep Knitting Sp59E

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: April 22 – June 24





Armchair National Park TourSp60E

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.

Tuesday: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm ET **zoom Only**
ONE Week: May 6

Taking and Editing Photos on Your iPhoneSp61E

This class will introduce you to basic foundational skills in establishing a composition for a photo, using the rule of thirds, and considering the values in a photo. This content will be followed by an introduction to the many photo editing tools available on an iPhone and how to use them with the photos you have taken. If you have taken this course previously, you are welcome to take it as a refresher. **Note:** This class is for iPhone users with an iPhone XS or higher. The iPhone should have the most current operating system and recent updates on it.

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

Tuesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET **zoom Only** **REC**
TWO Weeks: June 3 & June 10

Will: An English Playwright in Times of Radical Change Sp62E

It was a time of radical change, a time of violence. England was under siege internally and externally. Being on the wrong side, politically or religiously, could result in torture and death. Into this confusing and disordered world strode a young married man who had left his home of Stratford-upon-Avon to attempt his hand at playwriting for the London stage. His name was William Shakespeare. Join us for a discussion of the TV show Will, described as “Shakespeare on sex, drugs, and rock and roll.” **Note:** Class members will watch episodes on their own outside of class. The TV show is available to stream with a subscription or purchase on TNT, YouTube, Apple TV+, Amazon, and other streaming services.

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

Wednesdays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET **zoom Only** **REC**
TEN Weeks: April 23 – June 25



The Arts and People of JapanSp63E

To understand the arts is to know the mind and spirit of the people. In this class, we will explore Japan's artistic history through its profound and elegant creations. We will explore Japan's best contributions to the visual arts from prehistory, the earliest Buddhist temples, Shinto shrines, and sculpture and paintings until the time of the last feudal ruler. In so many creative fields, Japan's artistry has greatly influenced artists in our modern world. It is important to identify and credit those absorbed influences.

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

TEN Weeks: April 23 – June 25

Learn How to DrawSp64E

If you can't draw, know that it's not your fault. You weren't taught properly. First published in 1979, Betty Edwards' *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain* applied brain science to drawing instruction. Using her teaching techniques to bypass our internal barriers and connect us to our innate ability to draw, we learn we can do more than we believed. If you want to start exploring art classes but still draw like a child, start here. Stick-figure level drawing skill is perfect and welcome.

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.

Fridays: 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET

NINE Weeks: April 24 – June 26
(no meeting on June 19)



Osher Lifelong
Learning Institute
at Dartmouth

Whose Declaration?:

Reflecting on the Meaning and Significance of the Declaration of Independence Sp65E

What really happened, to rephrase the immortal words of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, "Twelve score and nine years ago"? Our fathers? A new nation? Conceived in liberty? Dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal? Endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness? Well...not so fast. The words are powerful, but what did they mean to those who risked their lives and liberties, and who forsook their rights as British citizens by endorsing them? Who wrote, who debated, and who signed what was officially titled "the unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America?" In what ways, if any, do they still resonate with those of us who seek, in the words of our Constitution, "a more perfect union?" With the help of the insights provided by historians including Joseph Ellis and Stacy Schiff and a close reading of Danielle Allen's *Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality*, we will explore the ideas and arguments it embodies. This course will combine lecture with class discussions. **Required Book:** *Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality* - Danielle Allen (ISBN-13: 978-0871408136). **Optional Book:** *The Revolutionary; Samuel Adams* - Stacy Schiff (ISBN-13: 978-0316441100) **Enrollment Limit: 7.**

Tom Hodgson has an MA in philosophy from Yale. He has taught a wide variety of courses at Phillips Academy, Williams College, and with OLLIs at Dartmouth and Berkshire Community College. Tom has played and coached multiple sports, and is currently an assistant squash coach at Williams. He lives on Mount Greylock in western Massachusetts with Susan, his partner of over 50 years, and their two dogs, Penny and Sunshine.

