

## Osher's 2021 academic year:

(January 11 – March 19)

**Spring** (April 12 – June 21)

Summer (July 12 – August 20)

(September 13 – December 10)

There are multi-week breaks between each term.

# **Membership Benefits**

For our comprehensive Member Benefits Guide please go to http://bit.ly/OshMemBen

#### **Unlimited Courses**

Courses form the core of our program. Our 50+ course offerings per term are presented in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere where there are no tests or other "measurement" criteria. We encourage interaction and discussion in every class.

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

#### **Social Events**

Enjoy socializing with fellow members in a relaxed atmosphere at events such as a river-boat cruise and our annual picnic. We even have social events on Zoom!

#### **Intersession Trips**

Intersessions are short, between-term trips to interesting local attractions. All trips are currently on hold due to the pandemic.

#### SIGs (Special Interest Groups)

Osher members with a shared interest in a specific area of knowledge, learning, or technology gather at least monthly. All members are encouraged to join an existing SIG, or to initiate the formation of a new SIG. See page 12 for more information.

#### **Arts & Lectures Series**

This enrichment series, made possible by our endowment from The Bernard Osher Foundation, brings us entertaining artists and expert speakers at no additional charge to members. All A&L events are currently on hold due to the pandemic.



#### Student ID:

A pass to RIT campus facilities, your ID card entitles you to: student admission rates and discounts (wherever they are offered worldwide), borrowing privileges at the RIT library, access to campus fitness facilities at a reduced rate, and a free Henrietta BJ's Wholesale Club membership.

# Take Campus Courses: Members can sit in on RIT College of Liberal Arts courses. The level of participation is up to you. Offerings include anthropology, fine arts, foreign languages, history, literature,

philosophy, psychology, women

& gender studies, and writing.

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

			Pfaudler	Events				RIT	
Membership	Fee	Unlimited Courses	Lecture Series	SIGs Trips	Arts & Lectures	Summer Seminar	Student ID Card	Classes	Audiology Services
<b>Full</b> (full year)	\$325								
<b>Trial</b> (one term)	\$100								
<b>Supporting</b> (full year)	\$160								

# Which membership suits your needs?

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

**Full Membership** 

A Full membership entitles you to all of the comprehensive benefits described on page 2. **The annual fee is \$325.** 

**Trial Membership** 

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

**Supporting Membership** 

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

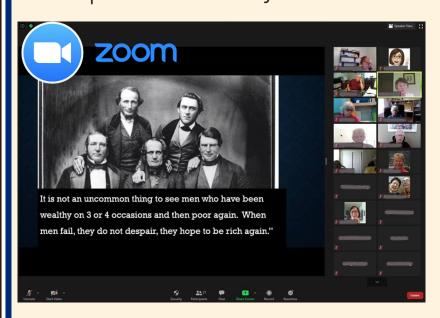
**Scholarships** 

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

# INTERACTIVE ONLINE CLASSROOMS

In March 2020, our in-person classes were abruptly cancelled due to Covid-19. We quickly made the decision to pivot to online courses, and we are so glad we did! Members were able to connect with each other while homebound and to continue to engage their mind and energize their spirit. This continued sense of camaraderie was important to the 400+ members who participated.

We are continuing to offer courses in our secure, interactive, online classrooms. We use the Zoom Meetings platform and offer training and technical assistance to all members to help get you started. We hope you will join in on the fun and keep boredom at bay this winter!



zoom.us/signup

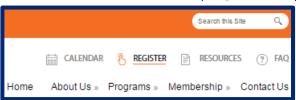
### REGISTRATION OPENS TUESDAY, 12/15 at 10 am

#### **Directions for Online Course Registration**

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

All paper registrations are processed, in random order, by staff beginning at 10 am on registration day. [Note: The sample screens shown on this page are what you would see if working on a desktop or laptop computer. The screens on a phone or tablet will look different.]

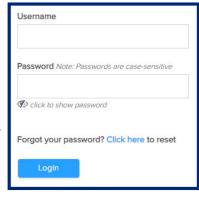
[1] Begin by visiting our website at **rit.edu/osher** and click on **REGISTER** in the top right of the page.



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



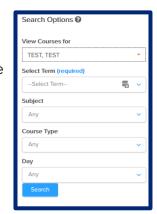
[3] On this page, locate the "Username" and "Password" fields and fill them in. Then click the "Login" button. If you don't know your username and password, click on the "Forgot Password" link and follow the instructions.



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

**IMPORTANT:** You must be current with your payment in order to register for courses. If your membership expires before the Winter 2021 Term begins, and you are not paying online, make sure to get your payment to the office **before TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15** to ensure that you will be able to register.

[5] On the left side of the screen under the "Search Options" heading, click on the "Select Term" drop-down menu and select "2021-01 (Winter)". (If you wish, you may select a "Day" of the week to narrow down your search.) Then click the "Search" button.



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



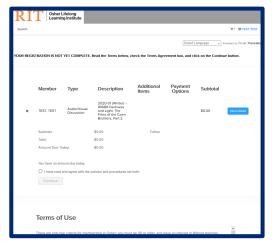
[7] Follow the prompts to either continue selecting courses or to complete your registration checkout. [Note: You will have 60 minutes to choose all of your courses.] Once you have selected all the courses you want, click the "Checkout" button.



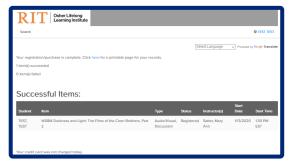
#### Course Registration Directions (cont'd)

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

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



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



You will get a confirmation letter email for each course for which you've registered that will contain the Zoom meeting link.

#### **SAVE THIS EMAIL!**

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



Click on the "My Account" box, and at the top of the page, you will see "Personal Information" then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the "My Courses" tab (between the Emergency Info tab and the Memberships tab).

If you have any **questions**, please call (585-292-8989) or email osher.info@rit.edu

# Mark your calendar!

Join us at our

## Winter Course Preview

on **Monday, December 14** 10:00 – 11:00 am

https://rit.zoom.us/j/94000651260?pwd=d3BvZEpvZHJENkhRT2hha2l3WW5ldz09

Meeting ID: 940 0065 1260

**Password:** 025977

**Registration opens December 15 at 10 am** 

Classes start January 11, 2021



A Learning Community for Adults Age 50+

### **Invite Your Friends to Join Osher!**



## (and you both can get rewarded)

We believe there are many people who would enjoy Osher membership if they experienced our fantastic programs firsthand through an invitation to our **Winter Course Preview event** (12/14 at 10 am) and/or to a **FREE one-session class** or **Pfaudler Lecture**.

Invite as many people as you'd like. Think Big! Think Globally! Now that we are on Zoom, a person can join us from anywhere around the country or around the world.

**Get a "Friends & Family" reward!** If your friend decides to become a new member after trying us out, you both will be rewarded. More information about this incentive will be shared when we finalize the details. **Hint:** It will be informative, entertaining, and delicious!

**How to attend:** Your friends simply send an email to osher.info@rit.edu with the name of the class/lecture they would like to attend. Be sure they mention your name, too, as BOTH of you will be rewarded if they become a new member. It's that easy!

## Osher memberships make great gifts!

Who needs more "stuff?" Tell your family you'd like an Osher gift certificate for the holidays. They can call us at 585-292-8989 or email osher.info@rit.edu to purchase a gift certificate that you can use towards a new or renewal membership. Or, purchase one for someone on your gift list.

## Winter 2021 Course Schedule

	9:30 – 11:00 am	11:15 am – 1	2:45 pm	1:30 – 3:30 pm		
	Current Events	Memoirs		Express Yourself in (Fiction) WritingW16M Gary Mitchell (1/11 – 3/15)  FlickStory: Notable PersonalitiesW17M Bob Vukosic et al (1/11 – 3/15)  The Poetry of William Butler YeatsW18M Donna Richardson (1/11 – 3/15)		
	W6M Cellular Telephones: Past, Present, an Tom Lathrop (1/11)	d Future	W11M Domestic Violence in Maureen Murphy & Lois Tuck	<b>the Age of COVID-19: Part 2</b> ker <i>(2/15)</i>		
Monday	W7M The Electoral College: Reform, Abolis Sarah Liebschutz (1/18)	w12M The Life of Elizabeth Karen Kittredge (2/22)		Kubler-Ross: Living Fully Until We Die		
2	W8M Visual Adaptations in Coastal Creatur Ann Dwyer (1/25)	es	<b>W13M Puttin' on a Show: How Theater Is Made</b> Roger Gans <i>(3/1)</i>			
	W9M Kehinde Wiley + Amy Sherald: Obam Michelle Turner (2/1)	a Portrait Artists	W14M Planning Today for Tomorrow: Navigating the Path to Financial Independence in a Post-COVID World, Parts 1 & 2 Hal Burrall & John Skomski (3/1 & 3/8)			
	W10M Domestic Violence in the Age of CO Maureen Murphy & Lois Tucker (2/8)			m Steenburgh: The 19th Century History of		
	9:30 – 11:00 am	11:15 am – 12	2:45 pm	1:30 – 3:00 or 3:30 pm		
Tuesday	Africa: Past and Present	The Best Short	Stories of O. Henry W21T 1 (1/12 – 3/16) d Oceans	Road Trips & Recipes USA: Part 2 of 3		
	9:30 – 11:00 am	11:15 am – 1	2·45 pm	1:30 – 3:00 pm		
Wednesday	America in the Gilded Age	Contemporary I Terri Hurley (1/1 Waves Wolf Seka (1/13 Topics in Moder	EventsW30W 13 – 3/17)W31W	Discussing The New Yorker Magazine		
			-4 " ·			
Thursday	9:30 – 11:00 or 11:30 am  Johannes Brahms: His Life and His Music	12:15 – 1:30 pm Pfaudler Lecture Se Various topics and please see pg 18 fo	presenters;	1:45 – 3:45 pm  Cosas Fascinantes de Paises Hispanohablantes		