Mondays: 9:00 – 11:00 am ET

SIX Weeks: April 14 – May 19



Josh Gibson or Ty Cobb? African Americans in Baseball, 1860–Present..... Sp66E

Before Major League Baseball (MLB) accepted several deceased African American players who had been stars in the “Negro Leagues” as “counting” in baseball history’s “GOAT” discussions, opinions about great baseball players usually meant great white players. Nevertheless, African American stars were great athletes for what they accomplished in their careers, regardless of color. By no means was this always society’s accepted way of thinking. Josh Gibson or Ty Cobb, Satchel Paige or Sandy Koufax? MLB rankings have been shuffled to account for recognized great African American players of the past. The time frame for this course will start in 1860 when African Americans first formed baseball teams during the Civil War and continue through the signing of Jackie Robinson with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947 and the growing success of African American stars in the modern MLB. This course will combine lecture with class discussion. **Optional Books:** *A Complete History of the Negro Leagues* - Mark Robinson (ISBN 0-8065-1868-5); *The Real Story of the Negro Leagues* - Wayne Moody (ISBN-13: 9781638148548) **Enrollment Limit: 7.**

Richard Neugass developed a love for sports and a fascination with the central role that they play in modern world cultures. We love our sports heroes, men and women who give us the World Series, NBA finals, Super Bowl contests, World Cup soccer, Wimbledon tennis, and the Olympics in summer and winter. We idolize these players and we pay them a LOT of money to compete at the highest levels. But sometimes sports contests take on deeper meanings in politics and history.

Tuesdays: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET
4 Weeks: April 8 – April 29



The U.S. Constitution: The Great American Mulligan.....Sp67E

In March 1785, representatives of Virginia and Maryland met at George Washington’s home at Mount Vernon to negotiate navigation and fishing rights on the Potomac River. The States met because the Congress established by the Articles of Confederation was totally incapable of resolving disputes like that between States; it was evident that the Articles were like an errant golf shot into the woods. It was America’s “Mulligan.” In this course, we will discuss how the defective Articles of Confederation were replaced by an enduring, if not perfect, United States Constitution. This course will combine lecture with class discussions. **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

Jim Bays is a retired corporate attorney who has taught Osher courses at Dartmouth and in Texas on U.S. history in the late 18th century, including courses on Thomas Jefferson, Ben Franklin, the transition from the Articles of Confederation to the U.S. Constitution, and the Electoral College. He is a 1971 graduate of Dartmouth College and received his law degree from the University of Virginia Law School in 1974.

Tuesdays: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm ET
FOUR Weeks: April 29 – May 20



The First Hundred Days.....Sp68E

A crucial measure of success for a new president is the First Hundred Days – a period which reveals a new administration’s temperament, goals, and likelihood of lasting accomplishment. The term dates to 1933, when FDR ushered in a blizzard of legislation initiating the New Deal, fundamentally altering the relationship between the federal government and the American people. We seem to be experiencing a similar moment, as President Trump attempts to re-shape the federal government through a barrage of executive orders, nominations, dismissals, pardons, tariffs – real and threatened – foreign policy initiatives and other measures that promise a new version of the Executive Branch never envisioned by the framers of our Constitution. This theory of the Unitary Executive as championed by the right wing will undoubtedly be tested in the courts. It seems that the election was not the end of the process but rather the beginning of a renewed struggle over the future of our democracy. What are the chances of success without any of the traditional guardrails? Will the Congress, the Courts, or any other political group come to the aid of our Constitution and the rule of law? **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

Maynard Goldman is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a BA in Political Science and the Harvard Law School with a JD. A long time participant in the political process , he has received appointments from Governors of Massachusetts and NH on both sides of the aisle. He was an Adjunct Professor at Colby Sawyer College and has been teaching at Osher for more than 10 years.