9:30 – 11:00 am

**The Genius of Herbert B. Leonard....W44F**Bob Hilliard (1/15 – 3/19)



# Monday

#### Winter 2021 Course Schedule

Current Events .......W1M

[NEW COURSE] This is a discussion class in which attendees choose four timely topics each week. Attendees are encouraged, but not required, to participate. All political views are welcomed and respected. Join us and "Talk the Talk". Discussion

**Dick Scott** has led many other Osher courses.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

**TEN** Weeks: January 11 – March 15

#### Life in Our Universe.......W2M

[NEW COURSE] This course is based on a DVD by *The Great Courses* with a professor of astronomy from the University of Arizona. Some of the topics include the origin of the universe, the solar system, the formation of the moon, the formation of some of the planets, the beginning of life on earth, and the search for exo-planets and extraterrestrial life. *Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture* 

**Jim Roddy** has led previous Osher courses in science, engineering, medicine, history, and music.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

**TEN** Weeks: January 11 – March 15

#### The World of Birds, Part 1: Evolution, Ecology, and Conservation Biology......W3M

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] This is the first in a three-course sequence on birds. We will cover topics including: why study birds, resources for bird watching, citizen science, bird diversity, mechanisms of natural selection, sexual selection, and speciation, life history variation, ecological interactions, range dynamics, causes of rarity and extinction, and conservation. Parts 2 and 3 will focus, respectively, on behavior and functional biology. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] **John Jaenike** recently retired from the University of Rochester, where he taught Introductory Biology, Ecology, and various graduate-level courses. He did research on various questions in evolutionary ecology, using primarily insects as research subjects.

Mondays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

**TEN** Weeks: January 11 – March 15

#### Memoirs W4M

Rochester's wintry months may be the perfect time to begin or continue a rewarding adventure of writing your life story, giving yourself, or your family and friends, a gift. Participants in this non-critical class find inspiration from others, as they write and share their stories each week. Veteran writers welcome newcomers. The Zoom format works well for this class. *Reading, Writing* 

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

Mondays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm **TEN Weeks: January 11 – March 15** 

#### The Athenaeum Book Club .....

We are a group of dedicated readers who have selected a fiction and a non-fiction work to discuss this term. On January 25 we will delve into The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander, and on March 8, we will consider The Island of the Sea Women by Lisa See. New members are always welcome to our group. **Required Text:** The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander, ISBN 9781620971932 and The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See, ISBN 1982117206 Enrollment Limit: 30 Discussion, Reading

Suzanne Meagher is a retired educator who enjoys literature, writing, gardening, and all things Irish. Maureen Murphy is a retired social worker, community activist, and avid reader who especially enjoys classes in the arts.

11:15 am – 12:45 pm Mondays: **TWO** Weeks: January 25 & March 8

#### Cellular Telephones: Past, Present, and Future.....

[NEW CLASS] The cellphone has had a significant impact on the world in the 37 years since the first one became available. This is a non-technical look at the evolution of cellphone technology, from its beginnings as a bulky, expensive business tool for a small number of people to a versatile, pocket-sized device used by over 60% of the people in the world. One topic that will be explored is 5G and why it is important. Lecture

Tom Lathrop is a retired software engineer who worked on an early cellular mobile telephone system in the mid-1980s. He has taught several history courses at Osher.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: January 11

#### The Electoral College: Reform, Abolish, or Keep? .......W7M

[NEW CLASS] The Electoral College has long been a focus for discussion and discontent. Why has our indirect presidential election system continued for more than 200 years since its inclusion in the US Constitution? This course will combine lectures, visual materials, and discussion as we consider the original constitutional compromise, proposals for reform, and prospects for change. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Sarah F. Liebschutz, Ph.D. (political science), is SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emerita, College at Brockport. The author of five books, her teaching and research have concentrated on American federalism and intergovernmental relations.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: January 18

#### Visual Adaptations in Coastal Creatures ......W8M

[NEW CLASS] This course covers various ways animals, birds, fish, and marine mammals are able to see, navigate, and find prey. Animal eyes are similar to ours in some ways, but they have also evolved fascinating adaptations that allow them to thrive in the unique environments they inhabit. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Ann Dwyer is a semi-retired equine veterinarian with a special interest in ophthalmology. She is also a member of the advisory board at the URMC Flaum Eye Institute and a certified Florida Master Naturalist.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: January 25

#### Kehinde Wiley + Amy Sherald: Obama Portrait Artists......W9M

[NEW CLASS] Painting the portraits of the Obamas brought popular attention to two previously under appreciated contemporary artists. We'll examine their body of work and investigate who and what influenced them. We'll discuss how early photographic depictions of African Americans influenced their interpretations of current Black culture. We may also examine the work of some of their contemporaries. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Michelle Turner has taught several Osher one-session and full-term classes on a variety of topics. She volunteers at the Memorial Art Gallery in various roles and enjoys its Kehinde Wiley painting.

Monday: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: February 1

#### Domestic Violence in the Age of COVID-19: Part 1 .......W10M

[MULTI-PART CLASS] We will examine the power and control dynamics of domestic abuse and how these issues have been impacted by COVID-19. The leaders will use fact-based information and research data that reflects their years as counselors and educators specializing in domestic violence. Crisis intervention and child protective service issues will be addressed. Goals are to: 1) increase understanding of the characteristics of abusers and survivors, 2) identify red flags/warning signs to look for, and 3) present community resources that provide updated COVID-19 services.