Tuesdays: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm ET
SIX Weeks: May 6 – June 10





"A Sort of National Property:" British National Parks Are a Different Kettle of Fish..... Sp69E

In 1835, the poet William Wordsworth may have anticipated what we now call national parks when he described the Lake District, northwest England, as "a sort of national property." The Lake District did indeed become a national park, but not before the Peak District National Park—the first in the U.K.—was created 23 days earlier on 17 April 1951. The Peak District National Park, also in northwest England, was the national park of the Study Leader's childhood. That experience informs this course, which begins by charting the decades-long and often tortuous legislative and civil society path, complete with sometimes violent mass trespasses on private land, that led to the creation of the first four U.K. national parks in 1951. The course then zeroes in on the Peak District National Park, first to illustrate how all the U.K. national parks are organized, governed, and managed, and then by describing its natural, socio-economic, and cultural history to illustrate why it was chosen as the first national park, and remains the most-visited park in the U.K. Long before the course ends it will be very clear why U.K. national parks are a different kettle of fish from their U.S. counterparts. This course will be presented in a lecture format. **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

Originally from Manchester, U.K., **Martin Jeffries** is an accidental geophysicist and polar scientist, and, since 2021, a member of Osher at Dartmouth and the Curriculum Committee. He has given Osher courses about the Arctic and Antarctica, and the socio-economic history of the U.K. (Liverpool & Slavery, Manchester & Cotton). Intrigued by the knowledge that Manchester, NH, was named after Manchester, U.K., he also gave a course about the Amoskeag cotton and wool mills on the Merrimack River. Martin is retired and lives in West Lebanon, NH.

Tuesdays: 3:30 – 5:30 pm ET
SEVEN Weeks: May 6 – June 17



A Historic Turning Point for America and the World.....Sp70E

Donald Trump's election victory has ushered in a turning point for the United States and the world. That seems to be the almost unanimous opinion of U.S. experts. "The Cold War Era Has Ended And We Are Not Going Back," said the New York Times on 16 November 2024. While this is true, the full meaning of this turning point and why 'there is no turning back' has not yet sunk in. For this turning point does not revolve around the U.S. alone, nor will it be determined by Mr. Trump's election win, as stunning as that was for some. What is not yet fully appreciated is that America, by itself, will no longer be the sweeping tidal power that shaped history. Besides China, the countries of the Global South, including Indonesia, India, Malaysia, South Africa, Chile, Peru, and others, will play a vital role in shaping the world that emerges and in shaping the next iteration of American power. No matter what the pundits exclaim, America's power to single-handedly shape the world's geopolitics which has defined the era since the end of the Second World War, is over. Kaput! This course will combine lecture with class discussions. **Suggested Book:** *The End of America? A Guide to the New World Disorder* - Alan Friedman (ISBN-13: 978-1785909573) **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

Sarwar Kashmeri is the host of "Polaris-Live.com," and a Senior Fellow of the Foreign Policy Association. He is the author of three books, including *China's Grand Strategy, Weaving a New Silk Road to Global Primacy*. His new essay "The Future of NATO," appears in the FPA's 2024 Great Decisions publication. His articles have appeared in leading publications, and he speaks frequently to business and military audiences. Sarwar has led Osher courses for over a decade.

Wednesdays: 9:00 – 11:00 am ET
EIGHT Weeks: April 9 – May 28





Politics and the American Working ClassSp71E

A product of industrial capitalism, the working class has been the terrain on which political battles have been fought for nearly 200 years. In the U.S., the labor movement and socialists were its primary political champions until FDR's election in 1932, when Democrats assumed that role. Yet today, working class voters increasingly lean Republican. What accounts for the working class's political conversion? Economic forces? Cultural changes? Issues related to race and status anxiety? Did changes in the political parties themselves lead to this reversal? This course explores the history and changing identity of the working class, and examines the long-term prospects of Democrats and Republicans for winning its support. No prior working-class experience is necessary. This course will combine lecture with class discussions. **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

Robert Grafstein is the Georgia Athletic Association Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia, where he also served as associate dean and interim dean. He received his BA from the University of Pennsylvania and his PhD from the University of Chicago. Specializing in political economy, he is the author of two books, co-editor of one, and author of numerous articles in leading political science journals. He has taught numerous Osher courses at Dartmouth and UGA.

Wednesdays: 2:00 – 4:00 pm ET
THREE Weeks: April 16 – 30



Mussolini —The Rise and Fall of the First FascistSp72E

While certainly not the first dictator in history, Benito Mussolini was the first to embrace a philosophy that exalts the nation state with a centralized autocratic government that put severe controls on the economy and imposed societal regimentation. Mussolini rose to power in the 1920s and set the standard for a series of fascist dictators in Europe during the interwar period. Hitler was a great admirer and emulated many of Mussolini's practices. We will look at his rise to power, his attempts to renew the glory of the Roman empire during his 22 years in power, and his violent demise at the end of World War II. With lectures, slides, and videos, we will examine Mussolini's life and legacy and how he set a new standard for abuse of power by a populist leader. This course will be presented in a lecture format. **Enrollment Limit: 7.**

Bob Rougvie is a graduate of Suffolk University in Boston with a BA in History. He has had a long career in the wood products industry in New England. Prior to retirement, he was president of a machinery distribution corporation for 23 years. He is an avid reader of history, with a particular interest in the period prior to and during WWII. He has led several Osher classes with an emphasis on early 20th century European history. Bob is also a Vietnam veteran.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am ET
FOUR Weeks: May 14 – June 4



Early U.S. Women's Movement: Inspiration for TodaySp73E

We will examine the first century of the U.S. women's movement — from the early 1800s to the 1920 passage of the 19th amendment — exploring its leaders, their strategies, their conflicts, the movements and organizations they created, and the historical contexts in which they operated. Through a combined lecture and group discussion format we will look at the lessons and questions their struggles offer us today and review ongoing efforts in the U.S. and internationally to expand women's rights in the current context. By so doing, we hope to inspire new energy and action for the challenges ahead. This course will combine lecture with class discussions. **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

Valerie Miller has worked on movement-building and human rights for some 50 years as an organizer, educator, advocate, writer, and researcher with such organizations as UNICEF, Oxfam America, the U.N. Development Program, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Ford Foundation, Highlander Center, and Just Associates. Much of that time has been focused on helping build powerful women's movements with inspiring feminist leaders from around the world who bring joy, love, and wisdom to the work.

Wednesdays: 2:00 – 5:00 pm ET
TWO Weeks: June 4 – 11





**Osher Lifelong
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Giving Voice to Values: Having Difficult Conversations in a Polarized World Sp74E

This course will help individuals understand personal values, the ways such values contribute to polarization, and to bridge the divisions that have become part of our civic discourse. There are many techniques one can learn to help manage conversations with people different from you as well as organizations that are working to change the conversation so that we can work toward more civil discourse. This course will both outline and provide opportunities to practice skills for having conversations that can be used to engage in public political debates, write op-eds in a local newspaper, or just to converse civilly with your own family at Thanksgiving. If you're interested in changing the conversation about our political divides in your own family, community groups, or nationally, then this is the course for you! **Enrollment Limit: 7.**

Shawn Martin is a librarian at Dartmouth College, where, among other things, he works to create a more viable academic publishing system. He has B.A. and M.A. degrees in history and a Ph.D. in information science and the history and philosophy of science. For many years, Shawn has also worked on political campaigns, interfaith dialogue initiatives, and currently serves as the New Hampshire Coordinator for Braver Angels, an organization dedicated to bridge the divides between Americans.

Thursdays: 4:00 – 6:00 pm ET
FIVE Weeks: April 24 – May 22



The Scramble for Africa (Or, How the African Countries Got Their Shapes) Sp75E

Most of Africa was generally unknown to the rest of the world until the 1880s. Then, an ambitious and ruthless king from a minor European country “sparked” a rush for glory and riches that years later would be known infamously as the “Scramble for Africa.” The result was a carving up of the great continent, first into colonies and later nation-states that generally ignored the cultures and histories of indigenous peoples. We will examine the Scramble’s roots and legacy, specifically how the map of Africa evolved into the configuration we recognize today. This course will consist of discussions between the Study Leader and participants. **Enrollment Limit: 10.**

L. Jon Grogan has a BA in Political Science from Tufts University, an MA in Public History from the University of San Diego, and a PhD in American History (with a minor concentration in African colonial history) from Loyola University, Chicago. He is also a retired U.S. Marine Corps officer who has served in various command and staff assignments in the United States and overseas. His Osher portfolio includes classes on various topics in American, African, and military history.