Enrollment Limit: 30 Discussion, Lecture

Lois Tucker has an MS in counseling and is a retired transition program coordinator from Willow Domestic Services. Maureen Murphy, a clinical social worker, is retired from private practice and SUNY Brockport faculty.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: February 8

#### Domestic Violence in the Age of COVID-19: Part 2

[MULTI-PART CLASS] Based on our knowledge of domestic violence, we will focus on the isolation that individuals and families experience due to COVID-19 and how that isolation often prevents them from seeking assistance. We will also discuss what we're learning as the pandemic advances, paying particular attention to the impact on the lives of older adults. Participation in Part 1 (Feb. 8) is not a prerequisite. **Enrollment Limit: 30** Discussion, Lecture

Lois Tucker has an MS in counseling and is a retired transition program coordinator from Willow Domestic Services. Maureen Murphy, a clinical social worker, is retired from private practice and SUNY Brockport faculty.

Monday: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: February 15

#### 

[NEW CLASS] Elizabeth Kubler-Ross is famous for bringing the concept of the five stages of grieving into our conversations about loss and dying. Her life changed dramatically as she suffered a series of strokes in the last five years before her death in 2004. This journey really challenged her to make sense of the value of her life's work, what it feels like to live with vast physical limitations, and her personal experience with the stages of grieving. Discussion, Lecture

For 35 years Karen Kittredge has served as a psychotherapist specializing in loss and grief and also as a hospice chaplain in Northern California, Michigan, and upstate New York.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ONE Week: February 22

#### Puttin' on a Show: How Theater Is Made......W13M

[NEW CLASS] You go to the theater, lights come up, people appear in the stage world, and behave. We'll talk about how that happens through the contributions of all the people you don't see: producer, director, stage manager, design team, and more, and how they all bring a script to life. (We will not discuss much about musical theater.) We'll also talk about the different kinds of theaters: Equity, non-Equity professional, community, university, and the Fringe. If there's time, we'll look at the effects of the pandemic on theater. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Roger Gans is an actor, director, and sometime producer, active in the Rochester area since 1974. He was also a member of the Geva Cohort for parts of the 2012-13 and 2013-14 seasons.

11:15 am - 12:45 pm Monday:

**ONE** Week: March 1

#### Planning Today for Tomorrow:

Navigating the Path to Financial Independence in a Post-COVID World, Parts 1 & 2......W14M

[MULTI-PART SERIES] Hal and John are proud to present this two-part session which will answer: "How has COVID and the recession impacted my ability to stay retired? How much risk should I be taking in my investments? What rate of return do my investments need? What strategies should I use when filing for Social Security? Do I need life insurance? Will I outlive my money? Is there room for charity in my plan and if so, what are some tax-wise ways to support my favorite organizations now and into the future?" Hal and John will wrap up both days with a Q&A session, giving you the opportunity to ask the questions that puzzle you the most. Additionally, John has agreed to provide one-hour complimentary one-on-one consultations to attendees. Those who take advantage of this can ask questions specific to their own situation and have a review of their current financial plan.

Presented by **Hal Burrall**, Senior Director of Planned Giving at RIT, and **John Skomski**, partner at Best Times Financial Planning (founded in 1982), and RIT's Ellingson Society. See www.legacyrit.org and www.besttimesfinancial.com for more information.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

TWO Weeks: March 1 & 8

#### The Confession of Sam Steenburgh: The 19th Century History of Hanging in NY......W15M

[NEW CLASS] This class will present a general history of execution by hanging in New York in the 19th century. As an example of one such proceeding, we'll focus on the story of Samuel Steenburgh, who murdered Jacob Parker on November 17, 1877, and who was hung on April 19, 1878. An estimated 15,000 people attended the public execution as part of a pleasant spring day's outing. Audio/Visual, Lecture

**Gary Mitchell** is fascinated by history. A self-acknowledged "research junkie," he'll chase a few intriguing hints until he reveals the wizard behind the curtains. Sometimes that rewards him with forgotten stories that are worthy of retelling.

Monday: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

**ONE** Week: March 15





Photo by Tom Jones



Photo by Victor Poleshuck

#### Express Yourself in (Fiction) Writing.......W16M

Use your imagination to write short stories each week on a suggested topic. Read your story in class and listen to short critiques by your classmates. This is an excellent way to improve your writing skills as well as to enjoy the work of other writers. Wonder if you can write? Check out this how-to website: thebalancecareers.com/how-to-write-fiction-1277075 **Enrollment Limit: 16** Discussion, Writing, Peer Group

Gary Mitchell, a long-time participant in this course that was previously led by Pat Edelman, will facilitate this peer group.

Mondays: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

**TEN** Weeks: January 11 - March 15

#### 

[NEW COURSE] Watch flicks about history! Five notable personalities will be the subjects portrayed and discussed in the following films: On the Basis of Sex (Ruth Bader Ginsberg), 42 (Jackie Robinson), The Aviator (Howard Hughes), The Queen (Princess Diana), and George Wallace (GW). Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Bob Vukosic, Nancy Loughlin, Alan Shank, Mike Perotta, and Bob Schlosky are experienced course leaders who enjoy researching subjects and sharing their results with Osher members.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

TEN Weeks: January 11 - March 15

#### The Poetry of William Butler Yeats

[NEW COURSE] We'll study the most famous poems of Ireland's greatest poet. Yeats' poetry develops from late-Romantic works grounded in rediscovered Irish mythology to works on the Irish Revolution to some of the greatest, very recognizable and relevant modernist works (e.g. "The Second Coming"). Course Website: sites.google.com/view/yeatsosher Required Text: The Collected Poems of W.B. Yeats ISBN 9781853264542 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading

Donna Richardson is emerita professor of literature at St. Mary's College of Maryland, where she taught for 33 years. Her special interests include classic British poetry and Tolstoy.

Mondays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

**TEN** Weeks: January 11 - March 15

# Tuesday

#### Winter 2021 Course Schedule

Africa: Past and Present

[NEW CONTENT] The continent of Africa gave birth to human history and yet has long been woefully misunderstood and mistreated by the rest of the world. This course will explore the landforms and environment of Africa, the rich diversity of its peoples and their way of life, and the devastating legacies of slavery and colonialism as well as recent political troubles and triumphs. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

After a career in clinical laboratory science, Marie Levin enjoys studying history. She has led courses in the history of Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, Russia, and 16 other subjects over the last 14 years.

Tuesdays: 9:30 - 11:00 am

**TEN** Weeks: January 12 - March 16

#### Summer Song: The Music of Dave Brubeck

[NEW COURSE] The Dave Brubeck Quartet was one of the most popular groups in jazz. Brubeck generated an extraordinary public response despite performing challenging music that involved complex time signatures, polyrhythms, and multiple tonalities. This course will explore the musical world of Dave Brubeck beginning before the famous quartet and continuing 45 years after that group disbanded. We will consider his entire 60-year career as a performer and composer. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

When not obsessed with jazz, **Peter Luce** also enjoys hiking, art making, and photography.

9:30 – 11:00 am Tuesdays:

**TEN** Weeks: January 12 - March 16

#### The Best Short Stories of O. Henry ......W21T

[NEW COURSE] O. Henry, a master of the short story, was a pseudonym for William Sydney Porter who published more than 600 short stories. We will look at some of the most famous which have been described as mellow, humorous, and ironic. We will cover as many stories as time allows. Required Text: The Best Short Stories of O. Henry edited by Bennett Cerf and Van H. Cartmell, ISBN 394604237 Discussion, Reading

Michael Schnittman is a retired lawyer who has led a number of courses at Osher including those on Ernest Hemingway, Philip Roth, and George Orwell. His love of literature has grown since becoming an Osher member.

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



#### Our Endangered Oceans .....

[NEW COURSE] Over 70 percent of the surface of the Earth is covered by oceans. They are foreign worlds to us, but essential for the health of our planet. In this course we will study many aspects of the oceans: their chemistry, life in the seas, forces that make oceans come and go, and more. We will discuss environmental issues that the world's oceans are facing in the 21st century. Discussion, Lecture

Timothy McDonnell, a proud member of Osher at RIT since 2005, has led many courses on a wide variety of topics: history, geography, sciences, and photography. He is the Coordinator of the NY Geographic Alliance.

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

#### Road Trips & Recipes USA: Part 2 of 3

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] Continuing the tour of the United States, we'll explore the 20 states of the nation's heartland—their fun facts and favorite foods. Participation in Part 2 (Fall 2020) is not a prerequisite. Audio/Visual

A member of Osher since 2017, Estelle O'Connell led a workshop for self-publishing and a few one-session classes and is now fulfilling a bucket list wish to visit all 50 states, albeit virtually.

1:30 - 3:00 pm Tuesdays:

**TEN** Weeks: January 12 - March 16

#### The Origin and Evolution of Life on Earth: Part 5......W24T

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] This is part five of six of a course that began in Winter 2019. We will cover the geologic periods from the end of the Triassic to the Paleocene (201 to 56 million years ago), including the evolution of dinosaurs and mammals, and the co-evolution of flowering plants and the insects that pollinate them. Plate movements, atmosphere, oceans, climate, and the great extinctions that occurred during this time will be covered. Participation in Parts 1-4 of this course is not a prerequisite. Course Website: sites.google.com/view/osherhol2 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Jane Eggleston worked as a geologist for 43 years, 28 with the USGS. Dick Jones has a science background and an interest in evolution. They have both led numerous Osher courses.

Tuesdays: 1:30 - 3:00 pm

FIVE Weeks: January 12 - February 9

[NEW COURSE] We will discuss many aspects of 'energy' including sources, storage and transportation, drawbacks, energy saving, and more. Course Website: jt-mj.net/oshercourses/Energy2021 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Julian Thomas has been working with and studying mathematics, computer programming, and system engineering design and architecture for his entire career. Eric Hauptman is a retired engineer/technologist.