Thursdays: 3:00 – 5:00 pm ET
FIVE Weeks: May 1 – 29





Will AI Destroy Our Economic, Social & Political Systems? Sp76E

This course will help you understand the growing impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on our world. Recently, tools like ChatGPT and DeepSeek v3 have shown just how powerful AI can be. Experts in tech companies are even more excited because they believe we're just a step away from creating an "applied general intelligence" (AGI) – an AI so advanced it could evolve and think far beyond what humans are capable of. AI is only a small part of a bigger change happening globally, and it's starting to affect everything from our daily lives to governments, social systems, and even our personal beliefs. What once seemed like science fiction is now becoming a reality. This class covers these changes and explores possibilities for adaptation and management. While AI may be shaking up the way the world works, we can still find creative ways to handle these changes. However, doing so will require a lot more understanding and smart thinking than we currently have.

Brad Allenby is President's Professor of Civil, Environmental, and Sustainable Engineering and Lincoln Professor of Technology and Ethics at Arizona State University. He moved to ASU from his previous position as the Environment, Health and Safety Vice President for AT&T in 2004. Dr. Allenby received his BA from Yale University, his JD and MA (economics) from the University of Virginia, and his MS and Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from Rutgers University. He is past President of the International Society for Industrial Ecology, past Chair of the AAAS Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy, an AAAS Fellow, a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts, Manufactures & Commerce, and a U. S. Naval Academy Stockdale Fellow (2009-2010). He served as Director for Energy and Environmental Systems at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (1995-1997), and the J. Herbert Holloman Fellow at the National Academy of Engineering (1991-1992). His areas of expertise include emerging technologies, especially in the military and security domains; Design for Environment; industrial ecology; sustainable engineering; and earth systems engineering and management. Among his notable books are Industrial Ecology and Sustainable Engineering (co-authored with Tom Graedel in 2009), The Techno-Human Condition (co-authored with Dan Sarewitz in 2011), The Theory and Practice of Sustainable Engineering (2012), The Applied Ethics of Emerging Military and Security Technologies (an edited volume released by Ashgate Press in 2015), Future Conflict and Emerging Technologies (2016), Weaponized Narrative: The New Battlespace (co-edited with Joel Garreau, released in 2017), and Moral Injury: Towards an International Perspective (co-edited with Tom Frame and Andrea Ellner, 2017).

Monday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm ET
ONE Week: June 2



Evidence for Evolution.....Sp77E

How can we be sure humans evolved from a branch of the great apes? If we evolved from apes, why are there still apes? How does one species give rise to another? Is evolution still happening? What is the "theory of evolution by natural selection," where did it come from, and how sure are scientists about it? In this class, we will look at the evidence scientists use to understand evolution, speciation, and the variety of life. In addition to examining ancient evolution, we will explore some of the ways in which humans have continued to evolve since taking our modern form, all as part of the fascinating story of how life came to be on our planet as it is today.

Dr. Johnnie Hendrickson is a Teaching Professor in the School of Molecular Sciences at Arizona State University; he holds a PhD in chemistry, and he is the author of the textbook "Chemistry in the World." His academic work focuses on science communication, the reciprocal relationship between science and society.

Mondays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET
TWO Weeks: June 16 & 23





Fortunato Film School: *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*.....Sp78E

Join us for "Fortunato Film School" where ASU film professor Joe Fortunato will screen, discuss, and provide live commentary on the Steven Spielberg classic *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*. It is often cited as the one of the most beloved films of all time! We will begin with a brief introduction on the background and making of the film. Then, we will screen the film together with live commentary provided, giving you insights into the filmmaking process, fun facts, and some guidance on how to "read" a film creatively. After the film, we will discuss what we've learned and debate if it lives up to its "great film" reputation (and even discuss what that designation means in the subjective world of creative art).

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

Monday & Tuesday: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET
TWO Sessions: June 16 & 17



Unlocking the Older Americans Act: What You Should Know..... Sp79E

Signed into law in 1965, the Older Americans Act aims to support older Americans living independently in their homes and communities. Join us for an engaging overview of the Older Americans Act, designed for individuals unfamiliar with the law and its services. This session, led by Dr. Aaron Guest (Assistant Professor of Aging at the Center for Innovation in Healthy and Resilient Aging at ASU) will provide insights into the bill, discussing key provisions, benefits, and services offered under the Act. Participants will understand how the law is applied in Arizona, how the Act impacts their lives, and the resources available to them.

Dr. Aaron Guest is an interdisciplinary trained socialenvironmental gerontologist and an inaugural Assistant Professor of Aging at the Center for Innovation in Healthy and Resilient Aging at the Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation at Arizona State University. He interested in the predominant social and environmental domains older adults live in and how this knowledge can lead to increased understanding of and improvements in health. He received his PhD in Gerontology from the University of Kentucky in 2019. He also serves as Chair of the Secretariat of the Age-Friendly University Global Network, a collection of higher education institutions committed to promoting positive and healthy aging and enhancing the lives of older adults.

Friday: 1:30 – 3:00 pm ET
ONE Week: June 20





Music of the MoviesSp80E

Classical music has been with us for centuries. While there are many modern and contemporary styles of music that have developed, some composers now specialize in film scores. Specifically, many of the Hollywood composers in the 20th century were European classical music composers who met the film industry's need for orchestral music. This course will present the evolution of films and film music. We will discuss the various styles of this genre and the composers who are responsible. This multimedia presentation will familiarize you with films and film scores. It will be both informative and entertaining.

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

Tuesdays: 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET
SIX Weeks: May 13 – June 17



Introduction to Hinduism: History, Religion, Culture, Philosophy Sp81E

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

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

Tuesdays: 4:00 – 5:30 pm ET
SIX Weeks: May 13 – June 17



Four Topics From 20th Century PhilosophersSp82E

I've selected four papers from the second half of the twentieth century. Each proved to be an important contribution to its area. The first three are by American philosophers; the fourth British. The topics I will cover are: **After Warhol: What is Art?** ("The Artworld" by Arthur Danto); **What is Consciousness?** ("What is it Like to be a Bat?" by Thomas Nagel); **AI: Can machines think?** ("The Chinese Room" by John Searle); and **Is there free will?** ("Freedom and Responsibility" by Peter Strawson).

Robert Yanal, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., taught Philosophy, mainly Philosophy of Art, at Wayne State University, in Detroit, Michigan, for 37 years. He published 18 articles and 4 books, including "Hitchcock as Philosopher". He is retired, living in Tucson.

Wednesdays: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET
FOUR Weeks: May 14 – June 4





Chen Village Tai Chi.....Sp83E

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

Wednesdays: 2:30 – 3:30 pm ET
SIX Weeks: May 14 – June 18



So You Want to be a Writer?Sp84E

Have you ever, like many of us, found yourself wanting to be an author? Join our discussion as we begin with your initial idea and follow various routes to publication. We will consider many different genres and formats (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, textbook, technical, essays...). By the end of our interactive session, you will have the tools to research your idea and transform it into words. Hopefully, you will then be prepared for the hard part: getting your work published. We will discuss various avenues to do so, and the challenges associated with each. We will also consider different avenues to market your work. Bring your ideas, your problems, and your enthusiasm to write!

Ed Linz, a 1965 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, is the author of five books, including recent works on The Great Depression and the Vietnam War. He was the Commanding Officer of a Ballistic Missile submarine and holds advanced degrees from Oxford University and George Mason University. He lives in Maine and Virginia and is the grateful recipient of a heart transplant in 1994.

Wednesday: 2:00 – 3:30 pm ET
ONE Week: May 21



Gentle Energizing Movement, Relaxation, and Meditation..... Sp85E

Let go of stress and come home to yourself. Over millennia, the sages of the Himalayan Yoga Tradition developed highly effective methods of movement, relaxation, and meditation. In this study group you will learn foundational practices from the Himalayan Yoga Tradition. Each session will have three phases: gentle movement and breathing, deep relaxation, and meditation. Members can expect to leave this class refreshed. Please note that the movements taught in this study group are not acrobatics. They are suitable for people with no yoga experience. If you've attended yoga classes and found them to be too strenuous or otherwise challenging, this study group is for you.

Randall Krause served many years as an attorney and conflict resolution facilitator. Later, he studied counseling and received a 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.