Tuesdays: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

February 16 - March 16 FIVE Weeks:

# Wednesday

#### Winter 2021 Course Schedule

#### America in the Gilded Age.....

[NEW COURSE] There was more to the Gilded Age than the robber barons as sweeping economic, social, and political forces changed the landscape of America. Booming industrialization created the modern corporation, technology advanced at a breath-taking pace, and masses of workers and immigrants moved to cities. Westward expansion reached its climax with devastating consequences while labor unrest stretched across the land. This kaleidoscopic view of our history from 1870-1900 will focus on Americans struggling toward the same goal – a better way of life. Audio/Visual, Lecture

Debbie Huff, avid history buff, tells how history's pieces fit together. Chris Ryan, retired librarian, focuses on the ideas and how decisions of the 19th century affect our world today.

Wednesdays: 9:30 - 11:00 am

TEN Weeks: January 13 - March 17

Thoreau's Walden

[NEW COURSE] To discover how to earn and spend our most wakeful hours is the task of Walden. We will read and discuss this book and place it in the context of his life and of his connections to other writers such as Emerson. Required Text: Walden by Henry David Thoreau, ISBN 9781593082086 Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Tom Low is entering his 10th year of teaching on a variety of thinkers ancient (Plato, Aristotle) and modern (James, Veblen).

Wednesdays: 9:30 - 11:00 am

**TEN** Weeks: January 13 - March 17

#### Irish Culture and Literature

The course will present various aspects of the Irish culture and tradition reflected through DVDs and prose and poetry by authors including Nobel Prize in Literature recipients W.B. Yeats, Samuel Beckett, Seamus Heaney, and George Bernard Shaw. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

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

Wednesdays: 9:30 - 11:00 am

**FIVE** Weeks: January 13 - February 10

#### An Ancient World of Gods and Monsters: The Anthropology of

[NEW COURSE] This course will delve into the extraordinary and sophisticated religious and cosmological beliefs of the Mesoamericans (the Olmec, Maya, Aztec, et al.). Mesoamerican religious beliefs developed independent of the influence of other world cultures; it was complex, mysterious, mystifying, and with its emphasis on sacrifice, sometimes brutal. In every Mesoamerican culture religion was inseparable from politics, art, architecture, and daily life. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture, Reading

Retired after a career as a journalist, Marine Corps officer, college teacher, and educational psychologist, Bill McLane has done Mesoamerican archaeological research through Museo Nacional Antropologia and The University of Pennsylvania.

Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:00 am

**FIVE** Weeks: February 17 - March 17 Contemporary Events.....

..W30W

[NEW CONTENT] This is a discussion class in which the class members select the topics. We try to be considerate of all opinions. Laughter is allowed and encouraged; yelling is not! Discussion

**Terri Hurley** has been an Osher member for over 10 years. She enjoys peaceful discussions of various opinions.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am - 12:45 pm **TEN** Weeks: January 13 - March 17

[NEW COURSE] Waves – from sound waves, light waves, water waves, and seismic waves to gravity waves – surround us all the time. Some we are consciously aware of, others not. Some we understand and others not so much. We will discuss many curious natural wave phenomena, most of them easily observed, with explanations tailored to non-scientists but with solid scientific underpinning. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

Wolf Seka, Osher member since 2017, holds a Ph.D. in physics (UT Austin, 1965). After working 11 years in four different countries, he joined the UR Laboratory for Laser Energetics and retired in 2017 after 41 years.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm FIVE Weeks: January 13 - February 10

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[NEW CONTENT] Each week we'll discuss a topic of general interest (e.g., implicit bias, judgment and decision-making, language learning, why people have difficulty distinguishing between real and "fake" news stories, aspects of autism, etc.). The leader will introduce the topic, provide some background, and discuss how recent work in the brain and cognitive sciences sheds light on that topic, drawing upon work using behavioral methods, neuro-imaging, and animal studies. A science background is not required. Most topics will be different from those discussed in the Spring 2020 course. Lecture

Michael K. Tanenhaus is currently a professor of brain and cognitive Sciences at the University of Rochester, soon to be retired.

Wednesdays: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm February 17 - March 17 **FIVE** Weeks:

#### Discussing The New Yorker Magazine......W33W

Current events, literature, film, humor, short stories, interesting people and, of course, cartoons...The New Yorker magazine provides a wonderful selection of articles for discussion. Read only as much of each issue as you want. We strive to discuss most of each week's magazine. The first session will review the January 4th issue. Required Text: Subscription to the magazine's e-version or hard copy Enrollment Limit: 20 Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading

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

Wednesdays: 1:30 – 3:00 pm

**TEN** Weeks: January 13 - March 17

#### 

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] In this course we will try to understand our brain in different contexts. Topics covered will include brain mapping, brain-mind-body connection, role of glial cells, brain-immune connection, and neuroethics. Some clinical topics like Covid-19, headache, and encephalitis will also be covered. Participation in Part 1 (Summer 2020) is not a prerequisite. Lecture

**Alex Marcus** is a retired physician who has been leading courses on the human brain at Osher since 2005.

Wednesdays: 1:30 - 3:00 pm

**TEN** Weeks: January 13 - March 17

# Thursday

#### Winter 2021 Course Schedule

#### Johannes Brahms: His Life and His Music .....

[NEW COURSE] Born in a brothel, Brahms had a difficult early life, but he ultimately moved from Hamburg, making lifelong friends with Clara and Robert Schumann (and perhaps he was even more than a friend to Clara). He was so intimidated by Beethoven's works that he didn't write his first symphony until age 43; an uncompromising perfectionist, he destroyed some of his works and left others unpublished. He never married and had no children. Using Robert Greenberg's lectures as core material, we will explore Brahms' life and sample his remarkable musical output, including symphonies, concertos, religious, and chamber music. Audio/Visual, Lecture

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

Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am

**TEN** Weeks: January 14 - March 18

#### 

[NEW COURSE] Who wrote the Old Testament? Was it based on verifiable historical facts or stories passed down through generations, or a combination of these? We will use two videos from *The Great Courses* to supplement the PowerPoint presentation. We will start with the collection of the narrative over time, including language, then move on to the formative effect of the Babylonian Exile, the significance of the prophets, and the finding of the Dead Sea Scrolls and their significance to the text and interpretation of the Bible. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Ferdinand Haase is Lutheran Pastor Emeritus, and a scholar of theology, Greek, Latin, and Hebrew. He was educated at Universität Marburg, Germany; Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, OH; Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg; and Union Theological Seminary (NYC).

9:30 - 11:00 am Thursdays:

FIVE Weeks: January 14 – February 11

#### 

[NEW COURSE] Astronomy, chemistry, physics, genetics, mathematics, etc., all have women who have contributed to their scientific fields with novel and significant discoveries. Each week we will meet two of them and celebrate their contributions to our world. Audio/Visual, Lecture

**Debby Zeman** has taught courses on scientists and on women of history and is looking forward to melding the two areas with a course on women of science.

9:30 – 11:00 am Thursdays:

FIVE Weeks: February 18 – March 18

#### Plaudler Lecture Series: Thursdays, 12:15-1:00

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

#### Viruses: Are They the Future Miracle Cure to Disease?

Maureen Ferran, Ph.D., Researcher & Associate Professor of Biology, RIT College of Science (1/14)

#### **Prevention Studies in Alzheimer's Disease**

Anton Porsteinsson, MD, URMC (1/21)

#### Cultural Humility: A Lifelong Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

Taj Smith, Ph.D., RIT Director of Diversity Education (1/28)

#### Embracing the Complexity of Challenging, Divisive, and Polarizing Stories in Journalism

Hélène Biandudi Hofer, Journalist & Founder of HBH Enterprises (2/4)

#### The FBI: Honored to Serve and Protect

Mike Preisser, Agent (2/11)

#### The Evolving Role of Zoos in our Community, in Science, and in Conservation

Louis DiVincenti Jr., DVM, Seneca Park Zoo (2/18)

#### Shattering the Glass Ceiling: Experiences of the First Blind Supreme Court Clerk

Laura Wolk, JD (2/25)

#### **Policing Reform**

John Klofas, Ph.D., Professor, RIT Department of Criminal Justice (3/4)

#### Matters of Perspective: Command & Communication

Major Agneta Murnan, USAF (3/11)

#### Herd Immunity: When Six Feet Is Too Much

Sandi Connelly, Ph.D., Principal Lecturer, RIT College of Science (3/18)

#### Cosas Fascinantes de Paises Hispanohablantes......W38Th

This is an intermediate-level Spanish conversation course. We will focus on Spanish-speaking countries around the world. Each class member will choose three to four topics about countries that interest them and prepare a brief presentation on each. Some examples are geography, food, politics, culture, a historical event or person, animals, dances, music, authors, and artists. Presentations may be oral only or may use PowerPoint. Class time consists of these presentations and discussions about them. This is not as intimidating as it may sound. We expect to have a lot of fun and to laugh together.

**Enrollment Limit: 14** Discussion, Peer Group

This is the seventh winter that Susan Thomas and Kathy Lewis have led a Spanish conversation class. They keep doing this because it is so fun, and they always learn so much.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:45 pm

TEN Weeks: January 14 - March 18

#### 

[NEW COURSE] Two Bollywood icons passed in 2020 leaving voids that won't easily be filled. Irfan Khan easily crossed over from Bollywood to Hollywood. He never gave a bad or mediocre performance. Rishi Kapoor is part of a multigenerational acting dynasty. From teen heartthrob to a cringe-worthy portrayal of a gay headmaster, Rishi began to take unconventional and controversial roles in an ever-evolving career. Audio/Visual, Discussion

For the past decade **Nita Genova** has been leading courses on the film industries of India.

Thursdays: 1:45 – 3:45 pm

**TEN** Weeks: January 14 - March 18

#### Demystifying Commercial Space Exploration ......W40Th

[NEW CLASS] With Space-X, Virgin Galactic, and Blue Origin there is more going on in space today than in the heyday of Apollo and the Space Shuttle. Are the plans to go back to the Moon or to Mars realistic? We will look at the goals, challenges, and progress (or lack thereof) of NASA and private companies so we can understand where we are headed, and why. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Saul Einbinder held senior technology and business positions at Bell Laboratories, Lucent, uReach, and Spirent Communications. He has appeared in The New York Times, Boston Globe, Communications Week, Forbes, Marketplace on NPR, and CBS radio.