Thursdays: 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET
FIVE Weeks: May 15 – June 12



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					date
signature:					

Payment for Membership or Renewal

☐ Pay by credit card (circle one)   ☐ Pay by check: (payable to Osher at RIT)

Support Osher's future

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

Thank you for your support!

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

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

Course Registration

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

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

How Did You Hear about Us?

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

Member Profile

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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

RECEIVED BY:

DATE:

Directions for Auditing RIT Undergraduate Courses

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

1. If you don't already have an **RIT University ID card and number (UID)**, instructions for requesting one are on the Osher Resources webpage (<https://www.rit.edu/osher/resources>). **If you have ever been associated with RIT in any way (former staff/faculty, student, parent of a student, etc.) you likely already have a UID. Contact registrar@rit.edu to check before submitting a form.** After you submit the UID request form, an Osher staff member will be notified by an automatically generated email and will approve the request. You will be notified via email when it's approved and can then get your student ID card on campus in Eastman Hall (Bldg. #1), between 9 am and 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Enter the main RIT entrance on Jefferson Rd., drive to the traffic circle and continue straight to the Information Booth for a parking pass and directions to the building (see map to Eastman Hall on the Osher Resources webpage).
2. Go to the Student Information System (SIS) webpage (<https://www.rit.edu/infocenter/>) to search for eligible* undergraduate courses you're interested in. Click **Public Class Search > TigerCenter Class Search**. *There is not a printed RIT course catalog.*
 - a. In the "Public Features" section, click on the orange Class Search button.
 - b. On the next page, make sure to choose the correct semester in the "Select a term box".
 - c. Type in a search term, e.g., Italian.
 - d. Click on "Advanced Search" and choose "**RIT Main**" as the **campus** (we have campuses in several countries, and those courses are not eligible to audit).
 - e. Click "Save Options".
 - f. Click the orange "Search" button.
 - g. Peruse the list of courses, and click on a course to view its details.
 - h. In the Enrollment Information section, check if there are any **Pre-Reqs** (pre-requisites) listed. If so you will need to contact the instructor and ask for permission to audit the course as an Osher member. The instructor's email can be found by clicking on their name in the Class Details section.
3. Complete the **auditing form** on the Osher Resources webpage. You can apply to audit a maximum of two courses per semester until the end of the Add/Drop period. View the RIT academic calendar for Add/Drop dates: <https://www.rit.edu/calendar>.
4. **Take a photo of, or scan, the form and email it to Osher staff** at osher@rit.edu. Or bring the hard copy to an Osher staff member. If requesting a course with pre-requisites, forward the email approval from the instructor to Osher staff also.
5. Osher staff will submit your auditing form to the Registrar's Office no earlier than **one week before the RIT semester begins**. View the RIT academic calendar for semester start/end dates: <https://www.rit.edu/calendar>. Within that week you will receive an email from the Registrar that will say whether the auditing request has been approved.
6. In the meantime, the Osher Program Director will sponsor you for an **RIT Computer Account** (if you don't already have one). **Your user name will be your first initial+last name+olli**, e.g., `rsmitholli` so when you receive an email from the RIT Service Center with instructions on setting your Computer Account password at <https://start.rit.edu>, you will use the above naming convention for your user name. Once your RIT Computer Account is set up, you can use it to log in to SIS (<https://www.rit.edu/infocenter/>) to view the course(s) you're enrolled in and any tasks or forms you might need to complete as an auditor.
7. After your Computer Account is activated, a **MyCourses account** will also be activated within 8 hours (updates to MyCourses are made between 4-5am, 11am-12pm, and 4-5pm Eastern). This platform is what RIT instructors use to share course information and syllabi and communicate with the class participants. When you go to the MyCourses login page (<https://mycourses.rit.edu/>), click the "**RIT Guest Login**" button and then enter your RIT Computer Account user name and password to view your class information.
8. RIT requires **multi-factor authentication** for most logins to its systems, so in order to access MyCourses, you will have to enroll in the university's multi-factor authentication (<https://www.rit.edu/its/mfa/enroll>).

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

Important to Note

Copyright Information – TEACH Act

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

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

Registration Information

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

Some courses require the purchase of books or materials.

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

Refund Policy

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

Masking

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