Thursday: 1:45 – 3:45 pm **ONE** Week: January 14

#### Demystifying Artificial Intelligence .......W41Th

[NEW CLASS] Does AI think? Can it be creative? Should we be worried? Artificial intelligence is working its way into farming, cars, medicine, and most every other business sector. In this engaging talk we'll break down the topic, strip out the hype, and have some fun. After seeing how a machine actually learns, we'll be able to understand the real impacts of this transformative technology. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Saul Einbinder held senior technology and business positions at Bell Laboratories, Lucent, uReach, and Spirent Communications. He has appeared in The New York Times, Boston Globe, Communications Week, Forbes, Marketplace on NPR, and CBS radio.

1:45 - 3:45 pm Thursday: ONE Week: January 21

#### Demystifying Self-Driving Cars......W42Th

[NEW CLASS] Companies like Tesla, Volvo, Waymo, and GM are racing to bring autonomous cars and tractor-trailer trucks to our streets and highways. Can they be safe? Are they here now, coming soon, or still years away? We will explain how they are being designed and brought to market so we can answer these and other questions. As with other "Demystifying Technology" sessions, we will separate hype from reality, sprinkle in just a bit of tech talk, and add a dash of entertainment along the way. Audio/Visual, Discussion, Lecture

[NEW COURSE LEADER] Saul Einbinder held senior technology and business positions at Bell Laboratories, Lucent, uReach, and Spirent Communications. He has appeared in The New York Times, Boston Globe, Communications Week, Forbes, Marketplace on NPR, and CBS radio.

1:45 - 3:45 pm Thursday: **ONE** Week: January 28

#### Sherlock Holmes: Adventures by the Numbers ....... W43Th

[NEW COURSE] [MULTI-PART SERIES] We will explore several adventures in the Sherlockian Canon where numbers appear in the title. Several of these adventures have not been featured recently in previous Sherlock classes.

Course Website: bit.ly/OshSher Required Text: Any copy of The Complete Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Audio/Visual, Discussion, Reading

**Bill Brown** is a long-time Osher member who serves as a classroom wizard (tech) and as co-chair of the Technology Committee. He has led courses on Sherlock Holmes and other topics, and he is the leader of the local Sherlockian Scion Society, "Rochester Row."

1:45 – 3:45 pm Thursdays: FIVE Weeks: February 18 – March 18

# Friday

Winter 2021 Course Schedule

#### The Genius of Herbert B. Leonard

[NEW COURSE] H.B. Leonard was a successful producer on TV. His shows included The Adventures of Rin Tin, Naked City, and Route 66. We will explore together five episodes of Route 66 and five of Naked City. Both black and white shows are known for musical themes, on-location shots, tight scripts, and great photography. Viewing scenes from the early 1960s may also stimulate some personal memories. Class discussions are encouraged. Participation in the Route 66 course (Fall 2020) is not a prerequisite. Audio/Visual, Discussion

**Bob Hilliard** enjoys nostalgia and history. Watching great episodic TV from our youth often results in terrific discussions.

9:30 – 11:00 am Fridays:

TEN Weeks: January 15 – March 19



Photo by Michelle Turner

### Important to Note

#### **Registration Information**

If at all possible, please do not mail checks for membership renewals or course registrations to our building as no one is currently working in the office. While we do check our mailbox occasionally, we would not want your mailed payment or course registration to be delayed.

Please make payments and/or register online for your courses using your Osher account at https://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 <a href="https://reg138.imperisoft.com/Osher/LoginHelp/Registration.aspx">https://reg138.imperisoft.com/Osher/LoginHelp/Registration.aspx</a> 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.info@rit.edu

Please do not register for two courses that are offered at the same time.

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 member, a pro rata portion of their annual membership fee is eligible to be refunded. The membership fee is otherwise generally nonrefundable. The Program Administrator, 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.



A SIG (Special Interest Group) is an informal community of Osher members who gather in order to pursue and enjoy a shared interest. The following SIGs are meeting on Zoom:

Don't see what you want? You can start a new SIG. Contact staff for details.

SIG	CONTACT	DESCRIPTION		
Mac Computers (OS X) iPhone/iPad (iOS)	Tom Lathrop tlathrop1@hotmail.com	Discussions, problem solving, members helping members, sharing tips and tricks, and demonstrations		
Photography	Loretta Petralis lorettap@rochester.rr.com	The group focuses on reviewing members' photos and sharing camera setting and photo editing techniques.		
Purls of Wisdom (knitting & needle craft)	Terri Hurley terrihur@rochester.rr.com	For all experience levels, come learn and share techniques.		
Travel	Jane Eggleston jegg@rochester.rr.com	Share your favorite photos, memories, and experiences of your previous travel adventures.		



#### Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT

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

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

## Please Support the Future of Osher!



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



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

## rit.edu/osher/giving

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

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